

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Psoriasis is a chronic scaly and inflammatory skin disorder that develops in patients with a particular genetic background . There is a genetic influence in the pathogenesis of psoriasis ,and despite intensive investigation,the cause of the disease remains obscure. There is a familial predisposition.

Psoriasis is considered to be a disease of abnormal keratinocyte proliferation induced by T lymphocytes. T lymphocyte stimulation may occur as a result of either antigen / superantigen presentation [streptococcal or viral antigen] by antigen-presenting cells or as a result of autoreactivity.

This study was done for detection of group (A) β haemolytic streptococci in the throat of psoriatic patients of guttate type and of plaque type as well as normal control group , and for measurement of intercellular adhesion molecule-3 (ICAM-3) in their sera and to asses their role in the pathogenesis of psoriasis and correlation of their levels with psoriasis severity.

The study included randomly 45 psoriatic patients ,26 females and 19 males with their ages ranging from 7 years to 67 years , attending the outpatients clinics of Dermatology Department Benha University Hospital . Also 15 ,age matched , controls were included.

Thorough history and clinical examination were performed to these patients,then they were classified into mild (15) ,moderate (15) and severe(15) cases according to PASI score classification.

The bacteriologically study of throat swabs of psoriatic patients was done by gram stain in both culture with subsequent culturing on sheep

blood agar with subsequent direct latex agglutination test for detection of group(A) β haemolytic streptococci in the throat of psoriatic patients.

The immunological study was done by determining ICAM-3 level in sera of the patients and controls.

The results were tabulated statistically studied . These results showed that:

- 1- Group (A) β haemolytic streptococci was greatly higher in the throat swabs of psoriatic patients than clinically normal persons. ✓
- 2- Group (A) β haemolytic streptococci in throat psoriatic patients was higher positive in mild cases than moderate cases while throat swabs in severe cases were negative. ✓
- 3- Group (A) β haemolytic streptococci in throat swabs was present in all patients with guttate psoriasis and in some patients with plaque psoriasis. ✓
- 4- Circulating intercellular adhesion molecule-3 [ICAM-3] was significantly increased in psoriatic patients than the control group . The degree of ICAM-3 increase was directly proportional to severity of psoriatic patients. ✓

Conclusion:

- (1) Presence of group (A) β haemolytic streptococci in the throat of all patients with guttate psoriasis and in some patients with plaque psoriasis which may play an important role in the pathogenesis and in exacerbation of psoriatic patients. ✓
- (2) Elevated levels of cICAM-3 in the sera of psoriatic patients which was directly proportional to severity of psoriasis and these elevated levels have a role in pathogenesis and modulation the inflammatory reactions occurring in this disease. ✓