Abstract:

The comparison of the frequency of Helicobacter pylori infection between patients with Alopecia areata and healthy people in Ardabil city

Introduction:

Alopecia areata is a disease of hair follicle with evidence supporting an autoimmune etiology. Helicobacter pylori is one of the most common bacterial infection in the world which is also reported to be common in Iran. This agent is directly involved in the pathogenesis of several gastroduodenal pathologies and also it is associated with a variety of immune-mediated disorders, including: autoimmune thyroiditis and idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura. This bacterium is associated with many skin disorders, including: chronic urticaria, Behcet’s disease, prurigo nodularis, Progressive systemic sclerosis and chronic cutaneous pruritus. Eradication of this infection improve outcomes in patients. Therefore This study was performed to evaluate the relation between Helicobacter pylori and alopecia areata.

Materials and methods:

This case control study carried out on patients with alopecia areata and healthy subjects. In this study, a check list of information was designed including: demographic information, skin findings, education level, duration of skin disease and gastrointestinal complaints. After completing check lists both groups sent to the lab for a stool test to detect Helicobacter pylori infection. Finally the results from the laboratory were entered in to the check lists and all check lists were analysed statistically.

Results:

150 subjects participated in this study (75 patients and 75 healthy person in control group) that 62.7 percent of the cases and 56 percent of the control group were male and mean age of case group was 30.19 ± 5.91 years. The mean duration of the Disease was 15.12 ± 6.1 months and the head is the most common location was involved with 48 percent. 14.7% of patients had positive family history. Hypertension with 7 case was the most common associated disease among patients. In 36% of them the extent of the lesion was 3.1 cm. 30 patients (40%) of case group and 26 patient (34/7%) of control group had gastrointestinal symptoms. After examining the fecal antigen test results showed that 33 patients (44%) of cases and 26 persons (34%) of control group were infected with Helicobacter pylori (p=0.242). Data analysis showed that there was no significant association between helicobacter pylori inflection with age, sex and gastrointestinal symptoms.

Conculsion:

In this study it was observed that even though Helicobacter pylori infection in patient with alopecia areata is more than healthy people, But this increase was not statistically significant or meaningful.

Key words: Helicobacter pylori, Alopecia areata, Autoimmune disease