



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

CLINICAL FORMS OF ERYTHRODERMA

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Background. Erythroderma (exfoliative dermatitis) is an extreme skin condition with 90 or even more percent of the skin affected. Characteristic of erythroderma are erythema, desquamation, itching, lymphadenopathy and fever.

The aim of the study is to investigate clinical forms and morphological signs of erythroderma in various dermatoses.

Material and methods. Over the last 16 years (2003-2018) we observed 181 patients with erythroderma. Clinical, paraclinical, histologic, ultrasound and X-ray methods, lymph node biopsy and computer tomography (if indicated) were used.

Results. Forms of erythroderma were studied in 181 patients (125 male, 56 female) aged from 16 till 83. Depending on the cause of erythroderma, patients were subdivided into three groups. Group I included 20 primary erythroderma patients (5 with lymphoma, 15 with drug reaction), group II - 134 patients with secondary erythroderma from pre-existent dermatosis (99 with psoriasis, 16 with atopic dermatitis, 9 with eczema and 10 with other dermatoses), group III - 7 patients (3,86%) with paraneoplastic dermatoses. The cause of erythroderma was not identified in 20 patients (11%). The male/female ratio (2,23 : 1) pointed out a worrying tendency of increasing erythroderma cases among women. Duration of erythroderma varied from 1 month till 7 years, in 6 psoriatic patients it exceeded 5 years. Erythroderma usually begins in patients over 40. The age of disease onset depends mainly on its cause. Psoriatic erythroderma was the most frequent of all erythroderma forms (99 cases, 54,69%). The main causes of erythroderma in psoriatic patients were inadequate topical therapy, alcohol abuse, aggravation of concomitant diseases.

Conclusions. Erythroderma is more often revealed in men (2,23:1). The average age of patients makes up 49 years. The mean duration of erythroderma is 14 months. Psoriatic erythroderma is the most frequent of all erythrodermic conditions (54,69%). The cause of erythroderma was not identified in 11% of cases.

