



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

A CLINICAL AND DERMOSCOPIC STUDY OF MELANOCYTIC NEVI

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BACKGROUND: A dermoscope is a non-invasive, diagnostic tool which visualizes subtle clinical patterns of skin lesions and subsurface skin structures not normally visible to the unaided eye. Thus, dermoscopy has been introduced as an additional measure to make the diagnosis of melanocytic nevi more accurate.

OBJECTIVE: To study clinical and dermoscopic features of Melanocytic nevi

MATERIALS AND METHODS: Patients attending Dermatology OPD were examined during the period from March 2018 to August 2018 and patients with melanocytic nevi were consecutively included in the study. A pre-structured proforma was used to collect baseline data. A detailed history was taken, clinical and dermatological examination done. The Melanocytic nevi were evaluated using digital dermoscope.

RESULTS: Out of 50 cases, youngest was 16 years old and oldest was 54 years. The mean age was 33.9 years and standard deviation was 8.38. Male to female ratio is 0.78:1. Face was most common site involved. Among local features Pigment network was the most common pattern seen in all lesions. Pigmentation was regular. Dots and Globules were seen in 52% of lesions. There were no streaks, bluish white veil, regression structures or hypopigmentation seen. Among global structures reticular network was seen in 76% of lesions. Globular network was seen in 16% of lesions. Final impression after clinical and dermoscopic examination, incidence of melanocytic nevi was as follows- junctional nevi as most common 48%, followed by compound nevi 36% and congenital melanocytic nevi was 16%.

CONCLUSION: Dermoscopy is an evolving science. It serves as a link between macroscopic skin lesions and microscopic histopathological features. Since it is non-invasive, it can be used in all age groups including children and elderly, reducing the need for interventional procedures like skin biopsy. Dermoscopy is a much needed investigative tool in the assessment of Melanocytic nevi.

