



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

CLASSICAL TODAY, UNCLASSICAL TOMORROW – AN AGENT TURNING THE DIAGNOSIS UPSIDE DOWN

Bramhini Bhargavi K⁽¹⁾ - Padmaja P⁽¹⁾

*Osmania Medical College, Department Of Dermatology, Venereology & Leprosy,
Hyderabad, India⁽¹⁾*

Background: Ringworms infections are the most commonly encountered cases in the daily outpatient department. Tinea Incognito is the ringworm infections modified by corticosteroids (topical/systemic) and topical immunomodulators given mistakenly for Tinea. In low socioeconomic countries and where strict vigilance on the sale of steroids is lacking, leading to its indiscriminate use and thereby posing diagnostic difficulties. This gives the possibility of misdiagnosis and mistreatment which render the disease more contagious and make the treatment more difficult and prolonged.

Objectives: 1)To create awareness among physicians about varied presentations. 2)To identify the most common species of fungi & to compare clinical diagnosis with KOH smear positivity & culture positivity. 3)To create awareness on the magnitude of corticosteroid abuse

Material & methods: 30 suspected cases of Tinea Incognito and with h/o usage of corticosteroids for atleast 6 weeks attending the DVL department of Osmania medical college, Hyderabad, South India from December 2017 to December 2018 were taken and KOH smear and SDA culture with Actidione were performed.

Results: Most of the patients belong to the age group between 20 years to 35 years with slight male preponderance. various presentations mimicking other dermatological conditions like Eczema, Hansens, contact dermatitis, Pityriasis versicolor, EMF etc. were encountered. All the cases were confirmed with KOH mount and culture. Betamethasone was the most commonly used corticosteroid. Trichophyton mentagrophytes was the most common species identified.

Conclusion: A thorough history and mycological correlation is often required. It is high time that strict vigilance on the sale of steroid-containing compounds needs to be imposed and awareness about steroid misuse helps to control this problem.

