A butcher presented with a large bulla on his thumb

Behrooz Barikbin, Zahra Ghourochian
Skin Research Centre, Shaheed Beheshti Medical University, Tehran, Iran

CASE SUMMARY

A healthy 42-year Old Iranian man who was a butcher presented with a 3 days history of a large bullous lesion on his right thumb. (Figure 1)

He had a history of cutting his hand during meat slicing about 10 days ago. On physical examination there was a large 4×5 cm diameter bulla adjacent to a 2×2 cm targetoid nodule.

He had no significant past medical history. There was no history of traveling to rural area and no history of any insect bite. The findings of physical examination were unremarkable except for the aforementioned skin lesion.

The skin lesion resolved without any scar formation within 3 weeks after its appearance with aspiration of the bulla and topical treatment with an antiseptic solution and zinc oxide ointment.

For confirming the diagnosis a skin biopsy was ordered and a histopathologic section of the lesion has been shown in figure 2.

What is the diagnosis? (The answer is on page 209)