PATTERN OF SKIN DISORDERS IN A RURAL COMMUNITY IN SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

Ayesha Omolara Akinkugbe, Oluwatoyin Christiana Amira, Obianuju Beatrice Ozoh, Olufemi Fasanmade, Emmanuel Bandele

Abstract

Background:
Skin disorders are commonly found in the community. In most circumstances, they are easily treatable and preventable. Social and environmental factors play a key role in the epidemiology of skin disease. It is important to assess the dermatological needs of a community as this will help address specific needs and identify the skin disorders in a rural community.

Methods:
This was a cross-sectional study carried out in Epeme, a rural community in Lagos state, South west Nigeria. All consenting adults and children that presented for the programme were recruited. A self-reported questionnaire was administered by face-to-face interview. Socio-demographic data were collected. All those with a skin disease or complaint were further questioned and a clinical examination carried out and findings recorded.

Results:
There were 263 individuals screened; 156 adults and 107 children. Mean age of adults was 38.04 ± 13.04 years and children 9.50 ± 4.67 years. Thirty adults (19.2%) and 27 (25.2%) children had a skin disorder identified clinically. Among the adults the following categories of skin disorders were found: infection 12 (7.6%), disorders of sebaceous glands 5 (3.2%), pigmentary disorders 2 (1.2%) and pruritus 1 (0.6%). Among children, 21 (19.6%) had skin infections, 2 (1.8%) each with eczema and sebaceous gland disorder. Majority of the infections in children were of fungal aetiology.

Conclusion:
Infections still remain the major skin disorders in rural communities in Nigeria where dermatology healthcare is not readily available.

Keywords

pattern, skin disorders, skin infection, rural, community, Nigeria

References


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REFBACKS

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Contact Us

Department of Internal Medicine, University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, Alakia, Port Harcourt, PMB 6173, Rivers State, Nigeria.
Phone: +2348033129421
Email: editor@tnhjph.com

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About The Authors

Ayesha Omolara Akinkugbe
Faculty of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Lagos
Nigeria
Lecturer and Consultant Dermatologist
Dermatology Unit, Department of Internal Medicine

Oluwatoyin Christiana Amira
College of Medicine, University of Lagos
Nigeria
Senior Lecturer, Dept of Medicine

Obianuju Beatrice Ozoh
College of Medicine, University of Lagos
Nigeria
Senior Lecturer, Dept of Medicine

Olufemi Fasanmade
College of Medicine, University of Lagos
Nigeria
Associate Professor, Dept of Medicine

Emmanuel Bandele
College of Medicine, University of Lagos
Nigeria
Professor, Dept of Medicine