**Epidemiology of Scabies in Diyala province in**

**2016-2017**

**Abstract:**

 Scabies is a common ectoparasitic contagious skin infestation globally, particularly in the developing world. The aim of study to determine the prevalence of scabies in Diyala province. A cross-sectional, observational, descriptive survey was performed in Diyala province, Iraq. The study was in Baqubah teaching hospital outpatient clinic of dermatology, from first July 2016 to 31 March 2017, among (4588) patients attending the hospital outpatient clinic. The questionnaire including the following variables (gender, age, address, occupation, type of treatment, consultation, duration and site of the lesion). The provisional diagnosis was done by clinical examination by dermatological specialist. The statistics analysis using frequency distribution and percentiles. . The prevalence of scabies was 6.54%. Out of this, 56% were males and 44% were females. Their ages range was 10-65 years. The highest frequency of scabies was among patients aged 10-19 years (41.7%). Majority of scabietic patients had the symptoms of scabies for less than 1 month (72%). Prison was the main source of infestation (49.3%). Scabies infestation was highest in patients belong to urban areas (56.3%), family size more than 5 persons (54%), and who were illiterate (46.3%).Age-specific prevalence of scabies by gender showed statistical significance (p=0.004). Age-specific prevalence of scabies stratified by duration of symptoms showed statistical significance (p=0.013). The topographical distribution of scabies lesions showed that trunk was the most affected sites in both sexes (100%). Axillae and breast had statistical significant difference in females (p=0.001 and p< 0.000) respectively, whereas hands and genitalia were statistically significant in males (p<0.000 and p=0.02) respectively. Scabies was more prevalent in colder months than in summer. The prevalence of scabies was 6.54%. Scabies topped the list of parasitic diseases. Scabies is a common dermatologic problem. The incidence of the infestation can be reduced by social health education and improving socioeconomic and hygienic conditions, as well as by promoting more efficient health services.

-Key Words:

scabies, frequency, prisoner, Iraq