

INTRODUCCION

INTRODUCTION

Keratoderma of palms and soles is a frequent dermatologic finding. It may involve primarily the hands and feet or may be part of a more generalized disorder (Baden, 1979). Drawings in Ankh-ma-Hor's tomb in Saqqara give us an idea that care of the palms and soles was known in ancient Egypt (Ghaliouni and El Dawakhly, 1965). Also, keratoderma of palms and soles was well known even in folklore. There are tales which have attempted to explain its familial occurrence. In China, for example, palmo-plantar hyperkeratosis was believed to be the result of maternal impressions; "A pregnant woman was crossing the sea, and saw a golden fish jumping from the water. She clasped her hands in amazement and thus, the child was born with his palms like fish skin". In Holland, a similar superstition related the occasion of a conflagration at a church. A man, in order to warn the town of its danger, pulled on the bell rope with all his strength. In this process, his hands were badly burned. His wife was pregnant at the time, and the child was born with "hands like those of his father" (Gorin, et al., 1964).