Association of lichen planus with cardiovascular disease: An international cohort study

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Introduction: Lichen planus (LP) is an inflammatory dermatosis that has been associated with cardiovascular risk factors such as hyperlipidemia, however, evidence is lacking on its relationship to cardiovascular disease (CVD). We sought to determine whether LP is associated with CVD in two population-based cohorts, the UK Biobank and All of Us. Methods: We performed a three-stage study-first, we tested for association of LP with CVD in the UK Biobank. Second, we conducted an independent replication in the US-based All of Us cohort. Third, we meta-analyzed the results using an inverse variance weighted random effects model. We used multivariable logistic regression to determine whether LP (ICD-10 L43) was associated with CVD, defined as a composite of coronary artery disease, myocardial infarction, and stroke, after adjusting for vascular risk factors including hyperlipidemia. Results: In the UK Biobank, we included 502,516 participants with available data, of which 792 had LP (mean age 39 SD 7, 33% male, 95% white). LP was more common among those with LP than those without (19% vs. 12%, p < 0.001, adjusted odds ratio (OR) 1.83). LP was associated with CVD in multivariable analyses (OR 1.67, 95% CI 1.37-2.02; p < 0.001) adjusted for age, sex, race, and vascular risk factors. From the All of Us cohort, we included 2,307 participants with available data, of which 788 had LP (age 65 ± 12, 26% male, 61% white). CVD was more common among those with LP than those without (19% vs. 9%, p < 0.001, adjusted OR 2.21). LP was associated with CVD in multivariable analyses (OR 1.23, 95% CI 1.02-1.49; p < 0.003). Meta-analysis showed that LP was associated with a 44% increase in the odds of having CVD (OR 1.44, 95% CI 1.01-1.92; p = 0.001; heterogeneity I² = 76%). Conclusion: LP is independently associated with CVD. Further studies are needed to determine whether this association is causal and if it is mediated by traditional vascular risk factors.

Access and usage of technology among patients with dermatologic conditions

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While telemedicine has allowed for continued care for patients with dermatologic conditions, there is uncertainty around access and usage for healthcare-related reasons in the population has been understudied. The aims of this study are 1) to describe the level of technology access and usage for health-related reasons in this population has been understudied. The aims of this study are 1) to describe the level of technology access and usage for health-related reasons in this population.

Despite the limitations of this study drawn from a predominately male population, these data help to support the idea that technology access and usage are not increasing in the US.