
Oropharyngeal manifestations in association with skin diseases

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Several skin diseases are associated with manifestations in the oropharynx. The patient may present to the E.N.T. Surgeon before seeking a dermatologist. So it is the duty of the E.N.T. specialist to be acquainted with such manifestations, especially for those diseases that give their manifestations first in oropharynx. This thesis has the goal of studying the manifestations of five skin diseases in the region of oropharynx in order to achieve the proper diagnosis and management of such diseases as dealt by the E.N.T. surgeon. Eighty cases of both sex and of different age groups with skin disease showing manifestations in the oropharynx were studied from the clinical, pathological, virological, immunological, and cytological point of view. These skin diseases are: 1 Pemphigus 10 cases 2 Lichen planus 20 cases 3 Erythema multiforme 23 cases 4 Psoriasis 22 cases 5 Behcet's disease 5 cases. Fifty cases as a control were selected and investigated virologically, immunologically, cytologically. In each of the above diseases the following were done: 1. Clinical examination with special emphasis to oropharynx. 2. Taking a biopsy from both skin and oral mucosa. The skin biopsies were divided into 2 parts (one for virological study, the other for histopathological and immunofluorescent study). 3. Scraping of the oral cavity or the base of the bullae for cytological examination. From this thesis we conclude that: 1. Histopathology was the most important tool for diagnosis of skin lesions. 2. Cytological examination was an adjuvant in diagnosis. 3. Herpes simplex virus was responsible for the aetiology of some cases of erythema multiforme.