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Clinico-epidemiological study of vitiligo

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Background: Vitiligo is an acquired depigmentary condition caused by destruction of melanocytes in epidermis. It is a major social and cosmetic concern in India.

Aim: The purpose of the study was to find age of onset and sex incidence in vitiligo, role of hereditary factors, consanguineous marriage and association with other diseases.

Methods: 100 self reporting patients of vitiligo at any age and either sex, diagnosed on the basis of history and clinical examination were enrolled from OPD of MGM Hospital, Aurangabad. Patients were evaluated for age at onset, sex, role of hereditary factors and association with other diseases by a specially designed pro forma.

Results: In present study, out of 100 cases 57 (57%) female and 43 (43%) males with female:male ratio 1.3:1. There was practically not much difference in sex incidence. The lowest age of onset was 6 years and oldest age was 65 years. The mean age was 30 years. Majority of patients was of 25-35 years of age (30 cases). 27 (27%) cases give a definite family history, out of which 19 (70%) patients was the 1st degree relative and 8 (30%) cases were 2nd degree relative. The lower limb was commonest site of involvement in 44 (44%) patients. Majority of patients (68.3%) had multiple lesions. Diabetes mellitus was seen in 1 (1%), hypertension in 4 (4%), bronchial asthma in 1 (1%) and hypothyroidism in 1 (1%) patient.

Conclusions: Causes of vitiligo is still idiopathic. Hereditary factors hardly play any major role in manifestation of vitiligo.

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Dermatoses in first 120 hours of life: A clinical study and statistical survey

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Introduction & Aim: Neonatal skin presents many unique features that reflect immaturity and the transition from intrauterine life. The spectrum of dermatological manifestations during neonatal period varies from transient self-limiting conditions to serious dermatoses. This study was conducted to determine the prevalence of different cutaneous lesions in newborns and to study the prevalence of dermatoses in neonates and to establish the correlation between various neonatal factors, maternal factors.

Materials & Methods: A total of 100 consecutive live-born neonates delivered and admitted to the postpartum ward, neonates admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and neonates attending the Dermatology Outpatient Department were included in this study. Detailed assessment of history and dermatological examination of each of the neonates was carried out and laboratory procedures were performed as needed.

Results: The most prevalent findings were vernix caseosa (87%), Mongolian spot (81%), sebaceous hyperplasia (80%), caput succedaneum (75%) followed by superficial cutaneous desquamation (75%), lanugo hair (63%), milia (40%), salmon patch (35%), epidermal hyperpigmentation (30%), erythema toxicum neonatorum (20%) and miliaria (18.5%).

Conclusion: Neonatal skin lesions are mostly harmless and transient but need to be differentiated from more serious or life-threatening conditions. Due to lack of specialized pediatric dermatology clinics frequently get tossed between a dermatologist and a pediatrician. The identification of normal phenomena and their differentiation from more significant cutaneous disorders of the newborn are necessary.

Discussion: Skin rashes are common in neonate and can cause parental anxiety. Several studies about the prevalence of neonatal dermatoses have been documented in various countries and racial groups. In our study we found that vernix caseosa, Mongolian spots, sebaceous hyperplasia, desquamation, lanugo hair and milia are the skin lesions which are commonly seen in the neonates; revealed statistical significance with both maternal as well as neonatal factors.

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