AUTOIMMUNE BULLOUS DISEASES

BULLOUS PEMPHIGOID : ABOUT 168 CASES .

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background: Bullous pemphigoid (BP) is an autoimmune bullous dermatosis that usually occurs in an elderly, tainted population. There is no racial predominance but " Tunisian particularity " has been reported concerning the profile of BP.

Objective : the aim of this study is to describe the epidemiological clinical and therapeutique profile of BP in Tunisia .

materiel and methods: We conducted a retrospective descriptive study collecting all cases of BP admitted to the dermatology department of Farhat Hached Hospital , Tunisia ,from January 1995 to September 2018.

Results: 168 cases of BP were included in the study, the sex ratio was 0,8 and the mean age was 68 years. In 90.35% of cases, bullous lesions were preceded by pruritus with an average duration of 2 months. Bullous lesions were present in 78.07% of cases. The oral mucosa was affected in 28%. Eosinophils were positively correlated with the presence of pruritus (p = 0.048). Local corticosteroid therapy was prescribed in all patients;70 % of cases with systemic corticosteroids at doses ranging from 0.5 to 1 mg/ kg/day for an average duration of 25 days,27,19% of cases had a relapse and 29.63% had complications(induced diabetes, infectious complications).Relapse was positively correlated with systemic corticosteroids (p = 0.015) .

Conclusion : We report the largest series of bullous pemphigoid in Tunisia. It highlights Tunisian epidemiological and clinical features that have been described as the relatively younger age and the frequency of mucosal involvement. Regarding the treatment, it is known that strong dermocorticosteroids is an effective treatment with better tolerance and fewer complications than the general corticosteroid treatment at high doses, but the novelty of our study is this positive correlation between relapses and the use of systemic corticosteroids, which encourages us even more to adopt local corticosteroids as a reference treatment of BP.