

Prevalence and associated factors of atopic dermatitis in Antananarivo Madagascar.

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Introduction

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic skin condition affecting 5% to 20% children. We aim to investigate the prevalence and associated factors of AD in individuals < 15 years of age in Antananarivo Madagascar.

Materials and Methods

It was a retrospective and descriptive study over a period of seven years (2010 to 2016) in children 6 months to 14 years in the Department of Dermatology, Joseph Raseta Befelatanana Antananarivo Madagascar. The diagnosis of AD was based on clinical data.

Results

The prevalence of AD was 1,52% in children aged 6 months to 14 years in Antananarivo Madagascar. The details of 151 cases of atopic dermatitis were analyzed. The mean age of patients was 4 years. There was a female preponderance (sex ratio: 0,7). A family history of AD was noted in 56 cases (37%). Convex areas of the face were affected in 96 cases (64%) and 68 cases (45%) in children < 2 years and children > 2years, respectively. Papulovesicular lesions was present in 101 cases (66,6%) and impetiginized lesions in 13 cases (8,6%). Lesion was extensive more than 20% of body surface in 66 cases (44%). Atopic dermatitis was associated with allergic rhinitis in 33 cases, food allergy in 25 cases and asthma in 9 cases. No association between breast-feeding and AD was found in our study. The age of onset of AD is before the age of 3 months in 7,5% and between 6 months to 5 years in 70%. The mean age of onset was 3 years. Children born in March (dry season) had the highest risk of AD. Consultations for AD increase during the winter (from July to October) (p=0,005). However, the prevalence of AD was similar in urban and rural areas in our study.

Conclusion

Weather may have an impact on the incidence of atopic dermatitis in Madagascar. No significant correlation is found between the duration of breastfeeding and AD, as well as urbanization.