



EPIDEMIOLOGY

## RETROSPECTIVE STUDY OF DERMATOLOGIC DISEASE OF THE EXTERNAL EAR

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**Background:** Due to the characteristics of the anatomical location, the external ear is easily exposed and damaged in trauma, weathering, and inflammation. Also, with the prejudice that the ear is an area of the otolaryngology, dermatologists often miss the dermatologic diseases of the ear.

**Objectives:** In this study, we classify and summarize the dermatologic diseases based on the anatomy of the external ear.

**Materials and Methods:** A retrospective study was conducted on patients who visited the department of dermatology, Chosun university hospital for the past 7 years. We enrolled 269 patients and the ear is anatomically divided into 8 parts, and the dermatologic diseases were divided into 5 parts.

**Results:** Based on external ear anatomy, the most common site that occurring dermatologic disease was postauricular region (33.8%) followed by earlobe (29.7%) and helix (12.6%). The most common dermatologic disease was benign tumor (74.7%), followed by infectious disease (10.7%) and malignant tumor (9.6%).

**Conclusion:** Although the proportion of ears in the total body is tiny, it is easily exposed to ultraviolet light anatomically, various kinds of dermatologic diseases can occur. As a result of study, many cases of benign and malignant tumor as well as a few precancerous diseases were found. This study is meaningful as a retrospective study of the dermatological diseases that occurred in the external ear for the first time. In conclusion, it is important to be aware of examination, diagnosis and treatment of this part.

