Seborrheic Dermatitis in Patients with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome.

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Introduction: Several skin conditions are known to be associated with the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Our clinical observations suggested the hypothesis that seborrheic dermatitis is an under-recognized but common skin manifestation of AIDS that has important, short-term prognostic significance.

Methods: All patients with AIDS seen at the Henry Ford Hospital, an urban hospital, during a one-year period were enrolled in a cohort study. Each patient underwent a comprehensive skin examination. All skin conditions were noted, and the severity of seborrheic dermatitis was graded. A group of sex and aged matched patients seen during the same time period served as a control group. In the second part of the study, AIDS or HIV patients with the most severe grades of seborrheic dermatitis were compared to patients with mild or no seborrheic dermatitis for short term mortality. Comparisons were analyzed with chisquare and relative risk calculations.

Results: Eighteen patients with AIDS and 12 patients with HIV infection were enrolled (2969.l,e, M1 TD12.75 re f 472.5 608.258v2.75 re d patients seen during t