

To Study the Etiological Spectrum of Chronic Urticaria in an Urban City Hospital

Mohammed Faizal*

Department of Dermatology Venereology and Leprosy, Sree Balaji Medical College & Hospital Affiliated to Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

ABSTRACT

Urticaria is an erythematous itchy swelling in the skin. It is mostly reported causative in acute cases are allergies and rarely some factors are involved. It is associated with other aetiologies like infectious disease, autoimmune process etc. It's reported that oestrogen sensitivity also contributes to the infection.

Key words: Urticaria, Skin, Age, Sex

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Corresponding author: Mohammed Faizal
e-mail ✉: editor.pubs@gmail.com
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INTRODUCTION

Urticaria is an erythematous itchy swelling in the skin. It is mostly reported causative in acute cases are allergies and rarely some factors are involved. It is associated with other aetiologies like infectious disease, autoimmune process etc. It's reported that oestrogen sensitivity also contributes to the infection. Despite being one of the common skin diseases, the possible etiology of chronic urticaria remains obscure [1-4]. Hence this study was undertaken to find out the possible etiological spectrum of chronic urticaria.

METHODOLOGY

All newly enrolled patients (both male and female) attending skin OPD, who are clinically diagnosed as chronic urticaria were taken for the study. Baseline data including age and sex, detailed medical history including conventional risk factors, clinical examination, and relevant investigations.

RESULTS

The results shows that the mean duration of disease was significantly higher among females and with those having the history of Angioedema. Of 71 patients who had gone through asst test, 50 was tested negative and 21 of them were tested positive Mean age of those who were tested negative were 37.62 and mean age of those who were tested positive were 34.24.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Approximately 15-20% of the population are reported to have experienced at least one episode of urticaria in their lifetime. Hence search for the chronic cause is very essential. In this study the incidence of chronic urticaria was found to be more in females (56%) than males (43.3%), Similar observation have been made. Mean duration of disease was significantly higher among females (mean duration of disease in female is 27.06 and male 17.20). Similar observations were made by Sarojini et al [1,2]. In the present study, a total of 2(1.3%) patients had chronic urticaria with an evidence of a focus of infection somewhere in the body. 1 patient had worm infestation of *H. Pylori* Urticaria improved in these patients on being treated with appropriate antibiotics and antihelminths. In the present study, food items were observed to be aggravating chronic urticaria in 21 (14%) patients.

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