



AUTOIMMUNE BULLOUS DISEASES

## THE INCIDENCE OF PEMPHIGUS IN MEN INCREASES!

*S Saad<sup>(1)</sup> - Y Soua<sup>(1)</sup> - S Boumaïsa<sup>(1)</sup> - M Korbi<sup>(1)</sup> - H Belhadjali<sup>(1)</sup> - M Youssef<sup>(1)</sup> - J Zili<sup>(1)</sup>*

*Fattouma Bourguiba Hospital, Department Of Dermatology, Monastir, Tunisia<sup>(1)</sup>*

**Introduction:** The pemphigus is an auto-immune bullous dermatosis which mainly affects young women with an ascendancy of the superficial pemphigus in Tunisia. The purpose of this work is to describe the epidemiological, clinical, therapeutic and evolutionary characteristics of the pemphigus in men through 4 patients.

**Patients and methods:** we included male having consulted in the department of dermatology and whose diagnosis of pemphigus was retained.

**Results:** 4 patients of 38 cases of pemphigus were brought together over the duration of 11 years (2006-2017). The male constituted 10,5 % of the cases. Three patients consulted between 2016 and 2017. The average age was 54,75 years. No patient had a family history of pemphigus or reported the notion of taking medicine. During these last two years, the sex-ratio (H/F) was 0,6. There were three cases of deep pemphigus. The effect at the level of folds and of oral mucous was found in the 3 patients having a deep pemphigus.

The histology was characteristic showing an intra-epidermic split with signs of acantholyse and inflammatory infiltrat at the level of the dermis. The etiologic investigation did not show any associated pathology. An oral corticosteroid therapy in the dose of 1 in 1,3mg/kg/day was prescribed for the 4 patients. The addition of an immune-suppressor was indicated for both patients affected by vulgar pemphigus. The main complication was an infection to CMV in a patient which was treated by general corticosteroid therapy and azathioprine.

**Discussion:** We notice the increase of the incidence of the pemphigus in males during these last two years, with a predominance of the deep shape. The evolution is marked by a therapeutic resistance having required the addition of an immune-suppressor treatment. Multicentre and comparative studies are necessary to determine the epidemio-clinical and evolutionary characteristics in male patients in Tunisia.

