

PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

## ACRODERMATITA ENTEROPATHICA : ABOUT 8 CASES

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Introduction: Acrodermatitis Enteropathica is due to malabsorption of zinc at the digestive level.

Erosive skin lesion and digestive manifestations expose infants to serious complications. Rarely reported in Africa, it may be a serious problem in malnutrition condition.

The aim of this study was to describe epidemiological and clinical features in 8 cases of acrodermatita enteropathica in Mali.

Patients and methods: This was a one-year cross-sectional study in dermatology hospital, Bamako.

The diagnosis was based on the presence of characteristic skin lesions associated with the alkaline phosphatase assay.

Results: A total of five girls and three boys were included, the average age was ten months with extremes of seven months and thirty months. The average duration of development was three months with extremes of one and nine months. The lesions were ulcero-crusts in all cases. Axillary, inguinal folds, around the neck, neckline and buttocks were involved in all cases. The oral and auricular circumference was involved in 6 cases. One case showed severe malnutrition. There was a notion of consanguineous marriage between parents in 50% of cases

Diarrhea was present in five cases (62.8%), a notion of family case was reported in one case.

The skin lesions healed in one week in all of our cases under zinc supplementation.

Conclusion: Our cases were remarkable by the rapid therapeutic response in a week under zinc.

In developing country the dosage of alkaline phosphatase could diagnose acrodermatita enteropathica in absence of zincemia

Key words: Acrodermatitis-Enteropathica-Zinc.