



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL PROFILE OF PITYRIASIS VERSICOLOR IN CHILDREN.

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**Background:** Pityriasis versicolor (PV) is an unusual superficial fungal infection in children due to the immaturity of the sebaceous glands.

**Objective:** To study the epidemiological, clinical and therapeutic characteristics of PV in children.

**Materials and Methods:** A retrospective study of cases observed in the department of dermatology of Sfax hospital over a period of 20 years (1998–2018). The diagnosis of PV in children (< 17 years) was based on clinical appearance of PV and a positive skin scotch-test.

**Results:** Three hundred seventy five patients with PV were children. The mean age was 12.36 years (range, 2 months-17 years), with predominance (73%) in the 12 to 15 age group. A female predominance was noted with sex ratio (F / H) was 1, 22. A history of folliculitis or acne was found in 14, 93 %, family history of PV in 1, 06 % and immunodeficiency (hemopathy, kidney transplant, nephrotic syndrome) in 1, 33%. Most children (81, 5%) had consulted during the hot season between April and November. The lesions were hypochromic or achromic (61, 86%), hyperchromic (31, 2 %), mosaic (6, 13%) and erythematous (0, 8 %). The most common affected site was the face (42.4%) followed by trunk (40, 5%) and neck (29.3%). The lesions were extensive in 13.1%. All children were treated with a local antifungal (ketoconazole in 78, 7%, econazole in 19, 7% and terbinafine in 1, 6%), with good evolution in 83.2% and relapses in 16, 8%. Systemic treatment with fluconazole (300 mg/week) was required in 3, 5% with remission in all cases.

**Conclusions:** PV is not uncommon in children in our region. It shares some similarities with that of the adult, but with epidemiological and topographical particularities: female predominance, hypochromic or achromic lesions are the most common with a predominant facial location.

