Review Article

Bullous pemphigoid: a 7-year survey on 75 Chinese patients in Hong Kong

大疱性類天疱瘡：7 年期 75 例的研究

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Bullous pemphigoid is the most common immunobullous disease affecting the elderly. It typically presents clinically as well formed blisters and histopathologically shows sub-epidermal blistering. The present study reviewed 75 cases of newly diagnosed bullous pemphigoid at a dermatology clinic in a seven years period. The incidence of bullous pemphigoid was 15.6 per million per year. The average age was 79.6. Forty-eight percent of the patients presented with generalised bulla.

Keywords: Bullous pemphigoid

關鍵詞：大疱性類天疱瘡

Introduction

Bullous pemphigoid (BP) is a sub-epidermal disease affecting mainly the elderly. It usually presents as well formed, tense blisters on the lower abdomen, anterior thighs and flexor forearms. It is characterised by the immunopathologic findings of C3 and IgG along the dermo-epidermal junction. The incidence of bullous pemphigoid is estimated to be 7 per million per year in both France and Germany. However, local data on the incidence of bullous pemphigoid are scarce.

The objective of the study was to investigate the epidemiology of bullous pemphigoid seen at a dermatology clinic in Hong Kong.

Patients and methods

The skin biopsy records of all patients at Chai Wan Social Hygiene Clinic from 1st January, 1998 to 31st December, 2004 were reviewed. Patients with the biopsy reported as consistent with bullous pemphigoid, compatible with bullous pemphigoid and suggestive of bullous pemphigoid were included in the study.

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