



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

## A CROSS-SECTIONAL OBSERVATIONAL STUDY TO ASSESS THE CLINIC-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF PATIENTS WITH FOOT DERMATITIS AND DETERMINING THEIR CAUSATIVE AGENTS USING PATCH TEST

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**Background:** Foot dermatitis is one of the most common and debilitating dermatological disorders accounting for almost 1 per 1000 cases at our centre. In these patients, eczematous process predominantly involves the feet.

**Aims and Objectives:** To analyse the clinico-demographic profile, type, clinical pattern and evaluate the role of patch testing to determine the causative agents of foot dermatitis.

**Materials and methods:** 58 new patients of foot dermatitis were studied and analysed. The patients presenting with allergic contact dermatitis were subjected to patch testing using the Indian standard battery and Indian foot wear series (CODFI)

**Results:** Amongst 58 patients (mean age  $31.48 \pm 16.4$  years, M: F 1:1.2), majority (39.7%) presented with allergic contact dermatitis (ACD) followed by irritant contact dermatitis (19%), while atopic dermatitis was the least common (3.45%). Almost 48% of our patients reported a history of atopy. About 45.45% of ACD patients showed positive patch test reaction to at least one allergen of Indian standard battery and Footwear series. Mercaptobenzothiazole (MBT) was the commonest allergen (50%), followed by potassium dichromate (40%), thiuram mix (20%) while paraphenylenediamine was the least common (10%). Dorsum of foot was affected most commonly (55.17%), followed by toes (46.55%) and sole (41.38%). Scaling was observed in almost 80% of patients followed by crusting. Housewives were affected most commonly followed by students and cement workers.

**Conclusion:** Rubber and rubber chemicals were found to be the commonest allergens inciting foot dermatitis. Atopy might be a predisposing factor in these patients. Thus, patch testing is recommended to determine the etiologic agent of foot dermatitis and take appropriate curbing measures.





Keywords: foot dermatitis, patch test, atopy

