



TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

## **BURDEN AND SPECTRUM OF SKIN DISORDERS AT THE MILLENNIUM: EVIDENCE FROM BANGLADESH.**

*Mohammad Rafiqul Mowla<sup>(1)</sup>*

*Chittagong Medical College And Hospital, Department Of Dermatology And Venereology,  
Chittagong, Bangladesh<sup>(1)</sup>*

**Introduction:** Skin diseases are one of the common health problems seen in developing countries and differ in different regions depending on social, economic, racial and environmental factors. However, epidemiological studies of skin diseases are rather rare in Bangladesh. The purpose of this study is to analyze the prevalence and pattern of skin diseases in Chittagong, Bangladesh and hopes to provide accurate baseline data for planning intervention.

**Materials and Methods:** A descriptive retrospective cross-sectional study is carried out using registered records of patients attending the dermatology clinic in Chittagong Medical College Hospital between the periods 2009 and 2017.

**Results:** 41,997 patients were studied; 51% were male and 49% female. Infective dermatoses were commoner 53.88%; parasitic disorders comprised 26.41%, mostly scabies (26.16%). Other infective disorders were fungal (18.19%), viral (7.06%) and bacterial (2.22%). Non-infective inflammatory dermatoses, comprised 46.12%, most commonly eczema/dermatitis (17.28%), followed by papulosquamous diseases such as psoriasis (11.20%), acne vulgaris (5.84%), vitiligo (4.23%), chronic arsenism (2.55%), urticaria (2.25%), genodermatoses (0.87%), drug reactions (0.43%), cutaneous neoplasms (0.40%) and bullous diseases (0.40%).

**Conclusions:** The study revealed more than 53% of the diseases are of infectious origin. The high proportion of transmissible disease demands a preventive approach. Skin diseases remain a low priority for many health authorities despite the large demand for services. A suitable and skin friendly health policy is needed to improve dermatological care to address common skin diseases at all level of health care delivery system in a developing country such as ours.

**Key words:** Skin diseases, Prevalence, Bangladesh.

