



CONTACT DERMATITIS AND OCCUPATIONAL DERMATOSES

## PATCH TESTING IN CASES OF POMPHOLYX

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**Introduction:** Pompholyx is a skin disorder characterized by recurrent appearance of crops of vesicles on the lateral aspects of the fingers, palms and soles<sup>1</sup>. It has multifactorial etiology. Pompholyx or pompholyx like lesions can be because of contact sensitivity which can be detected by patch testing.

**Objective:** To study the clinical patterns of pompholyx and to find out the offending allergens in such cases using patch test.

**Material and Methods:** A total of 152 patients were enrolled in the study for patch testing. Patch testing was done using Indian Standard Patch Test Battery (Systopic Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd. India) of 20 allergens. Patch test readings were taken as per International Contact Dermatitis Research Group (ICDRG)<sup>3</sup> criteria.

**Result:** Patch test positivity to one or more allergens was seen in 79 (52%) out of 152 total patients. Total 25 patients (19 females and 6 males) showed nickel sulphate as the most common allergen. Other common positive allergens in decreasing frequency were potassium dichromate, fragrance mix and PPD. Relevance of patch test in accordance with occupation and history of exposure were seen in 47(59.5%) patients.

**Conclusion:** So, offending allergen if avoided may provide remission and improve quality of life.

