Exploring Dermatophytosis: Epidemiology, Clinical Patterns, and Causative Agents in a Local Population

Dr.Deepa Bhatt[1], Dr. Bhavini Shah[2], Dr. Khevana Bhatt[3]*, Dr. Aryan Mevada[4], Dr. Hardik Pitroda[5]

[1]-Consultant Dermatologist, Akshar Complex, Satellite, Ahmedabad
[2-] Consultant Microbiologist, Neuberg Supratech, Ahmedabad
[3-]Medical Officer, Akshar Complex, Satellite, Ahmedabad
[4--]Medical Officer, Akshar Complex, Satellite, Ahmedabad
[5-]Consultant Dermatologist, Ahmedabad

[*]**Corresponding Author- Dr Khevana Bhatt**
E mail ID:khevanabhatt@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Introduction and Objectives: Dermatophytosis, a superficial fungal infection affecting keratinized tissues, presents significant public health challenges globally. This study aimed to investigate clinic-mycological correlations, demographic variables, and identify causative fungi to formulate effective treatment strategies.**Materials and Methods:**A cross-sectional study from January 2022 to September 2023 in Ahmedabad enrolled 100 dermatophytosis patients meeting specific criteria. Informed consent was obtained, ensuring confidentiality. Specimens were collected, divided for various analyses, and underwent microscopic examination and culture. Data were entered into Microsoft Excel for analysis.**Results:**The study identified a notable female preponderance (59%) among 100 clinically diagnosed cases, with the highest incidence in the 30-39 age group. Clinical presentations included tinea corporis (42%) and T. corporis with cruris (23%). Fungal KOH and culture exhibited a significant correlation, with Trichophyton mentagrophytes (38%) as the most common species.**Conclusion:**This study provides crucial insights into dermatophytosis epidemiology, clinical patterns, and causative agents. While guiding clinicians in refining diagnostic approaches, it emphasizes the need for ongoing research to address diagnostic limitations and improve management strategies for enhanced patient outcomes.

Key words: Dermatophytosis, Epidemiology, Causative Agents