ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Lichen planus is an idiopathic, chronic inflammatory disease of the skin, mucous membrane and nails. Several hypotheses have been made regarding its aetiology, including genetic, infective, psychogenic and autoimmune factors. Lichenoid drug eruption has clinical similarity to Lichen planus. Erythematous to violaceous papules and plaques develop on the trunk and extremities in association with drug ingestion. Histopathological analysis is required in order to make an accurate diagnosis so that required treatment can be rendered. Thus histopathologic studies are essential for corroborating the clinical diagnosis or ruling out the possibility of other diseases that are being considered on the basis of clinical picture. Light microscopy of lichenoid lesions reveals the variants of Lichen planus and features of Lichenoid drug reactions. Therefore Light microscopy is one of the simplest and most reliable methods of diagnosis.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES-
1) To study the morphological and histopathology of clinically established cases of Lichen Planus (LP) and Lichenoid Drug Eruption (LDE).

2) To compare the clinical forms and histopathological criteria of different forms of Lichen Planus (LP) and Lichenoid Drug Eruption (LDE).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study is a descriptive study conducted on 65 cases of Lichen planus and 7 cases of Lichenoid drug eruptions and each case was evaluated for the morphological and histopathological features.

RESULTS

Out of the total 72 cases, 65 cases (90.28%) were diagnosed with lichen planus, out of which 50 (76.92%) cases were Classical/Idiopathic Lichen Planus (ILP). The other microscopic/Clinical variants detected were Actinic LP in 3 (4.62%) cases, Hypertrophic LP in 4 (6.15%) cases, Pigmented LP in 3 (4.62%) cases, Follicular LP in 2 (3.08%) cases, Overlap LP in 2 (3.08%) cases and bullous LP in 1 (1.54%). The remaining 7 cases (9.72%) were diagnosed with Lichenoid drug eruptions.

CONCLUSION
Histopathological features on light microscopy were conclusive in diagnosing all the cases of lichen planus (and its variants) and lichenoid drug eruptions. Histopathological examination played an important role in making an accurate diagnosis of clinically diagnosed cases of lichen planus and lichenoid drug eruptions and also in ruling out their mimics.

KEYWORDS

Lichenoid dermatitis, Lichen planus, Lichenoid drug eruptions, histopathology, Light microscopy.