



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

CLINICAL OUTCOME AND PROGNOSIS OF YOUNG PATIENTS WITH MYCOSIS FUNGOIDES.

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Introduction: Mycosis fungoides (MF) in young patients is rare and may have atypical presentations. There is limited data in these patients.

Objective: Determine the clinical outcome and prognosis of young patients with MF.

Material and Methods: A search of our institutional cancer registry database was conducted for patients diagnosed with MF at ≤ 30 years of age.

Results: Our study includes 74 patients (median age at diagnosis= 25.5 years). Most patients (n=65, 88%) presented with early stage disease. Nineteen patients (26%) developed progressive disease (PD) during median follow-up of 3.5 years. PD was associated with advanced stage compared to early stage disease (89% vs. 17%, $p=0.0000$) and age >20 years at diagnosis (31% vs. 13%, $p= 0.08$). AA patients were more likely to have PD (52.6% vs. 20%, $p= 0.0090$). Forty-four patients (59%) presented with atypical MF; hypopigmented MF (n=27, 36.5%) was most common. All patients with hypopigmented MF presented with early stage disease and were less likely to develop PD compared to other variants (11% vs. 34%, $p= 0.0260$). All four patients with poikilodermatous MF developed PD. The overall survival is 97.2% and 95.9% at 5 and 10 years, respectively.

Conclusions: Progressive disease is associated with older age, African-American race, poikilodermatous variant, and advanced-stage disease. Hypopigmented variant is a common presentation in young patients and has an indolent disease course.

Our study confirms overall favorable prognosis in young patients with MF and points to the factors that can be used to predict a more aggressive disease course and thus closer surveillance and low treatment threshold in these patients.

