

# Chapter 8

## History of Acrodermatitis Enteropathica in Adults

In this report, we describe several cases of AE, which were observed around the patients' time of puberty. In 1952, Peeper reported the case of a 46-year-old woman, who had a mild form of AE; and her main symptom was diarrhea with mucoid stools. The patient's parents were third cousins and one of their siblings was reported to have had the symptoms of this disorder. Next, the case of a 23-year-old woman was described whose symptoms started when she was eight years old and her symptoms would only improve during her period of pregnancy [1].

In 1972, Guy reported the case of a 17-year-old boy who had the symptoms of epidermolysis bullosa which started when he was one years old and subsided in his maturity. The diagnosis was Acrodermatitis Enteropathica since both of his siblings were also diagnosed with AE [1].

Lastly, there was a case was of a 47-year-old Caucasian woman who suffered from advanced skin lesions which originated when she was three months old. As an infant, she was born naturally, weighed seven pounds, and was fed with infant formula. The parents of the patient were not blood-related and her family had no history of this disorder. She was previously hospitalized because of the same disorder and received oral steroid treatment; however, her disorder was not cured. The patient was unable to move or walk for six months due to the impairments caused by the disorder to her

hands and feet. She also recalled the pain she felt in her childhood due to nail blisters. Furthermore, the greatest amount of skin damage was seen in the patient's gluteal area. Whenever the wounds and skin damages worsened, the patient's conditions worsened as well. The patient had dermatitis infections, but had healthy lungs. Severe loss of eyebrows, eyelashes, hair of groin and armpits were also seen in this patient. Other symptoms of this patient were blepharitis, stomatitis, glossitis, perleche, and conjunctivitis. The intake of bovine milk was reported to cause bloating and severe damage to the patient's skin but diarrhea and other gastrointestinal problems were not observed [1].

As mentioned in the introduction, AE has long been the subject of interest among dermatologists, pediatricians, and medical researchers. The disorder's primary stages, variant clinical forms, effects on different age groups, and treatment have been the center of discussion and research among doctors. At this time, in order to clarify the issue and examine it further, we will discuss and examine several cases reported in Iranian hospitals as well as academic journals.

## Reference

1. Sardadvar S, Mostoufi M. Dermatology disorders. Tehran, Iran: Vol. 1. TUMS; 1972.