



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

## **FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH PROLONGED CLINICAL RESPONSE AMONG PATIENTS ADMITTED WITH FACIAL ERYSIPELAS**

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**Introduction:** Facial erysipelas is a common skin infection. However, there are a few studies on clinical features and treatment outcomes of patients with facial erysipelas.

**Objective:** To identify clinical and laboratory features associated with prolonged clinical response.

**Materials and Methods:** Medical records from all patients hospitalized with facial erysipelas, admitted to a tertiary referral hospital between 2008 and 2018, were retrospectively studied. Patients were divided into two groups according to the day of clinical response.

**Results:** A total of 30 patients (25 female, 5 male), mean age  $57 \pm 14$  years, were included. Fifteen (%50) patients had a predisposing skin disease. The comorbid systemic disease was noted in %63. Fever and lymphadenopathy were present one-third of patients. Vesicle, bulla or erosion were observed in %20, abscess in %6, and necrosis in %3. Bilateral involvement of face occurred in %54. Frequencies of periorbital, nasal, and otic involvement were identified in %60, %37, %20, respectively. Mean duration of stay at the hospital was  $7.4 \pm 3.7$  days. Twenty-one of 30 patients had only monotherapy whereas rest of the patients had polytherapy with systemic antibiotics. A complete clinical response was achieved in  $4.8 \pm 3.5$  days. Factors associated with prolonged clinical response ( $\geq 5$  days) included presence of fever, nasal involvement, elevated CRP and erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), and polytherapy with systemic antibiotics.

**Conclusions:** This study has identified that patients with fever, nasal involvement, elevated CRP and ESR, and patients treated with polytherapy were associated with prolonged clinical response.

