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Do we need international classification for various isomorphic and isotopic reactions/non-reactions related to cutaneous medicines?

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Researchers of dermatology have long noted a variety of disease responses and non-responses to the presence of trauma and the presence of structural abnormalities. This presentation will review the series of these responses including: Koebner phenomenon, Wolf isotopic response, Renbok response, Koebner non-reaction, isotopic non-reaction, and other related skin reactions. Because most of these reported phenomena have similar morphological features, the diagnosis is often made on the basis of differences in the clinical presentation. Note that some of the cutaneous reactions of similar phenomena have been described using varied nomenclature, further adding to the confusion. In view of this, we believe that at present there is a robust need to define each cutaneous reaction accordingly and classify the various types of these phenomena under a broad universal term or terms. Respecting the idea of differences might facilitate a better understanding of the pathophysiology of these entities; we will propose an alternative classification system.

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Leishmaniasis in Yemen: A clinicoepidemiological study of leishmaniasis in central Yemen

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Aim: Leishmaniasis is a serious public health problem in Yemen. This study was designed to identify clinical and epidemiological features of leishmaniasis in Yemen.

Methods: The study was conducted at the Regional Leishmaniasis Control Center in central Yemen. Data sourced from the medical records of 152 patients with confirmed active leishmaniasis, managed during April-August 2013, were analyzed.

Results: A total of 94.1% of patients were rural residents. Al Bayda was the most endemic governorate (59.9%). Children represented the group at highest risk (57.2%) followed by adult females (32.9%); together these groups accounted for 90.1% of all patients. Mucocutaneous leishmaniasis was the most prevalent form (49.3%) followed by cutaneous leishmaniasis (47.4%) and visceral leishmaniasis (3.3%). The wet ulcer was the most common type of lesion (49.7%) and the single lesion (69.4%) represented the most common presentation. All patients were ignorant of the nature of the disease and 55.9% had a history of using popular treatments.

Conclusions: Cutaneous, mucocutaneous and visceral leishmaniasis has significant endemicity in Yemen, especially in central areas. Al Bayda is the governorate with the highest endemicity and rural children and women represent the populations at highest risk. Mucocutaneous leishmaniasis seems to be the most prevalent form and a single wet ulcer is the most common presentation. Infected refugees may represent new foci for imported Leishmania species. Ecology, geography, climate change, cultural gender- and age-specific duties, urban night activities and use of popular treatments are among proven risk factors.

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