Eosinophilic fasciitis: MRI evaluation

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We conducted repeat muscle MR imaging (figure) on a 46-year-old man with relapsing eosinophilic fasciitis that can be classified in a continuum around the so-called Shulman syndrome. The patient had a 6-month history of relapsing fever and pain and swelling of the lower limbs, which responded to a moderate dosage of corticosteroids but relapsed several times after tapering of corticosteroids.

In the relapsing phase, MR imaging revealed marked enhancement in the fascia of the leg muscles, which corresponded to inflammatory infiltrates, mainly of eosinophils, into the fascia and fatty tissues without invasion into the muscle layer in the biopsied specimen.


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Figure. Gadolinium-enhanced T1-weighted (A: repetition time [TR] 650, echo time [TE] 10) and T2-weighted (B: TR 2930, TE 90) MR images of the bilateral proximal thighs. Note the marked enhancement in the muscle margin due to biopsy-proven inflammation of the fascia and fatty tissues.
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