

'Starry sky' rash in a child

Question

A 10-year-old girl was referred after a 4-day history of high-grade fever, non-pruritic rash and painful oral aphthosis. Physical examination revealed a well-appearing patient with a widespread maculopapular and vesicular rash (Fig. 1a,b), in addition to a large aphtha on the palate. Skin eruption in the next 2 weeks progressed in ulcer-necrotic evolution of some previous papules, with the subsequent formation of rare scars in the periumbilical and inguinal regions (Fig. 1c).

Dr Ester Conversano¹
Dr Gianluca Tamaro D¹
Dr Matteo Trevisan¹
Dr Giorgio Cozzi²
Dr Irene Berti²
Professor Egidio Barbi D¹.²
¹Department of Medicine, Surgery, and Health Sciences, University of Trieste
²Pediatric Department, Institute for Maternal and Child Health — IRCCS "Burlo Garofolo", Trieste, Italy



Fig 1 widespread, non-pruritic maculopapular and vesicular rash in a 10-year-old girl (a,b), ulcer-necrotic evolution of some cutaneous lesions (c).