Title: A clinicopathologic study of precancerous skin lesions

Abstract: Introduction: Precancerous lesions are disorders that are highly likely to become malignant. Early diagnosis of precancerous skin lesions helps prevent skin cancers. Our goal of this study was clinicopathological assessment of precancerous skin lesions in patients referred to Dermatology Department of Imam Reza Hospital.

Methods: 209 patients diagnosed with precancerous lesions referred to Dermatology Department of Imam Reza Hospital from 1997 to 2007 were studied. Study parameters included age, sex and occupation of individuals, the type of precancerous skin lesion, clinicopathological type of lesion and its location. This data was collected by reference to patient files in Dermatology Department and their microscopic slides in Pathology Department.

Results: The most common precancerous skin lesion was actinic keratosis (68.4%) and Bowen’s disease (7.2%), respectively. 67.5% of patients were male with mean age of 61.7 years. 53.1% of patients’ jobs were practiced outdoors. The most common site of the lesions was head and neck (83.3%). 18.7% of lesions were associated with malignancy. The most common pathological form of actinic keratosis was of proliferative type (28.9%).

Conclusion: The results of this study showed that precancerous skin lesions are more prevalent in men aged over 50 years, in areas exposed to sun and in occupations practiced outdoors. In addition to squamous cell carcinoma, these lesions can also be associated with basal cell carcinoma.

Precancerous skin lesions, Clinicopathology, Actinic keratosis, Bowen’s disease

Presentation: Oral