DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCOPIC PATTERNS OF THE FILIFORM PAPILLAE OF THE TONGUE IN PATIENTS WITH SJöGREN'S SYNDROME

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Introduction: Sjögren's syndrome (Sjs) is a chronic autoimmune disorder . The tongue is recognized as providing clinically important diagnostic clues in some cutaneous and visceral diseases, such as Sjs, pellagra and iron-deficiency anemia

Objective: The purpose of this study was to determine whether there are any differences in the appearance of tongue-surface structure in different level of (Sjs) .because red tongue is well known to be a very important feature of suspected Sjögren's syndrome (Sjs).

Materials and Methods: A total of 95 subjects with primary Sjs (n = 19, M/F = 0/19), secondary Sjs (n = 16, M/F = 1/15), possible Sjs (n = 60, M/F = 15/45) were included for dermoscopic observation in order to clarify the filiform papillae patterns on the dorsal surface of the tongue ,the average age was 38,5 years

Results: we observed the tongue of this 95 patients by using a dermopscope.
The filiform papillae were classified into four patterns by their structural characteristics: normal papillae (no abnormality with clear cornified tips) (pattern I, n = 24), slightly rounded papillae with unclear cornified tips (pattern II, n = 36), rounded papillae without cornified tips (pattern III, n = 17), and completely flattened papillae (pattern IV, n = 28). Their patterns were reversely related to the volume of salivary fluid
Pattern IV is predominant in definitive Sjs (primary and secondary Sjs) (n = 18; 51.4%) with positive anti-SS-A or -B antibody (n = 8). The present dermoscopic finding that the completely flattened pattern (IV) is predominant in definite Sjs patients may indicate a useful marker for suspicion of Sjs.

Conclusions: This dermoscopic technique may be adequate for clarifying the four patterns, In addition, this method will be useful for follow-up studies to monitor whether or not the dorsum condition of the tongue is worsening.