4. CHAPTER DERMATOLOGY

SEVERE SEBORRHEIC DERMATITIS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19 INFECTION

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INTRODUCTION

A novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2 belongs to the same family as SARS-CoV and MERS coronaviruses and caused the World Health Organization to declare a pandemic, causing high mortality and morbidity worldwide. Typical clinic symptoms are fever, fatigue, dry cough, diarrhea, sore throat, conjunctivitis, loss of sense of taste, and smell(1,2). Especially older patients and individuals having an underlying disease may have more severe COVID-19 disease and it may proceed to lower respiratory tract infections, pneumonia, and acute respiratory distress syndrome. The incubation period of COVID-19 is up to 14 days. The travel history and contact with COVID-19 patients must be taken in anamnesis. The diagnosis is made through clinical symptoms, features of thorax CT and PCR positivity.

The skin is also involved in COVID-19 disease in addition to various organ systems. Several cases were reported in the literature presenting with novel cutaneous manifestation and aggravation of an underlying cutaneous disease (2,3). The dermatological manifestations may present in several different scenarios. In a study conducted in Spain, five distinct clinical patterns were described: acral areas with erythema-edema associated with some vesicles or pustules (pseudo-chilblain lesions), maculopapular eruptions, urticaria, other vesicular lesions (monomorphic disseminated vesicular lesions and acral vesicular-pustulous lesions),

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CONCLUSION

It is clear that the COVID-19 virus, which has started in the last quarter of 2019 is still effective all over the World. The disease affects the skin together with other organ systems. The manifestations can appear in different forms: Maculopapular, urticarial, vesicular, papulosquamous, and vasculitic. New studies and data are needed to clarify both the mechanisms by which the COVID-19 virus affects the skin and the etiology of seborrheic dermatitis.

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

It should be kept in mind that the COVID-19 virus, which still has much unknown information to learn about, may play a role in the etiopathogenesis of cutaneous diseases encountered in this process, and should be directed to the related departments in any hesitation.

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