

Summary and Conclusion

This study was carried out to estimate the commonest skin diseases among primary school children in Benha town and surrounding rural community, by selection of 2000 school children during a period from January to May 2009.

Statistical analysis of the results was done and it revealed the following:

- Eczematous diseases account for the most common group of diseases in Benha town (9.15%), and the most common eczematous disease is pityriasis alba (4.55%).
- Parasitic skin infestations account for the most common group of diseases in villages of Benha (29.55%), and the most common parasitic infestation is pediculosis capitis (25.85%).
- The most common bacterial skin infection is Impetigo contagiosum in both Benha town and villages (1.45%) and (2.00%) with slightly more prevalence in villages.
- The most common fungal skin infection is tinea capitis ((0.65%) in Benha and higher prevalence in Benha villages (1.60%) of primary school students.
- Viral skin infections is present with a percentage of (1.55%) and (1.10%) in Benha town and Benha villages respectively, warts is the most common viral infection in 1ry school children (0.6%) followed by Chicken pox (0.6%) and (0.35%) in Benha town and Benha villages then herpes simplex (0.3%) and (0.15%).

- The most common hair disease is alopecia areata with a percentage of (1.35%) and (1.10%) in urban and rural region of Benha.
- Papular urticaria is the most common allergic skin disease with a percentage of (2.55%) and (3.60%) of the whole studied sample.
- Acne, Pityriasis rosea, Psoriasis and Vitiligo are not common among this age group (6–12 years) in Benha town nor villages.
- The infectious diseases show relatively high prevalence due to the poor hygiene of the children and the overcrowding of the classes.

Some skin diseases were **more common among boys than girls** such as, Pityriasis alba, atopic dermatitis, scabies, impetigo contagiosum, viral warts, herpes simplex, tinea capitis, tinea corporis, pityriasis versicolor, alopecia areata, papular urticaria, drug eruptions and acne vulgaris.

While other diseases were more common among girls than boys like, pediculosis capitis, contact dermatitis, traction alopecia and candidiasis.