

Atopic dermatitis in the view of pediatrics

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Sir,

In 2014 we performed a study on 1000 kindergarten children and we concluded a point prevalence of atopic dermatitis extremely low: 0,22% [1].

In 2020, in the same geographic area, we performed a retrospective study, between 2013 and 2018, revising all medical records of the children (aged 0-16) hospitalized in the Saint Mary Children Hospital Iasi. We selected only skin diseases (main or second diagnosis). Each diagnosis was performed by pediatrics without any dermatological examination (Table 1).

Evaluating the medical records some observations were made:

- Skin diseases were categorized differently from dermatological point of view;

- Psoriasis, vitiligo, alopecia areata and other were summarized as other dermatitis;
- Seborrheic dermatitis was highly prevalent, but divided into infantile and non-infantile type;
- Scalp seborrhea was considered a specific diagnosis;
- diaper dermatitis was reported in almost the same proportion as atopic dermatitis;
- Total number of skin disorders did not vary too much for the entire period (2013-2018);
- Prevalence of atopic dermatitis was reported to vary from 2.74% to 4.06% of all skin diseases for hospitalized children.

Atopic dermatitis is a very important diagnosis for pediatrics, more than psoriasis for example, but one can doubt the validity of diagnostic criteria, as well as the identification of other skin diseases. Another

Diagnosis	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Piodermatitis	45	37	24	51	47	43
Pemphigus	1	1	0	1	0	0
Epidermolysis bullosa	1	1	1	0	0	1
Dermatitis herpetiformis	1	3	0	1	1	0
Prurigo	2	4	5	8	9	20
Atopic dermatitis	192 (2,74%)	208 (3,58%)	234 (3,88%)	250 (3,58%)	229 (4,06%)	217 (3,70%)
Scalp seborrhea	9	3	5	8	5	8
Infantile seborrheic dermatitis	18	4	4	11	14	13
Seborrheic dermatitis	43	52	40	60	42	47
Diaper dermatitis	167	200	213	225	138	125
Allergic contact dermatitis	51	47	51	66	78	119
Irritant contact dermatitis	22	26	39	23	6	7
Contact dermatitis	2	8	6	13	14	15
Food allergy	1	5	6	16	6	8
Oral contact allergy	1	0	1	0	0	0
Burns	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other dermatitis	25	34	23	38	25	23
Total	527	580	602	698	564	585

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explanation could rely on the attention focused on the atopic dermatitis, ignoring other skin diseases.

Consent

The examination of the patient was conducted according to the Declaration of Helsinki principles.

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts

will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

REFERENCE

1. Chiriac A, Foia L, Gorduza VE, Chiriac AE, Uliuc T, Kezic S, et al. The puzzled low prevalence of atopic dermatitis in kindergarten children in Romania. *Pediatr Allergy Immunol.* 2014;25:96-7.

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