



PRURITUS

## EVALUATION OF PRURITUS IN 100 PATIENTS

*Lakshmi Pooja Chitturi<sup>(1)</sup> - K Sravanthi<sup>(2)</sup> - K Seetharam<sup>(3)</sup>*

*Gsl Medical College And General Hospital, Department Of Dvl, Rajahmundry, India<sup>(1)</sup> - Gsl Medical College, Department Of Dvl, Rajahmundry, India<sup>(2)</sup> - Gsl Medical College, Department Of Dvl, Rajahmundry, India<sup>(3)</sup>*

**Introduction:** Pruritus is considered as itching at most parts of the body without any active skin lesions. It can be of varied systemic causes.

**Objective:** To evaluate the causes of pruritus in patients attending to a tertiary care hospital

**Materials and methods:** Hundred patients, attending our OPD between January 2017 and June 2018 with pruritus were evaluated for associated systemic causes. Both males and females and all age groups were included. Patients having itching and skin lesions were excluded. Detailed history, Complete clinical examination, Hemogram including peripheral smear, Liver functional tests and renal functional tests, Viral markers (HIV, HBs Ag and HCV) and complete urine analysis were done in all cases. Endoscopy, Ultrasound, Computer tomography and Magnetic resonance imaging were done in necessary cases.

**Results:** Of the 100 cases, 69 were males and 31 females. Associated cause was found in 62 cases, Diabetes mellitus (15), hypothyroidism (12), Chronic renal failure (8), HIV disease (7), Viral hepatitis (6), Scabies in family (4), Hepatocellular carcinoma (2), hyperthyroidism (2), Cholangiocarcinoma (1), cholecystitis (1), Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (2), Pancreatic carcinoma (1), and Polycythemia Vera (1). Despite all the above investigations, no cause could be found in the rest of 38 cases.

**Conclusion:** Pruritus is not uncommon presentation. Proper evaluation can lead to find a cause in majority of cases and will help in the management.

