



PIGMENTATION

FACIAL MELANOSIS HAS GREAT COSMETIC IMPACT ON PATIENTS WITH DARK SKIN: CLINICAL AND HISTOPATHOLOGICAL STUDY WITH NEW CONCEPT;

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Background: Facial melanoses are a major cosmetic health problem in dermatological practice especially among dark skinned people.

Objectives: To study all cases of facial melanoses including clinical evaluation, Wood's lamp examination and histopathological study

Patients and Methods: Two hundred cases of facial melanoses were seen during the period from July 2013 -January 2014 in Department of Dermatology,Medical Teaching Hospital,Bahgdad. Clinical assessment was carried out including, Wood's light examination and skin biopsy was done for histopathological examination.

Results: The following clinical types were recognized with some overlap between melasma and melasma versus butterfly lichen planus actinicus; melasma and melasma like butterfly lichen planus actinicus 122 (61%) patients, frictional melanosis 25 (12.5%), post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation 19 (9.5%) butterfly lichen planus actinicus 16 (8), facial acanthosis nigricans 15 (7.5%), nevus of Ota 2 (1%), phytophotodermatitis 1 (0.5%), Gazelle eyelike facial melanosis 1 (0.5%) and 1(0.5%) patient with hair dye dermatitis. The clinical and histopathological pictures are overlapping between these different variants of facial melanosis but in all of them there is increase in the melanin stores and theses stores could be mainly epidermal like seen in melasma or dermal that commonly observed in post-inflammatory dermatosis.Woods light examination is of limited use in differentiating these different conditions

There are many etiological, clinical and histopathological features support the hypothesis that melasma and butterfly lichen planus actinicus constitute one spectrum and melasma like butterfly lichen planus actinicus lay in the middle of this spectrum

Conclusions; The commonest types are melasma and facial frictional melanosis. All types of facial melanoses share increase in the melanin stores in the epidermis and dermis. Melasma and butterfly lichen planus actinicus build up one spectrum.

