PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

PHYSIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NAILS IN HEALTHY TERM NEWBORNS

Hassna Khaldi [1] - Imane Fetoui [1] - Said Amal [1] - Ouafa Hocar [2]

Mohammed Vi University Hospital/department Of Dermatology, Faculty Of Medicine/ Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, Morocco [1] - Mohammed Vi University Hospital/ Department Of Dermatology, Faculty Of Medicine/ Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, Morocco [2]

Introduction: Very few dermatology studies are dedicated to nail characteristics in healthy newborns at term. As a result, the nail apparatus at this age remains an unclear entity that leaves the dermatologist sometimes perplexed by the parents' questions.

Objective: The objective of this study is to evaluate the prevalence of different physiological aspects of the nails of term newborns.

Materials and methods : This work is descriptive and cross-sectional analysis of healthy newborns with no maternal, pregnancy or neonatal pathological history of the maternity center of Mohammed VI University Hospital in Marrakech. The specific examination of the nails were noted using a standardized questionnaire. The nails were systematically photographed.

Results: A total of 200 newborns were included in the study. The sex ratio M / F was 1,2. On the hands, the predominant features were the oval shape (70%) and the convex curvature (67%). The lunula was present in only 9.75% of the fingernails. Hypertrophy of the lateral folds was noted in 20% of the cases, hyperpigmentation of the proximal fold in 32.45% of the nails and 6.25% of newborns had chevron nails.
On the toes, the shape of the nails was round (70.3%) or triangular (21.1%) with a flat curvature (76.9%). We noted koilonychia in 4% of newborns and a lunula in 1%. We found micronychia in 32% of cases. The surface of the nail plate showed beau lines (4.95%), horizontal striations (2.35%), and herringbone nails (3.3%). The distal parts showed eversion (10%) and also onychoschisia (1.95%).
Our study found a significant correlation between nail length and weight, height and term, as well as a significant correlation between phototype and hyperpigmentation of proximal folds.

Conclusions: To conclude, this work allowed us to have an insight into the physiological characteristics of the nails of Moroccan newborns.