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A survey of dermatological diseases among older male adults of a Veterans Home in Southern Taiwan.

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Author information

Abstract

BACKGROUNDS: The dermatologic **diseases** of the dependent elderly require special attention.

METHODS: This screening and treatment service of **dermatological diseases** was conducted in a **Veterans Home** in **Southern Taiwan**.

RESULTS: A total of 337 **male** residents were screened with mean age 83 years (range 46-99). 271 (80.4 %) residents were in dependent status. Their skin **diseases** were recorded and the distribution pattern was compared with those in the other studies. Comparing by Chi-square test, scabies, bacterial infection, chronic ulcers, pruritus, and brown spots on the legs were present significantly in certain major systemic **diseases**, respectively. Higher prevalence of certain skin **diseases** was related to the severity of disability or major systemic **diseases** of the residents. Actinic keratosis and non-melanoma skin cancers were early detected and managed.

CONCLUSIONS: The distribution patterns of skin **diseases** in a **Veterans Home** were unique. It provides the evidences on appropriate management and key nursing points for dependent elderly.

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