



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

## PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY INPATIENT CONSULTATIONS IN THE LARGEST PAEDIATRIC TERTIARY INSTITUTION IN SINGAPORE: AN ANALYSIS OF 778 CASES

*Lynette Wee<sup>(1)</sup> - Sharon Wong<sup>(2)</sup> - Valerie Ho<sup>(2)</sup> - Alice Foong<sup>(2)</sup> - Emily Gan<sup>(1)</sup> - Mark Koh<sup>(3)</sup>*

*Singhealth, Kk Women's And Children's Hospital, Singapore, Singapore<sup>(1)</sup> - Singhealth, Kk Women's And Children's Hospital, Singapore, Singapore<sup>(2)</sup> - Singhealth, Kk Women's And Children's Hospital, Singapore, Singapore<sup>(3)</sup>*

**Background:** While rashes are a common occurrence in the paediatric population and may be due to a primary skin condition or related to an underlying systemic, there have been limited reviews of inpatient paediatric dermatology in Asia in the past 30 years.

**Objective:** We sought to describe the activities of a paediatric dermatology inpatient service at a large tertiary Paediatric institution.

**Population and Methods:** We retrospectively identified and reviewed the electronic medical records of 778 paediatric (0-19 years old) dermatology inpatients reviewed from June 1 2014, through June 1 2017. The gender, age, requesting service, reasons for referral, final diagnosis, number of biopsies performed were recorded.

**Results:** Of the 778 inpatients, 55% were males and 45% were females. Patients ranged in the age from newborn to 19 years old: Nearly half were referrals for young children ranging from 1 month to 6 years of age. General paediatrics (82%) was the service that most frequently consulted paediatric dermatology, followed by the paediatric surgical disciplines (11%) and oncology unit (3.7%). The most common diagnostic categories included atopic dermatitis (48.5%), followed by inflammatory conditions (15.6%), infections (16.8%), vascular anomalies (5.5%), and drug eruptions (4.5%). Most of the patients had diagnosis based on clinical and laboratory tests, whereas skin biopsy was performed in only 3.2% of all the referrals.

**Limitations:** The retrospective nature of the study and the reliance on electronic medical records are potential limitations

**Conclusions:** This study highlights the array of dermatologic conditions that clinicians may face in a paediatric hospital inpatient setting. The conditions range from serious pathologies that must not be missed, to milder skin disorders that can be handled in the outpatient





setting. Information obtained from this study may be used to redirect and strengthen the paediatric dermatology education to specialists and residents involved in paediatrics inpatient care.

