



TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

CLINICAL CHARACTERISTICS, TREATMENT AND OUTCOME OF CUTANEOUS SPOROTRICHOSIS IN AN OUT-PATIENT DERMATOLOGY CLINIC IN NORTHERN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA: A 5 YEARS REVIEW

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Introduction: Sporotrichosis is a chronic infection caused by saprophytic dimorphic fungus *Sporothrix Schenckii*. It commonly related to traumatic inoculation from plant or thorn prick or animal bite.

Objective: The study is to assess the clinical characteristic, treatment and outcome of cutaneous sporotrichosis among our patients.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective review of all cases diagnosed with sporotrichosis from 1st June 2013 to 31st May 2018 was done. Patients medical records were retrieved and analysed according to demography, preceding trauma, site of primary lesion, clinical subtypes, histopathological findings, mycology results, treatment and clinical response.

Results: A total of 143 cases were diagnosed Sporotrichosis. The mean age of our cohort was 47.9 years. Male-to-Female ratio was 1:2.9. Majority of patients were Malay (92.1%). 87(69.3%) patients presented with lympho-cutaneous pattern, 31(22.1%) localised, followed by disseminated subtype (6.4%). Most common morphology is nodular (81.4%), followed by ulcerative lesion (38.6%). 100(69.9%) patients were able to recall history of preceding trauma, 63% gave history of cat bite compare to only 7% of prick injury. 27 patients were in immunocompromised state.

In terms of histopathological findings, most of our patients had granulomatous reaction (73.9%; n=102). Special fungal stain was positive for fungal element in 37(26.8%) patients. *Sporothrix Schenckii* was cultured in 99(69.2%) cases. Among those with negative culture, noted 15.9% had positive fungal polymerase chain reaction. 131(93.6%) patients were treated with itraconazole, mean treatment duration was 16 weeks. 127 patients had complete resolution, while 1 patient responded but had relapse sporotrichosis later, 12 were lost to follow up after the initial improvement.





Conclusions: Lymphocutaneous sporotrichosis was the commonest subtype in our centre, with cat scratches or bites being the most common reported preceding trauma as compared to rose thorn prick injury. Systemic Itraconazole showed high cure rate in our cohort.

