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Eponyms in Dermatology Literature Linked to General Surgery

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Abstract

In some disorders, there are symptoms or signs shared by dermatology and general surgery specialty. It is also known that there are eponyms in dermatology and general surgery. The aim in this short communication is to shed some lights on the eponyms in dermatology literature linked to general surgery.

Keywords: Dermatology, Diseases, Eponyms, General Surgery

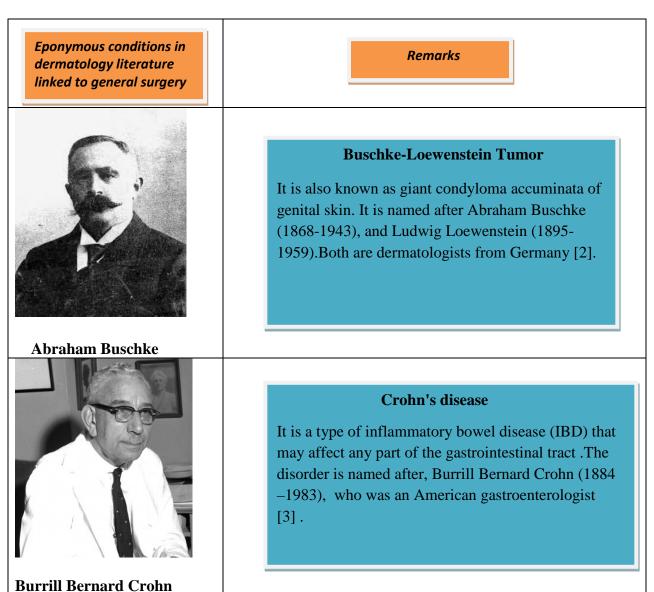
Introduction

Eponyms are used to describe not only disease, but also clinical signs, surgical procedures,

SMU Medical Journal, Volume – 4, No. – 2, July, 2017

staining techniques, pharmacological formulations, and even pieces of equipment [1]. There are disorders shared by different specialties, and some of these disorders are named eponymously. The aim in this short communication is to shed some lights on the eponyms in dermatology literature linked to general surgery. In the following table we listed selected eponymous conditions in dermatology literature linked to General Surgery [2-13].

Table: Selected eponymous conditions in dermatology literature linked to general surgery



Remarks



Baron Guillaume Dupuytren

Dupuytren's disease

Also known as Dupuytren's contracture. It is named for Baron Guillaume Dupuytren (1777 – 1835), who was a French anatomist and military surgeon. He gained much esteem for treating Napoleon Bonaparte's hemorrhoids [4-6].



Jean Alfred Fournier

Fournier's gangrene

It is a fulminating infection of the scrotum leading to gangrene. It is commonly associated with diabetes. The condition is named after, Jean Alfred Fournier (1832-1914), who was a French dermatologist [2].



Wilhelm Frederick von Ludwig

Ludwig angina

It is a potentially fatal, rapidly spreading soft tissue infection of the neck and floor of the mouth. It is named after Wilhelm Frederick von Ludwig (1790-1865), who was a German physician .Ludwig described the condition for the first time in 1836 [7].

Remarks



Henri Mondor

Mondor's disease

This is a phlebitis which may involve the thoracic wall or the penis. It is named after Henri Mondor (1885-1962), a surgeon in Paris, France who first described the disease in 1939 [2].



Sir James Paget

Paget disease

It refers to a skin disorder related to an underlying carcinoma. There are mammary and extra-mammary types. Mammary Paget disease is characterized by eczematous changes of the nipple-areolar complex and is associated with an underlying palpable mass in 50% of cases and in situ or invasive breast carcinoma in most cases. Paget disease is named after an English surgeon and pathologist, Sir James Paget, 1st Baronet (1814-1899) [8].



Harold Joseph Jeghers

Peutz-Jeghers syndrome

It is the association between hamartomatous polyps of the gastrointestinal tract (GIT) and mucocutaneous perioral pigmentation. It was first described by Peutz in 1921 and by Jegher in 1944. Johannes Laurentius Augustinus Peutz (1886-1957), was a Dutch physician. Harold Joseph Jeghers (1904-1990),was an American physician [8].

Remarks



Pott disease

It is tuberculosis of the spine. It is named after Percivall Pott (1714-1788), who was a British surgeon [9].

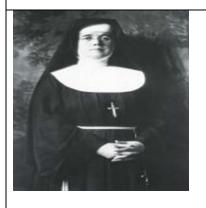




Queen Anne Sign (Sign of Hertoghe)

It refers to the loss or thinning of hair in the lateral part of the eyebrows, seen in cases of hypothyroidism. The sign was linked to Anne of Denmark (1574-1619), based on a paint (portraiture) showing this feature. However, extant medical information on Anne does not support a diagnosis of hypothyroidism, nor does her very active queenship point to such an affliction [1,10,11].

Queen Anne



Sister Mary Joseph's nodule

It is a metastatic lesion in the umbilicus which is developing from intra-abdominal or pelvic cancers. It is named after Sister Mary Joseph (1856-1939) a superintendent nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, USA. The original surgical building at Saint Mary's Hospital has been named "Joseph Building" in her memory [12].

Sister Mary Joseph

Remarks



Trousseau's syndrome

It is also known as Trousseau's syndrome. It is association of migratory thrombophlebitis to the neoplasia. It is named for Armand Trousseau (1801 – 1867), who was a French internist. Ironically, he saw the sign on himself .Later, he died of gastric cancer at the age of 66 years [13].

Armand Trousseau

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SMU Medical Journal, Volume – 4, No. – 2, July, 2017

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