

INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK

The problem of mycotic infection of the skin and its complications derive special attention. In Benha Governorate, mycological infection as well as its treatment has not yet been fully studied. *Tinea capitis* is an important and wide-spread disease constituting a significant public health problem in many areas.

The first comprehensive survey of ringworm in Egypt was conducted by Gohar (1938), who demonstrated that classical *Trichophyton schoenleinii* was the predominant cause of ringworm infection in Egypt, followed by *Trichophyton violaceum*. Also, he reported that *Trichophyton schoenleinii* appeared to be more prevalent in the rural areas, while *Trichophyton violaceum* was distinctly more of a town species. On the other hand Taylor et al., (1964) and Abdel-Fattah et al., (1967) reported that *Trichophyton violaceum* was the commonest cause of ringworm infection in Egypt.

Aim of The Work :

1. Examination of samples collected from patients admitted

to outpatient clinic of the Dermatology Department at Benha University Hospital aiming for isolation and identification of dermatophytes causing tinea capitis. This study will include patients at different ages, sexes and socioeconomic standards.

- 2, Comparison of direct microscopic examination as well as culture method for diagnosis of mycotic infection.