

EPIDEMIOLOGY

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DERMATOLOGICAL COMORBIDITY OF SEBORRHOEIC DERMATITIS —POPULATION-BASED STUDY IN 161,000 EMPLOYEES

N Zander⁽¹⁾ - R Sommer⁽¹⁾ - I Schäfer⁽¹⁾ - R Reinert⁽¹⁾ - N Kirsten⁽¹⁾ - Bc Zyriax⁽¹⁾ - J Maul⁽²⁾ - M Augustin⁽¹⁾

Institute For Health Services Research In Dermatology And Nursing (ivdp), University Medical Center Hamburg-eppendorf (uke), Hamburg, Germany⁽¹⁾ - Department Of Dermatology, University Of Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland⁽²⁾

Background: Seborrheic dermatitis (SD) is a common but epidemiologically poorly researched chronic skin disease.

Objective: To characterize the prevalence and dermatological comorbidity of SD in Germany.

Methods: In the course of voluntary company skin checks, full body examinations were carried out in more than 500 companies by experienced dermatologists and documented electronically.

Results: In total, n=161,269 persons were investigated, 55.5% male, mean age 43.2+10.9 years. SD prevalence was 3.2% (men: 4.6%, women 1.4%). A significant difference was found between age groups (2.0% in < 35; 3.6% in 35-64; 4.4% ≥ 65 years, Chi²: p< 0.001). Most frequent skin conditions in patients with SD were: folliculitis (17.0%), onychomycosis (9.1%), tinea pedis (7.1%), rosacea (4.1%), acne (4.0%) and psoriasis (2.7%). The highest risk ratios (PR), indicating an increased risk for those with SD, were found for: pyoderma (PR = 2.7), intertriginous dermatitis (PR=2.4), folliculitis (PR=2.2), rosacea (PR=2.0), contact dermatitis (PR=2.0) and tinea corporis (PR=1.8).

The logistic regression revealed the following most frequent relative dermatological comorbidity when controlling for age and gender: folliculitis (OR=2.1), contact dermatitis (OR=1.8), intertriginous dermatitis (OR=1.8), rosacea (OR=1.6), acne (OR=1.4), pyoderma (OR=1.4), tinea corporis (OR=1.4), pityriasis versicolor (OR=1.3) and psoriasis (OR=1.2).

Conclusion: Seborrheic dermatitis is a common disease which is more prevalent in men and older people and has an increased rate of dermatological comorbidity. This underlines the necessity of integrated, complete dermatological diagnostics and therapy.