



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

## ALLERGIC REACTIONS TO TEMPORARY HENNA TATTOOS – NEW PECULIARITIES

*J Kazandjieva<sup>(1)</sup> - N Tsankov<sup>(2)</sup>*

*Medical University - Sofia, Department Of Dermatology, Sofia, Bulgaria<sup>(1)</sup> - Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital, Department Of Dermatology, Sofia, Bulgaria<sup>(2)</sup>*

**Introduction:** Temporary henna tattoos (THT) are very popular, but allergic reactions to this kind of tattoos increased worldwide. There are only a few reports concerning allergic reactions due to pure henna. Many other ingredients within the henna paste could be a determining factor for allergic skin reaction – paraphenylenediamine (PPD), , lemon juice, eucalyptus, clove or mustard oil.

**Objective:** We reviewed the various clinical and diagnostic patterns related to PPD and henna tattoos, in order to investigate the incubation period, the different clinical manifestations and the patch tests results.

**Materials and Methods:**

We summarized the data from 56 patients with allergic reactions after tattooing with henna paste.

**Results:** Contact dermatitis caused by black henna tattoos develops after very short incubation period - within 1–3 days. Most of the patients have no data for pre-existing sensitisation. Our study indicates that different clinical manifestations are related to “black henna” allergic contact dermatitis. The typical clinical picture of acute contact dermatitis was seen in 78% of the patients; in 6 % the diagnosis of lichenoid contact dermatitis was established; 10% showed eczematoid reactions incl. erythema multiforme and dyshidrosis. Positive patch test reactions to PPD were observed 94% of the patients.

**Conclusion:** We summarized 56 own cases with allergic reactions due to THT and outlined the main characteristics for this specific type of allergic contact dermatitis.

