



EPIDEMIOLOGY

PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH COSMETIC SKIN WHITENING IN THE URBAN AREAS OF PARCELLES ASSAINIES AND KAFFRINE (SENEGAL).

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Introduction : Cosmetic skin whitening (CSW) is a worldwide practice with high prevalence among women from subsaharan Africa. Ours aims were to determine the prevalence of the CSW in the urban areas, in Senegal, to analyze the determinants and to identify the most used depigmenting products and their modalities.

Patients and Methodes : We perform a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical epidemiological study in general population. The study was conducted in two urban area, Dakar, the capital, and Kaffrine distant 250 Km to Dakar. We include female gender, at less 15 years old age at the time of the study, living in the selected area. An informed consent form was submitted to all persons included. Data were recorded by a standardized questionnaire and analysed by EPI-INFO 3.3.6 software. The Chi-square test was used with a significant $p < 0.05$.

Results : We include 1363 women, the global prevalence of CSW was 57.7% .The (18-35years) age group (56%) and the married (71.78%) are the most represented. The duration of the practice is between 2-5 years in 34,9% and more than 10 years in 21,7% (n=171). More the half of women did not have a fixed monthly income (n=802). The rate of education was 45.1% (n=615). Hydroquinone was the most common product used (17%). The monthly amount used was 10 US dollars. Some of the women (n=257) report a skin complications of the practice. More the half of women do not wish to stop the CSW (n=424). The associated non communicable diseases were HTA (17.28%), obesity or overweight (39.13%) and diabetes (2.85 %). More than half of women (53.9%) do not plan to stop the practice. We found an association between CSW and age ($p=0.0001$), marital





status($p=0.0001$), profession ($p=0.0001$), residency ($p=0.03$), BMI($p=0.0001$) but not with education ($p=0.22$). The multivariate analysis shows a correlation with age and fixed monthly income.

