



EPIDEMIOLOGY

## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL FEATURES OF LICHEN PLANUS IN CHILDREN- A PROSPECTIVE STUDY IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

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**Introduction:** Lichen planus (LP) in children is uncommonly reported. There were very few studies from India.

**Objective:** To study the epidemiological and clinical features of lichen planus in children

**Materials and methods:** The study has been in a tertiary care hospital over a period of 2.5 years, from January 2016 to July 2018. Children aged <16 years, attending our OPD, were screened for lichen planus. Biopsy was done for confirmation in doubtful cases.. Various clinical and epidemiological features were documented. Estimated sample size was 50 patients with LP.

**Results:** A total of 50 children with lichen planus were studied. Thirty-two were males and 18 were females. The mean age of the children was 10.4 yrs, and the mean age of onset was 6.8 yrs. Preceding infection was noted in 16%, and there was no history of vaccination in any, in preceding 6 months. Family history of LP was noted in 4.5% of cases. Classical papular LP was seen in 56%, followed by Lichen planus hypertrophicus (18%), eruptive (12%), actinic (8%) and linear (6%). Koebner phenomena was seen in 32% of cases. Palmoplantar lesions were seen in 16%, Mucosal in 10% and nails were involved in 14%. Thirty-five Children (70%) have associated conditions, obesity (14), Atopy (8), Hypothyroidism (5) Vitiligo (4), and Psoriasis (4).

**Conclusion:** LP in children is not uncommon. Classical form is common. Preceding infection was seen in few cases. Palmoplantar lesions and nail involvement are not infrequent. Vaccination Does not seem to have a role. Obesity is commonly associated comorbidity and a larger sample may be studied for metabolic syndrome.

