

MYOSPHERULOSIS

This disorder results from the interaction of red blood cells and petrolatum-based ointments, such as antibiotic ointments, and is therefore iatrogenically induced. Packing impregnated with an antibiotic ointment and placed in the nose or sinal cavities may cause the reaction.

Microscopically, the condition has been confused with fungal infection which it is not. Pseudocysts contain round, often yellowish or brownish so-called "parent bodies" that enclose smaller spherules. Fibrotic tissue and associated inflammatory infiltrate is present.

Myospherulosis. Brown pseudocysts surrounded by granulation tissue. The large deep brown sac-like (arrow) pseudocyst contains small spherules but they are poorly seen.

