



VASCULAR DISEASE, VASCULITIS

## **SYSTEMIC COMPLICATIONS IN PATIENTS PRESENTING WITH CUTANEOUS VASCULITIS - A STUDY OF 101 PATIENTS.**

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**Introduction & Objectives:** Vasculitis is a multi-organ disease. Cutaneous vasculitis can be a primary phenomenon or may be associated with systemic symptoms. This study emphasises on the different types of cutaneous vasculitis associated with systemic symptoms. Moreover, it establishes the temporal relationship between the systemic manifestations and cutaneous vasculitis.

**Materials & Methods:** This was an observational study done over a period of 5 years wherein the patients presenting to the dermatology department with features suggestive of cutaneous vasculitis with various systemic symptoms were included in the study.

**Results:** A total of 101 patients fulfilled the inclusion criteria and were further analyzed. Majority of the patients (i.e 62%) had leukocytoclastic vasculitis, whereas 33% of them were diagnosed as Henoch-Schönlein purpura and 5% presented with other types of vasculitis. Systemic symptoms were present in 73% of the patients, out of which 52% of the patients simultaneously presented with skin and systemic symptoms whereas the rest developed systemic symptoms later. In our study, 51% of the patients presented with musculoskeletal involvement, 38% had gastrointestinal system involvement whereas only 11% had renal involvement. Majority of the patients underwent remission, 15% of the patients had recurrence. Unfortunately, 6 of our patients died due to systemic complications.

**Conclusions:** This study is being reported to emphasize on the spectrum of systemic symptoms that can present in patients with cutaneous vasculitis and to highlight that vasculitis patients should be thoroughly investigated to rule out any systemic complications.

