

An Epidemiological Assessment of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Ardabil Province from 2017-2021"

Abstract

Background: Cutaneous leishmaniasis, which affects the skin, can lead to cosmetic issues and place a significant burden on the healthcare system. Existing data suggest that this parasitic disease is endemic in certain areas of Ardabil province. However, a comprehensive and up-to-date study regarding the geographical distribution of this disease in the province has not been conducted

Aim: This study was designed and conducted to investigate the epidemiology of cutaneous leishmaniasis in Ardabil province from 2014 to 2022.

Materials and Methods: In this cross-sectional study, we included 156 patients with cutaneous leishmaniasis from 2014 to 2022 in Ardabil province, utilizing disease registration data obtained from health centers. We collected and analyzed demographic information, basic patient data, and precise geographic coordinates of disease registrations using SPSS version 22 and ArcMapGIS 10.4.8 software.

Results: The average age of the patients was 26.33 years, with 65.4% being male. Urban cases accounted for the majority at 70.5%. The two primary high-risk areas identified were the Bileh Sawar region bordering Azerbaijan and the central and Bran Aslanduz regions.

Conclusion: The epidemiological pattern of cutaneous leishmaniasis patients in Ardabil province is similar to that in other parts of the country. It is noteworthy that children, men, and individuals who travel, such as drivers, show a higher incidence of the disease. This observation holds significant importance in the diagnosis and management of the disease.

Keywords: Epidemiology, Prevalence, Incidence, Cutaneous leishmaniasi