Clinical characteristics of Lichen planus in Korea
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Lichen planus is a mucocutaneous inflammatory disease of unknown origin that mainly involves the skin and oral mucosa. Its clinical presentation varies depending on the area involved. It occurs rarely in the world’s population, and its prevalence in Korea is extremely low. However, the number of patients with lichen planus is increasing rapidly in Korea. For this reason, we studied the prevalence and clinical characteristics of 100 patients with biopsy-proven lichen planus. The prevalence is compared to 2002 (n=3), the number of lichen planus patients in 2011 (n=20) was significantly higher. Of these, 62 were men and 38 women. The mean age at diagnosis was 54 years, and more than half of the patients were aged between 40 and 60 years at diagnosis. The most common site of lichen planus was the lip, which was affected in 44% of the patients. The oral cavity was the second most commonly affected site (affected in 28% of cases), followed by the body (20%) and the genital area (8%). The patients complained of various symptoms, including pain, a burning sensation, pruritus and irritation. Various treatments had been tried by all patients. This study showed the distribution and characteristics of lichen planus in Korea.

Key Words: Lichen planus, Character

Prospective study for acral melanocytic nevi in Korean
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As acral lentiginous melanoma is the most common type of melanoma in Asian, data of acral melanocytic nevi in general population could be very important. There are a few previous reports about prevalence of acral nevi in general population. Previous studies have reported that prevalence of plantar nevi was found 10.9% in Japanese, 42.0% in black and 23.0% in white population. However, to our knowledge, a study regarding a prevalence of melanocytic nevi on acral sites in Korean has not been reported. Dermoscopy has been reported to be useful in the diagnosis of acral pigmented melanocytic lesions. Various dermoscopic patterns of benign melanocytic nevi on acral skin have been reported, such as parallel furrow pattern, lattice-like pattern, fibrillar pattern, and etc. In the present study, we sought to investigate the prevalence, number of acral melanocytic nevi and evaluate their dermoscopic patterns in Korean. In addition, we checked over the degree of self-awareness about their acral nevi in 600 people.

Key Words: Acral nevus, Dermoscopy, Melanocytic nevus, Nevus, Prevalence

Time series analysis for association between herpes zoster and chickenpox
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Herpes zoster and chickenpox have common causative virus, VZV, but previous reports did not find any association of the onset of the two diseases. The purpose of this study was to investigate the epidemiology and the relationship between the incidence of herpes zoster and chickenpox by time series analysis. Data from 2,936 patients with herpes zoster and 415 patients with chickenpox who were seen at Boramae Hospital during the 11 years from January 2000 to February 2012, were analyzed for this retrospective study. The epidemiology of both groups of patients was evaluated and the temporal association of the two diseases was also evaluated using time series analysis (Granger causality test). The results were as follows: The annual incidence rates of herpes zoster and chickenpox increased during study period. Mean ages of the patients with herpes zoster and chickenpox were 58.6 and 17.8 years. The ratio of males to females was 0.73:1 in herpes zoster and 1.2:1 in chickenpox. The peak incidence month and season for herpes zoster were July and summer, and those of chickenpox were December and winter. By time series analysis of incidence of the two diseases, there was a significant (Granger causative) relationship at 1-month time...