



SKIN MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASE

CUTANEOUS MANIFESTATIONS IN INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE

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Introduction: Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is a chronic, relapsing, inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract caused by unknown etiology and pathogenesis. It has been suggested that IBD tends to coincide with several cutaneous symptoms and signs, and previous studies suggested a link between IBD and immune-mediated skin diseases such as psoriasis, rosacea, and atopic dermatitis. However, there is a paucity of reports on cutaneous manifestations in patients with IBD from Asia and Korea.

Objective: We aimed to examine the prevalence of cutaneous manifestations in IBD patients and investigate the possible association between IBD and various related dermatoses in a Korean tertiary care hospital.

Materials and Methods: A detailed questionnaire on the skin conditions was performed on 120 patients diagnosed with UC or CD who has been treated at the gastrointestinal center of our hospital. We also extracted their medical records retrospectively to detect more information about both cutaneous manifestations and IBD including disease duration, treatment course, and prognosis.

Results: The number of patients with CD was noted in 58 cases (48.3%) and with UC in 62 cases (51.7%). Among them, 67.2% of CD patients and 88.7% of UC patients exhibited various cutaneous manifestations. Reactive skin lesions like aphthous stomatitis, erythema nodosum, and pyoderma gangrenosum were found in 12 cases (10%). Immune-mediated skin diseases such as psoriasis, rosacea, and atopic dermatitis were shown at the rate of 3.7%, 21.3%, 12.5% respectively. Other dermatoses including herpes zoster, xerosis, and skin fungal infection were also detected.

Conclusions: The prevalence of cutaneous manifestations in IBD is similar to that reported previously in Asian patients. Future investigations on the association between skin diseases





and IBD are needed to understand the pathogenesis and immunologic background of their comorbidities.

