



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

A STUDY OF DIFFERENT ALLERGENS AS CAUSATION OF FACIAL PIGMENTATION

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Introduction: Facial pigmentation (melanosis) is a common manifestation of many dermatoses, commonly allergic contact dermatitis caused by allergens such as fragrances, nickel, preservatives, PPD, photocontact dermatitis, sesquiterpine lactone containing plants, grooming tools like cosmetics, and rubber products.

Objective: To determine prevalence of different allergens as causation of facial pigmentation

Material and Methods: A retrospective study of 81 patients presenting with facial melanosis over a period of 4 years was conducted. Patients were patch tested with Universal, cosmetic series and relevant products brought by the patients, with further photopatch testing. They were evaluated on day 3 and day 7 as per ICDRG score and the results were documented.

Results: Patch test were positive in 35 patients (43.2%) out of which nickel was most common allergen seen in 8 patients (22.9%) followed by fragrance mix (11.4%), thiomersal(11.4%), potassium dichromate (8.6 %), PPD (8.6%), nail paint(5.7%), colophony(5.7%), disperse orange(5.7%). Photopatch tests was negative in all patients

Discussion: It was observed that the maximum number of patients were female in middle aged group having complaints for more than 6 months of duration. The most common diagnosis was allergic contact dermatitis (hair dye, cosmetics, bindi, kumkum, topical medications, plants), photocontact dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, seborrheic dermatitis, lichen planus pigmentosus. Thus we conclude that allergic contact dermatitis is a common cause of facial melanosis and nickel is the commoest allergen causing it.

