



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

PIGMENTARY CONDITIONS IN NEONATES ADMITTED IN NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT- A STUDY OF 330 CASES.

Sanjana Shivashankar⁽¹⁾ - Ravindra K⁽²⁾

Cutis Academy Of Cutaneous Sciences, Dermatology, Bangalore, India⁽¹⁾ - Jjm Medical College, Davangere, Dermatology, Davangere, India⁽²⁾

INTRODUCTION : Skin colour is an important social and cultural characteristic which explains why parents of children with any deviation from normal pigmentation are exceedingly concerned about this problem.

METHOD : An analytical study was conducted for 2 years at a tertiary NICU set up in which a total of 330 neonates were examined for any pigmentary conditions.

RESULTS : Out of 330 neonates 150 (45%) had pigmented lesions. Out of 150 cases 139 (93%) were hyperpigmentary and 19 cases (13%) were hypopigmentary. Most common hyperpigmentary condition was congenital melanocytic nevus followed by transient cutaneous lesions like Mongolian spot (20 cases each) and cutis marmorata (13 cases). Post inflammatory hyperpigmentation was seen in 59 cases, out of which 35 cases were secondary to iatrogenic procedures performed in NICU like needle prick injuries (19 cases), monitoring probe burns (10 cases) and use of adhesive tapes in neonates (6 cases). Seven cases of post traumatic hyperpigmentation due to resuscitation and birth trauma was seen. Generalized melanoderma due to phototherapy was seen in 2 neonates. Also 2 cases of café-au-lait macules and 1 case of Peutz-Jeghers syndrome was noted.

Most common hypopigmentary lesion was those of post inflammatory hypopigmentation (7 cases) caused secondary to Infantile Seborrheic Dermatitis, Epidermolysis Bullosa Dystrophica and Epidermolysis Bullosa Simplex. Post traumatic hypopigmentation due to customary branding (2 cases) and forceps injuries (3 cases) were seen. Three cases of nevus anemicus, 2 cases of nevus depigmentosus and a case of Waardenburg syndrome was also recorded.

CONCLUSION : Although chiefly of cosmetic significance, disorders of pigmentation can have profound psychosocial implications on family members of pediatric population. In our study, most pigmentary lesions caused by traumatic and iatrogenic injuries was seen in preterm neonates admitted in the NICU.

