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## Epidemiology of pemphigus in northeast Iran: A 10-year retrospective study

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## Abstract

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Pemphigus is an autoimmune blistering disease of the skin and mucous membranes with different reported epidemiological aspects from different countries. Aim: Our aim was to evaluate the epidemiological aspects of pemphigus in Mashhad city. This is the first report with regard to the characteristics of pemphigus in Khorasan province of Iran. Materials and Methods: In this cross-sectional study, all the patients with pemphigus, who were referred to the Dermatology Department of Imam Reza hospital of Mashhad, were examined over nine years, i.e., from May 1998 to March 2007. The data obtained through questionnaires, including age, sex, profession, mucosal or skin or the involvement of both, lag-time period between the onset of disease and the first presentation, gap between cutaneous and mucosal involvements, season of onset and family history, were analysed by using statistical tests of Chi square and Student's t-test and the statistical software of SPSS. Results: In 178 patients with pemphigus, pemphigus vulgaris was the most common type (86.5%). Female to male ratio was 1.4. In pemphigus vulgaris patients, there was involvement of both the skin and mucosa in 64.3%, mucosal involvement in 14% and skin involvement in 21.7%. There was no mucosal involvement in patients with pemphigus foliaceus. Two patients (1.4%) had a positive family history. Summer was the most common season for the onset of the disease (37.5%). Most of the patients were housewives in the premenopausal age group. Conclusion: The results reveal a high incidence of pemphigus in northeast Iran with an incidence of 20 patients per year.

## Reaxys Database Information

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## Author keywords

Epidemiology; Khorasan; Pemphigus

## Indexed Keywords

EMTREE medical terms: adolescent; adult; age distribution; aged; article; chi square test; child; clinical feature; cross-sectional study; family history; female; human; Iran; major clinical study; male; onset age; patient referral; pemphigus; pemphigus foliaceus; pemphigus vulgaris; premenopause; questionnaire; retrospective study; sex ratio; statistical analysis; Student t test; summer

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