



EPIDEMIOLOGY

INFECTIOUS DERMATOSIS AMONG CHILDREN ATTENDING A HEALTHCARE FACILITY IN KINSHASA/DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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Introduction : Infectious dermatosis are frequent in tropical environment but little is known about pediatric age group.

Objective: The purpose of our study was to determine the prevalence of infectious dermatosis in children examined at the Dermatology Department of the Clinics of the University of Kinshasa (CUK).

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study was conducted at the Dermatology Department of the CUK from January 2008 to August 2017. The outcome was the diagnosis of infectious dermatosis.

Results: During the study period, 918 (9.8%) of 9396 patients consulted in the dermatology department had an infectious dermatosis (ID), of which 291 children (31.6%). The age group of 6 - 12 years was predominant (27.8%), children were mainly from the district of Mont Amba (49.1%). Season wise, most of the IDs occurred during the rainy season (58.8%). Etiology wise, 33.7% of the IDs were parasitic (including 30.6% of scabies), followed by 23.7% of bacterial (including 17.5% of impetigo) and respectively 21.3% of fungal (of which 11.3% of tinea capitis) and viral (including 10.3% of pityriasis rosea of Gibert). Scabiasis was more observed during the rainy season and impetigo during the dry season ($p < 0.05$). Impetigo was more common in infants (37.3%, $p < 0.001$); Pityriasis rosea of Gibert and tinea capitis were predominant between 6-12 years (21% and 24.7%, $p < 0.001$ respectively).





Conclusion: Infectious dermatoses are frequently observed during dermatology consultations in Kinshasa, and are influenced by the age of patients and the season. A strategy to educate the public on hygiene concepts could reduce the incidence of these skin infections.

