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## Drug-related skin and atherosclerotic plaque pigmentation

Teresa L Carman, Sean P Lyden

► **To cite this version:**

Teresa L Carman, Sean P Lyden. Drug-related skin and atherosclerotic plaque pigmentation. *Vascular Medicine*, 2006, 11 (4), pp.276-277. 10.1177/1358863x06073459 . hal-00571394

**HAL Id: hal-00571394**

**<https://hal.science/hal-00571394>**

Submitted on 1 Mar 2011

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## Images in vascular medicine

### Drug-related skin and atherosclerotic plaque pigmentation

Teresa L Carman<sup>a</sup> and Sean P Lyden<sup>b</sup>



Panel A



Panel B

A 67-year-old woman with long-standing rheumatoid arthritis was admitted for bilateral femoral to anterior tibial artery bypasses for gangrenous toes. She was noted to have chronic skin pigmentation changes affecting her legs, arms and her face, which started after using minocycline (Panels A and B). Blue-black pigmentation is a well-recognized side effect of minocycline therapy.<sup>1</sup> The most commonly involved sites include the skin, oral cavity, teeth, bones, and thyroid. Similar pigmentation changes were noted in the common femoral artery and anterior tibial artery walls at the time of endarterectomy and bypass surgery (Panel C). Very few reports of atherosclerotic plaque pigmentation involvement have been published.<sup>2,3</sup> Despite the pigmented appearance of the arterial wall, uneventful revascularization was accomplished. She did eventually require amputation of her necrotic digits.



Panel C

<sup>a</sup>Cardiovascular Medicine, Section of Vascular Medicine;  
<sup>b</sup>Department of Vascular Surgery, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH, USA

Address for correspondence: Teresa L Carman, Associate Staff, Vascular Medicine, Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Ave/S-60, Cleveland, OH 44195, USA. Tel: +1 216 445 5454; Fax: +1 216 444 7370; E-mail: carmant@ccf.org

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