



EPIDEMIOLOGY

SPECTRUM OF INFECTIOUS DERMATOSES IN KINSHASA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

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Introduction: Little is known about the burden of infectious dermatoses in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Objective: This study aimed to describe the pattern of these diseases at the University Hospital of Kinshasa (UHK).

Material and methods: A retrospective analysis of data from patients attending the UHK for dermatosis has covered the period of 2nd January 2008 to 31st August 2017. Sociodemographic and clinical of the patients, along with dermatologic diagnosis were registered.

Results: Patients with infectious dermatoses, median age 23 years (IQR 20-27), represented 9.8% of the total of attenders; of which 55.7% were women. Parasitoses ranked first among all diseases (43%) dominated by scabiosis (41.9%). Viral (8.2%) and bacterial (6.6%) infections were paradoxically less observed. According to seasons, scabies appeared well associated with the raining, while impetigo and tinea capitis seemed more frequent during dry season ($p < 0.05$). There was a clear correlation between the age and type of dermatosis, with fungal infectious predominant in the 6-12 years aged subjects (29.6%). Bacterial; parasitic, and viral infections were more encountered respectively in 0-2 (41.3%); 19-30 (51.9%), and 6-12 (28.4%) aged groups. Male sex and age ranges of 0-5 years and 6-12 years emerged as independent determinants of infectious dermatosis through logistic regression analysis.

Conclusion: Infectious dermatosis, particularly parasitic dermatosis, mainly affects children (< 12 years old). Targeted measures to strengthen personal hygiene should be encouraged in our environment.

