AUTOIMMUNE BULLOUS DISEASES

A TEN (10) YEAR RETROSPECTIVE STUDY ON AUTOIMMUNE BLISTERING DISEASES AT THE DERMATOLOGY OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT OF A TERTIARY GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL

Ap Ibañez [1] *- Ma Lavadia* [1]

East Avenue Medical Center, Department Of Dermatology, Quezon City, Philippines [1]

Introduction: Acquired autoimmune blistering diseases are diseases where autoantibodies are directed against autoantigens in the epidermis or basement membrane. The disease profile may assist in the proper diagnosis and management of these challenging conditions.

Objectives: To determine the clinical and diagnostic profile of autoimmune blistering diseases seen at a Philippine tertiary government hospital

Materials and Methods: This was a retrospective, descriptive study of diagnosed cases of autoimmune blistering disease according to medical records at the Dermatology outpatient department during the period of January 2006 to December 2015. Basis of inclusion were the clinical diagnosis and histopathology results. Clinical characteristics assessed were age, sex, past medical history, family medical history and drug exposure. Accuracy and consistency between clinical diagnosis, histopathology and direct immunofluorescence results were assessed.

Results: Autoimmune blistering diseases comprised only 0.04% of the 10-year census. Of the cases included, most were diagnosed with Bullous Pemphigoid. The age range of ABD cases was 0-78, with average age of 45 years. Most cases were from 2 age groups: 2 weeks to 10 years and 41-50 years. The male-to-female ratio was 1 : 1.14. Comparison of the clinical diagnosis to the histopathology, histopathology and DIF, and clinical diagnosis to DIF showed that findings were comparable in all these scenarios.

Conclusion: The results of this study showed a similar spectrum as previous studies. Using all three diagnostic measures of clinical assessment, histopathology and direct immunofluorescence will yield more accurate results, leading to more appropriate management of these ABD cases.

Commercial funding: N/A

Conflict of interest: N/A

Keywords: autoimmune blistering disease, histopathology, DIF