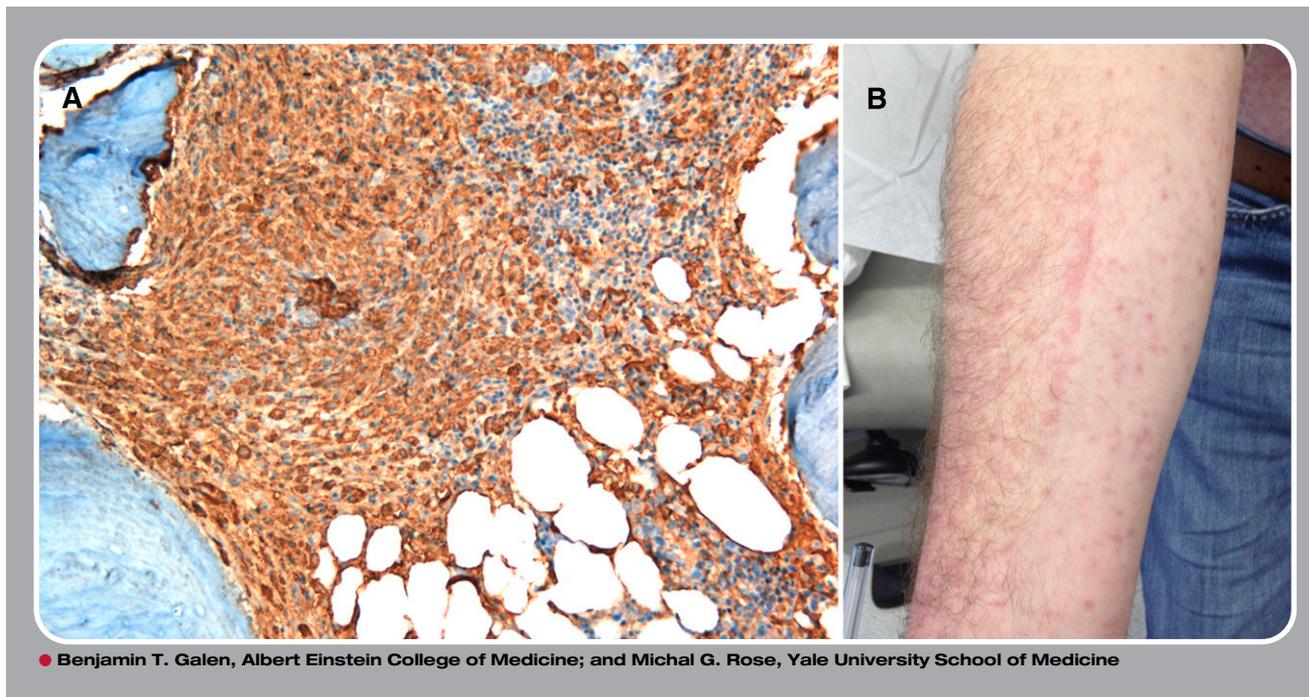


## Darier's sign in mastocytosis



**A** 39-year-old man with a 10-year history of pruritus, chronic watery diarrhea, and diffuse, hyperpigmented skin papules underwent skin biopsy, which showed numerous superficial mast cells by CD117<sup>+</sup> immunohistochemistry. A serum tryptase level was 417 ng/mL (reference range, 2-10 ng/mL), and referral was made to Hematology. Bone marrow biopsy revealed abundant aggregates of mast cells (panel A, CD117<sup>+</sup>), and random colonic biopsies revealed subepithelial sheets and aggregates of mast cells. The diagnosis of systemic mastocytosis was made. Histamine receptor blockade with cetirizine and ranitidine provided symptomatic relief, as did the mast cell-stabilizing agents cromolyn and montelukast.

Six months later, this patient demonstrated clinical improvement but extensive urticaria pigmentosa (UP) lesions persist on the trunk and extremities. Darier's sign remains positive, wherein gentle friction is sufficient to degranulate mast cells associated with the UP lesions (panel B, after the examiner traced a vertical line on the patient's forearm). Unlike other forms of dermatographism, Darier's sign refers to urtication that is limited to the UP involved areas and, as in this case, spares the skin unaffected by UP.



**blood**<sup>®</sup>

2014 123: 1127

doi:10.1182/blood-2013-11-538355

## Darier's sign in mastocytosis

Benjamin T. Galen and Michal G. Rose

---

Updated information and services can be found at:  
<http://www.bloodjournal.org/content/123/8/1127.full.html>

Articles on similar topics can be found in the following Blood collections

[BloodWork](#) (653 articles)

[Free Research Articles](#) (5175 articles)

[Myeloid Neoplasia](#) (1886 articles)

---

Information about reproducing this article in parts or in its entirety may be found online at:

[http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/misc/rights.xhtml#repub\\_requests](http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/misc/rights.xhtml#repub_requests)

Information about ordering reprints may be found online at:

<http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/misc/rights.xhtml#reprints>

Information about subscriptions and ASH membership may be found online at:

<http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/subscriptions/index.xhtml>