

Quiz

WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS?

An 18-month-old boy was referred for multiple asymptomatic brownish-red macules and papules, measuring 2–8 mm, symmetrically distributed on both cheeks (Figure 1). The lesions first appeared at eight months of age and gradually increased in number. The child was otherwise well, with no lymphadenopathy, hepatosplenomegaly or other signs of systemic involvement. Routine laboratory investigations were within normal limits, and ophthalmological and neurological examinations were unremarkable.

A skin biopsy from a cheek lesion showed an infiltrate of predominantly monomorphic mononuclear cells with histiocytic morphology in the superficial and mid-dermis, admixed with scattered small lymphocytes (Figures 2A, B). The epidermis and adnexal epithelia were spared, and a narrow grenz zone separated the infiltrate from the epidermis. Occasional multinucleated histiocytes were present. No epidermotropism, cytological atypia, mitotic figures or necrosis was identified.

Immunohistochemistry demonstrated cytoplasmic CD68 positivity in the infiltrating cells (Figure 2C), whereas CD1a and S100 protein were negative.

What is the most likely diagnosis, and which clinicopathological findings distinguish this condition from other childhood histiocytic disorders?



Figure 1.

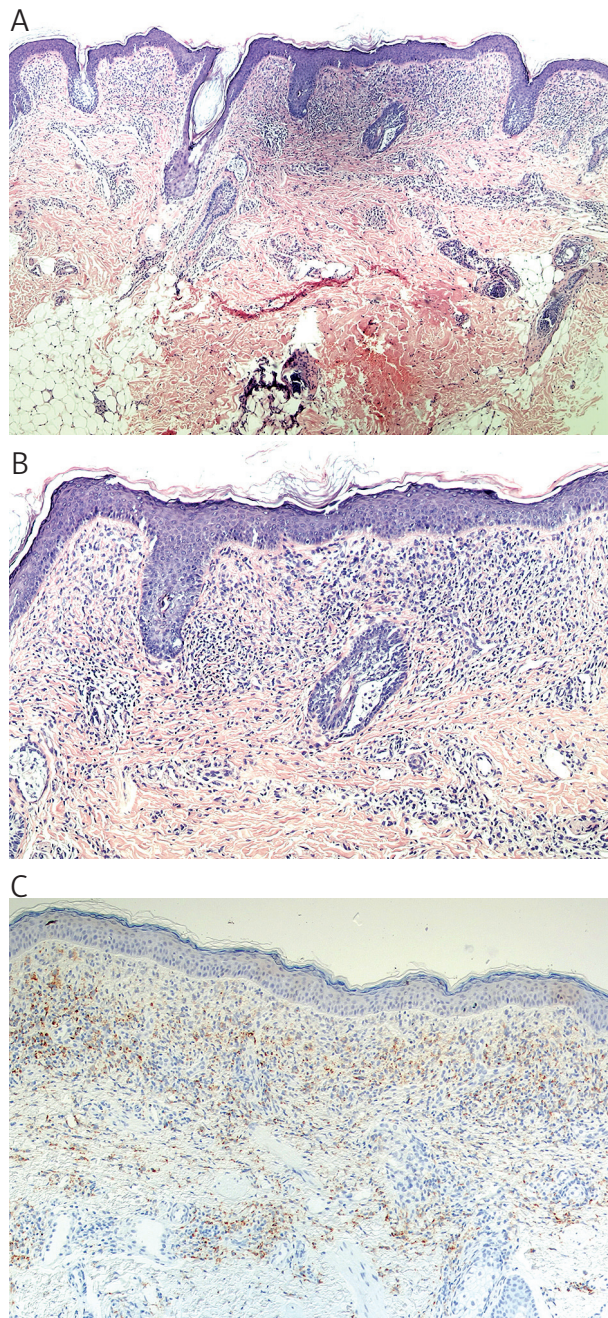


Figure 2.

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Answers should be sent to the Editorial Office by 18 December 2026. The correct answer will be announced in the next issue of the Polish Journal of Pathology.