The best diagnosis is:

a. eruptive xanthoma
b. juvenile xanthogranuloma
c. Langerhans cell histiocytosis
d. reticulohistiocytoma
e. Rosai-Dorfman disease
Rosai-Dorfman disease (RDD), also known as sinus histiocytosis with massive lymphadenopathy, is a rare benign histioclastic disorder of unknown etiology. Clinically, it is most frequently characterized by massive painless cervical lymphadenopathy with other systemic manifestations, including fever, night sweats, and weight loss. Accompanying laboratory findings include leukocytosis with neutrophilia, elevated erythrocyte sedimentation rate, and polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia. Extraneous involvement has been noted in more than 40% of cases, and cutaneous lesions represent the most common form of extranodal disease. Cutaneous RDD is a distinct and rare entity limited to the skin without lymphadenopathy or other extracutaneous involvement. Patients with cutaneous RDD typically present with papules and plaques that can grow into nodules with satellite lesions that resolve into fibrotic plaques before spontaneous regression.

Histologic examination of cutaneous lesions of RDD reveals a dense nodular dermal and often subcutaneous infiltrate of characteristic large polygonal histiocytes termed Rosai-Dorfman cells, which feature abundant pale to eosinophilic cytoplasm, indistinct borders, and large vesicular nuclei with prominent nucleoli (Figure 1). Some multinucleate forms may be seen. These Rosai-Dorfman cells display positive staining for CD68 and S-100, and negative staining for CD1a on immunohistochemistry. Lymphocytes and plasma cells often are admixed with the Rosai-Dorfman cells, and neutrophils and eosinophils also may be present in the infiltrate.

The histologic hallmark of RDD is emperipolesis, a phenomenon whereby inflammatory cells such as lymphocytes and plasma cells reside intact within the cytoplasm of histiocytes (Figure 2).

The histologic differential diagnosis of cutaneous lesions of RDD includes other histiocytic and xanthomatous diseases, including eruptive xanthoma, juvenile xanthogranuloma, Langerhans cell histiocytosis, and solitary reticulohistiocytoma, which should not display emperipolesis. Eruptive xanthomas display collections of foamy histiocytes in the dermis and typically contain extracellular lipid. They may contain infiltrates of lymphocytes (Figure 3). Juvenile xanthogranuloma also features a dense infiltrate of histiocytes in the papillary and reticular dermis but distinctly shows Touton giant cells and lipidization of histiocytes (Figure 4). Both eruptive xanthomas and juvenile xanthogranulomas typically stain negatively for S-100. Langerhans cell histiocytosis is histologically characterized by a dermal infiltrate of Langerhans cells that have their own distinctive morphologic features. They are uniformly ovoid with abundant eosinophilic cytoplasm. Their nuclei are smaller than those of Rosai-Dorfman cells and have...
a kidney bean shape with inconspicuous nucleoli (Figure 5). Epidermotropism of these cells can be observed. Immunohistochemically, Langerhans cell histiocytosis typically is S-100 positive, CD1a positive, and langerin positive. Reticulohistiocytoma features histiocytes that have a characteristic dusty rose or ground glass cytoplasm with two-toned darker and lighter areas (Figure 6). Reticulohistiocytoma cells stain positively for CD68 but typically stain negatively for both CD1a and S-100.

REFERENCES