

TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY

## NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES (NTD) OR NEGLECTED PEOPLE DISEASES (NPD)?

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**INTRODUCTION:** Most of the individuals affected by NTDs are human beings living in rural and disadvantaged urban settings in situations of extreme poverty, vulnerability and marginalization. Tropical Neglected Skin diseases constitute one of the most frequent causes of morbidity in Ethiopia, ranking sixth in the top ten of new outpatient cases in Tigray.

**OBJECTIVE:** To assess the burden of Neglected Tropical Skin Disorders among Italian Dermatological Centre (IDC), in Mekelle (Ethiopia), and Maiani District Hospital (MDH) in Sheraro (Ethiopia) patients across sex and age groups.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS:** we performed a retrospective analysis on skin burden among 66,927 patients from January 2005 to December 2011 in IDC and 24,536 patients from February 2014 to December 2017 in MDH.

**RESULTS:** The leading diagnosis among outpatients were eczema (22.6%), mycosis (14.9%), pigmentation anomalies (9.1 %), pyoderma (6.0 %), acne (5.5 %), scabies (4.6 %). The highest M/F ratio being found for scabies (1.7) while the lowest one for pigmentation anomalies (0.7). Young children (0-5) were the most affected by mycosis (26.9%), scabies (16.7%) and pyoderma (11.9%). The leading diagnosis among inpatients were pyoderma (14.6%), eczema (11.3%), scabies (9.0%), leishmaniasis (8.2%), mycosis (5.4%), burns (4.5%), HIV infection (3.8%), skin ulcers (2.9%). The highest M/F ratio being found for skin ulcers (3.8), leishmaniasis (2.5), while the lowest ones for burns (0.9) and HIV infection (0.9). Young children (0-5) were the most affected by pyoderma (25.9%), eczema (14.3%), scabies (14.1%). The overall ALOS was 14.2 days, the average bed occupancy rate was 63.7%

**CONCLUSIONS:** The results show that patients were mainly affected by common diseases,



mostly overcome worldwide, persisting among neglected people because of adverse social determinants of health, inappropriate, delayed diagnosis, mistreatment.

