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The impact of covid-19 pandemic on Dermatological conditions: A novel, comprehensive review

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Background: The earliest cases of the Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) appeared in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARSCOV-2) has become an international health concern. Since the onset of the pandemic, increasing cases of dermatological conditions continue to be reported and documented.

Methods: We conducted a literature search and utilized key terms to search for cutaneous manifestations related to the COVID-19 pandemic on PubMed. Publication dates were set from December 2019 to August 2021. We searched PubMed database for articles that discuss rashes related to PPE, psychological distress, and vaccines during the pandemic. Meta-analyses, systematic reviews, prospective studies, retrospective studies, topic reviews, case series, and case reports were included in the search.

Results: We retrieved 664 articles that were screened based on their title and abstract. Articles were excluded if they did not contain any of the key terms mentioned above in their title or abstract. Following the initial screening, meta-analyses, systematic reviews, prospective studies, retrospective studies, topic reviews, case series, and case reports were included.

Conclusions: Various factors surrounding the pandemic have resulted in increasing cases of dermatological

manifestations. Such factors include COVID-19 infection, COVID-19 vaccines, personal protective equipment, and psychological distress related to the pandemic. Psychological distress factors include impacts of quarantine, restricted measures, and major life changes. The number of cutaneous manifestations related to the COVID-19 pandemic is on the rise. As cases increase, dermatologists play an essential role in the diagnosis and treatment of these emerging conditions. Further research is needed to understand the underlying pathological mechanisms of the reviewed skin lesions. We recommend additional investigations on protective and risk factors on such skin lesions.

Speaker Biography

Gehan "Gigi" Pendlebury is an aspiring military dermatologist and medical student at Nova Southeastern University, College of Osteopathic Medicine. ENSPendlebury serves in the United States Navy Medical Corps Reserves as a Navy military medical student with a calling to serve current and past military service members with the utmost quality of care using a whole-person approach. ENS Pendlebury obtained her bachelor's degree in psychology with minors in public health and criminology from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Her research background includes undergraduate research has focused on interventional pain management, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder among the military population. She has presented research presentations in other areas of dermatology including an updated review of the impact of COVID19 on dermatological specialties and voriconazole-related squamous cell carcinomas. Further research interests include sunscreen usage among the military population.

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