

## Dermatology and Cosmetology

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3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on

## Wound Care, Tissue Repair and Regenerative Medicine

September 09-10, 2019 | Edinburgh, Scotland

**Contact sensitization in children aged 10 years and below: Trends in allergens in a 10 year retrospective study of 337 tested children in a single dermatology centre****Hrvatin Stancic Bor**

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**Introduction and objectives:** Contact sensitization can be a cause of eczema in children. It is known that causative agents change with time. The aim of our study was to evaluate the results of patch testing in children aged 10 and below with suspected allergic contact dermatitis (ACD), for the most common allergens and trends in allergens.

**Materials and methods:** We retrospectively evaluated the results of 337 patch tested children 10 years of age or younger, tested with a standard series of 23 allergens between 1.1.2005 and 31.12.2014 at the Dermatology Department, University Medical Centre Ljubljana. Out of 337 children there were 145 (43%) boys (M) and 192 (57%) girls (F), aged between 2 and 10 years (mean 7.02). Out of all tested individuals, the three most frequent positive patch test (PPT) reactions were to nickel sulphate (12,5%), fragrance mix (8,9%) and cobalt (7,4%). We evaluated the first 5 years and second 5 years separately and examined each tested allergen for emerging trends. In the first 5 years (2005-2009 G1) there were 117 patients 42.7% (M), 57,3% (F) and in the second group (2010-2014 G2) there were 220 patients 43.2% (M), 56.8% (F). In G1 there were 44.4% and in G2 37.3% PPTs to at least one allergen.

**Results and conclusions:** Like some other studies we did not find a correlation between sex and a PPT ( $p=0.55$ ) and nickel remained the most common allergen in both groups (G1:11%, G2:13%). By comparing the two groups we found an increase in the incidence of PPTs in cobalt (G1:5%, G2:9%), peru balsam (G1:1%, G2:4%), fragrance mix (G1:6%, G2:10%) and a decrease of PPT in para-phenylenediamine (G1:8%, G2:4%), neomycin (G1:8%, G2:5%), lanolin (G1:7%, G2:4%) and sesquiterpene lactone mix (G1:5%, G2:1%). We found a statistically significant decrease in PPT to sesquiterpene lactone mix ( $p=0.015$ ). It may be postulated that the decrease in sesquiterpene lactone mix may be due to a decreased time spent outdoors in this age group.

**Speaker Biography**

Hrvatin Stancic Bor has received his medical degree at the age of 24 from the University of Ljubljana, Medical Faculty. During and after his studies he has attended several international elective internships at Imperial College London, at the University of Padua, at the University of Bologna, at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center and at Dr. M Djamil Public hospital, Padang Indonesia. He has attended a number of congresses in the field of Dermatology and furthermore organized and presented at Melanoma: from A to E congress for students and residents.

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