
DERMATOPHYTES CAUSING TINEA CAPITIS IN OUTPATIENT OF BENHA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

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The problem of mycotic infection derives special attention and this work was planned to isolate and identify the causative fungi causing ringworm in patients admitted to the outpatient clinic of Dermatology Department at Benha University Hospital. This study plays a major role to overcome the problem of mycotic infection by evaluation of the most common cause of ringworm and by pointing out to the predisposing factors for this disease. This mycological study was needed to confirm clinical examinations, because the clinical picture exhibits marked variation among the cases. The work was carried on 106 clinically diagnosed cases, collected randomly from outpatient clinic and this would cover patients at different ages, sexes and socioeconomic standards. The results obtained revealed that :1. *T. violaceum* was the only species isolated from the investigated cases where 84 cases were positive culture of *T. violaceum* out of 106 clinically reported cases representing (79.24%). 2. *T. violaceum* is the predominant species for causing tinea capitis in Benha Governorate. 3. Males were more affected with tinea capitis than females specially at the school age (5 - 15 years), this may be attributed to the barber of the village who works under bad hygienic conditions. It was suggested that the prevalence of tinea capitis at that age group might be attributed to the overcrowding and bad hygienic behaviour of the children at this age as they use their head gears; towels, combs and hair brushes. 4. There was a great difference between the results obtained by direct microscopic examination of the infected hairs and scales (65.09%) and the results obtained by cultivation of these samples (79.24%), so the two methods must be used in laboratory diagnosis.