Clinico-Epidemiological study of facial skin infections among patients attending dermatology outpatient department at tertiary care hospital

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ABSTRACT: Facial skin infections are major concern to the patient because of obvious appearance on face and its symptoms. This study is a comprehensive study involving the epidemiological parameters in facial skin infections. Totally 100 patients are studied in this study. In our study most common facial infection was found to be molluscum contagiosum. The study is taken up because such comprehensive studies done are rare.

KEY WORDS: Facial skin infections, Tinea Facei, Molluscum contagiosum, verruca vulgaris, impetigo

INTRODUCTION:
Facial skin infections are common disorders seen in OPD. They concern the patient because of obvious appearance on face and its symptoms. Facial skin infections include folliculitis, tinea facei, molluscum contagiosum, verruca vulgaris etcera. They can occur both in children and adults. This study is a comprehensive study involving the epidemiological parameters in facial skin infections. The study is taken up because such comprehensive studies done are rare.

METHODOLOGY
A cross-sectional study was conducted to study the facial skin infections over a period of one year from February 2019 to January 2020

Source of data
Patients with facial skin infections attending OPD of department of DVL at a tertiary care hospital.

Method of collection of data
All patients, who presented with the primary symptoms, suggestive of facial skin infections, attending the OPD were subjected to detailed history and clinical examination. During the study period, a total of 100 cases were selected randomly after taking their consent.

Inclusion criteria:
1. Patients selected are those attending DVL department with complaints pertaining to conditions predominantly affecting face
2. Patients with facial skin infections belonging to all age groups and either sex

Exclusion criteria
1. Patients who have already been diagnosed and receiving treatment for facial skin disorders
2. Patients who have only oral mucosa or only conjunctival involved.

RESULTS
In our study Out of 100 patients with facial skin infections 27% were molluscum contagiosum followed by 23% being Tinea facei, 18% being impetigo, 13% being herpes labialis, verruca being 14% and herpes zoster with 5% of total patients.
Our study showed that there were 47% of males and 53% of females. The age of cases ranged from 4 to 56 years. Majority of cases i.e 24% were in age group of 10 to 19 years. Place distribution of cases showed that 68% cases were from urban population whereas 32% from rural population. In our study most common age grouped having facial skin infections was 10-19 yrs.
DISCUSSION:

In our study, out of 100 patients, the most common infection seen was molluscum contagiosum in 28% patients followed by tinea faciei in 23% patients followed by impetigo in 18% patients. Out of 23 patients of dermatophytic infections, 14 were male and 9 were females with a male:female ratio of 1.5:1. In a study from Japan, Noguchi et al. reported 43 (47.7%) males and 37 (41.11%) females. This discordance could be due to unhygienic shaving practices in this part of the world. In our study out of 100 patients, 28 had molluscum contagiosum, of which 19 were males and 9 were females. McCollum et al. in his study had observed a similar male to female ratio. In our study, 14 cases were verruca vulgaris of which 9 cases of verruca plana and 5 were filiform verruca were seen. Cardoso and Calonje in their review have mentioned verruca plana and filiform verruca as the most common type of verruca seen on the face. In our study, 18 cases had impetigo of which 13 cases were male and 5 were females with a male:female ratio of 3:1. Out of 18 cases, 15 cases were less than <10 years and 1 case between 10 to 19 years of age. These findings were concordant with the observations made by Al Ghamdi who reported 83% of cases in less than 10 years of age.

REFERENCES


FIGURE 1: Herpes zoster

FIGURE 2: MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM