

INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

PRURIGO PIGMENTOSA: A CLINICOPATHOLOGIC STUDY OF TEN CHINESE CASES

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Introduction: Prurigo pigmentosa (PP) is a recurrent inflammatory skin disorder with severe pruritus. It characterized with erythematous papules appearing in a reticular pattern and left reticulate brownish macules after recovery. It is not common in China.

Objective: This study aimed at investigating the clinical and histopathological features of PP in Chinese people.

Materials and Methods: We retrospectively analyzed 10 patients of PP between August 2016 and August 2018 from our out-patient department. All clinical information and histopathological findings were collected. 6 patients had been tested for urine ketone. All patients have been followed up.

Results: The age at the time of diagnosis ranged from 16 to 34 years (mean \pm SD: 26.70 \pm 5.75). The patients were predominantly female (9/10). Skin lesions were characterized by pruritic erythematous papules and leaving reticulate hyperpigmentation. Dietary (5/10), diabetes mellitus (1/10), rubbing (1/10) and menstruation (1/10) were related with the disease. 3 patients had elevated urine ketone. Histopathologically, 1 patient demonstrated early-stage lesions, 5 patients demonstrated fully-developed-stage lesions and 4 patients demonstrated late-stage lesions. Skin lesions and histopathological changes of different stages may appear at the same time. Oral minocycline yielded excellent response and reduced recurrence effectively.

Conclusions: It is concluded that PP is not rare in China. Dieting may contribute to the development of PP. Ketosis seems to accelerate the disease development. Clinical presentation and histopathological characteristics at different stages can co-exist. Oral minocycline is an effective treatment for the disease.