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Abstract

Relation between Pityrosporiasis and Blood Lipids

Introduction and Objective: Pityrosporiasis is a prevalent superficial fungal infection of the skin caused by *Malassezia* SPP. which is a part of normal skin flora. This organism is a lipophilic and lipid dependent yeast which transforms in to a pathogenic mycelial form under specific conditions. Considering the previous studies, there may be a relation between blood lipids and pityrosporiasis, a prospective study was undertaken over a 12 months period in the Departments of Mycology, Dermatology and Biochemistry, Emam Reza Hospital , Mashhad.

Materials and Methods: The population of study was randomly selected as the following groups:

Group 1: 50 patients suffering from severe pityrosporiasis.

Group 2: 50 individuals with negative direct smear for *Pityrosporum ovale*.

Group 3: 50 persons with high level of cholesterol & triglyceride in their blood serum examination.

Group 4: 50 individuals with normal level of cholesterol & triglyceride in their blood serum examination.

A questionnaire was completed for each individual. Direct stained skin smear (methylen blue) & blood serum examination for cholesterol & triglyceride were performed for all 4 groups by RA –1000 system .

Results : The results showed that:

1. In 28% of Patients with pityrosporiasis, total cholesterol levels were higher than normal which showed a significant difference in comparison with the control group.
2. In 22% of patients, triglyceride levels were higher than normal which showed a significant difference in comparison with the control group.
3. In 32% of patients, LDL-C levels were higher than normal which showed a significant difference in comparison with the control group.
4. There was no significant relationship between HDL-C levels and the group suffering from pityrosporiasis .
5. In those patients suffering only from hyperlipidemia , pityrosporiasis was uncommon.

Conclusion :On the basis of statistical analysis, it is concluded that there is a relation between pityrosporiasis and blood levels of total cholesterol and triglyceride LDL-C, therefore control of blood levels of lipids possibly can be effective in prophylaxis & treatment of pityrosporiasis.

Key words: Pityrosporiasis, *Pityrosporum ovale*, Hyperlipidemia, Cholestrol, Triglyceride, HDL, LDL.