Cutaneous Adverse Drug Reactions: Analysis of Reports at the Drugs, Poison Information, and Pharmacovigilance Center (2002 To 2022) at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital

# \*OPADEYI AO, \*AYINBUOMWAN SA, \*ISAH AO

\*Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Benin, Benin city, Nigeria & Clinical Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Toxicology unit, Department of Medicine, University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City Nigeria

Correspondence

and Therapeutics

University of Benin

Benin City

Dr. Abimbola O. Opadeyi,

*Email: abimbola.opadeyi@uniben.edu* 

# ABSTRACT

**Background:** Cutaneous adverse drug reactions are undesirable changes to the skin and subcutaneous tissue. The reporting pattern of these reactions in Nigeria, had hitherto focused on serious reactions, despite the varied presentation. This preliminary report is intended to describe the profile of cutaneous adverse reactions in an established local pharmacovigilance centre.

**Methods:** The study reviewed all the individual case safety reports of cutaneous adverse drug reactions submitted to the University of Benin Teaching Hospital's Drugs, Poison Information, and Pharmacovigilance Centre from 2002 to 2022. All reports were analyzed for age, sex, suspected medications, and details of the reaction and dates of the event and medication use. Causality assessment was conducted using the WHO assessment scale. Culprit medicines were classified using the WHO/ATC classification Level II and V.

**Results:** There were 408(39.1%) cutaneous adverse drug reactions reports found in the database with a mean age of 34.0(21.9%), a female preponderance 260(63.7%). Majority of the reporters were doctors 215(52.7%). These reactions comprised urticaria 68(16.7%), Steven Johnson Syndrome 62(15.2%), rashes 46(11.3%), angioedema 37(9.1%). Serious cutaneous adverse reactions, were reported more 196(48.0%) with 13 fatalities. Culprit medicines classes identified in the study were antimicrobials 222(54.4%), antineoplastics 27(6.6%). The main culprit medicinal products were Nevirapine 46(11.3%), sulphadoxinepyrimethamine 41(10.0%), sulphamethoxazoletrimethoprim 20(4.9%), Lisinopril 17(4.2%) and artemether-lumenfatrine 16(3.9%).

**Conclusion:** Cutaneous adverse drug reactions are prevalent and constitute a notable health burden. Prominent drugs causing CADR were antimicrobials, antineoplastic and drugs acting on the reninangiotensin system. Serious cutaneous ADR, such as SJS, erythema multiforme, and angioedema were significantly reported.

Keywords: Cutaneous adverse drug reactions, Pharmacovigilance, Skin and Subcutaneous tissue

# INTRODUCTION

The skin is an easily recognizable organ in the body that has a myriad of protective and other functions (Del Pozzo-Magaña & Liy-Wong, 2022). It can also express unwanted and noxious effects of a drug; this is usually referred to as cutaneous adverse drug reaction. Adverse drug reactions has been defined by the WHO as a physiological response to a drug that is noxious, unintended and occurs at doses used in man for the prophylaxis, diagnosis or therapy of a disease or for the modification of physiological function (World Health Organization, 1972).

Cutaneous adverse drug reactions have also been described as undesirable changes in the skin and subcutaneous tissue structure, and function after drug exposure. Cutaneous adverse drug reactions ranges from mild sometimes self- limiting reactions to serious life threatening reactions such as the toxic epidermal necrolysis (TENS) (Marzano et al., 2016).

The incidence of cutaneous adverse drug reactions in inpatients had ranged from 0.4%-2.2% (Tian et al., 2015; Selvarajah & Choon, 2017). A cohort study of drug-induced hospitalized Nigerians revealed that cutaneous ADRs accounted for the highest number of deaths (28.6%). Skin and subcutaneous tissue system organ classifications (SOCs) were the most frequently reported SOC in a review of individual case safety reports (ICSRS) from Africa compared to the rest of the world (31.4%) (Ampadu et al., 2016). A review of all serious adverse drug reactions the Nigerian in National Pharmacovigilance database showed that the skin and subcutaneous tissue were the most affected organ (25%) (Ogar et al., 2019). Furthermore, an earlier study in the south-south zone of Nigeria had shown that skin and subcutaneous tissue had the highest reported ADRs during the period of the study accounting for 53.7% of all reports received during the period (Opadeyi et al., 2021).

The pathophysiological mechanisms of cutaneous adverse reactions have been described as mainly immune –mediated allergic reactions and nonimmune mediated reactions and this can present as mild irritating skin lesions or severe and serious life threatening reactions such as the toxic epidermal necrolysis (TENS) which are frequently fatal (Marzano et al., 2016). Maculopapular rashes, pruritus and Steven Johnson syndrome have been described as frequent presentations as reported to a local pharmacovigilance database in India (Modi et al., 2019)and these were mainly to antibiotics and antiretroviral medications as seen in similar studies from Nigeria (Ogar et al., 2019). Adverse cutaneous drug reactions are also frequently seen in dermatologic practice (2.9%) of common dermatoses seen in Nigeria at a scoping review (Henshaw et al., 2018).

**Citation:** Opadeyi AO, Ayinbuomwan SA, Isah AO (2024). Cutaneous Adverse Drug reactions: analysis of reports at the Drugs, Poison Information, and Pharmacovigilance Center (2002 To 2022) at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital Nig J Med Dent Educ; 6(2):70-78.

serious adverse drug reactions with limited data on the seemingly mild, but nevertheless uncomfortable mild reactions.

Information on the profile of cutaneous adverse drug reactions seen in a homogenous black population like Nigeria is sparse and local pharmacovigilance databases offer a veritable source of presenting such data. This study is intended to describe the cutaneous adverse drug reactions and the culprit medicines. In effect, this preliminary report will aid early identification and management of peculiar drug reactions in this environment.

# MATERIALS AND METHODS

This was a retrospective analysis of all submitted individual case safety reports (ICSR) at the University of Benin Teaching Hospitals' Drugs, Poison Information and Pharmacovigilance Centre (DPIPC) which was established in 1989 (Isah & Olowofela, 2014). The UBTH is a tertiary health facility in Southern Nigeria.

Data source: The copies of ICSRs which had been reported to the DPIPC were evaluated. These reports are usually forwarded to the National Pharmacovigilance Centre and the local copies retained and processed in the center. Reports available for this study covered the period from January 2002 to November 2022.

Data analysis: All cutaneous adverse drug reactions in the local database were included. Information sought included, the age, (age group where age was not available), sex, the adverse reactions as stated, the dates of the event started and ended, seriousness of the reaction if stated, the details of the suspected drug- including the generic or trade name, dose, frequency route and the indication for treatment, dates of commencement and end of treatment. The reporter details and year of report noted.

The reactions as reported were subsequently coded as skin and subcutaneous tissues system organ class and described using the Medical dictionary for Drug Regulatory Activities (MedDRA) Preferred Term (Version 25) (Brown et al., 1999).

Serious adverse reactions were noted as reactions that resulted in hospitalization, prolonged hospitalization, life threatening, congenital anomalies or medical conditions requiring interventions, or death of the patient.

The data was reviewed by the authors and duplicates removed from the dataset, the implicated medicines were classified according to the WHO Anatomic Therapeutic Chemical classification level II and IV. Herbal medicines were not classified.

Causality assessment was done using the WHO-UMC scale for causality assessment (Naranjo et al., 1981; WHO-UMC, 2012). ADR were also categorized as serious and non-serious (Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences, 1999). Data was analyzed using the IBM SPSS software version 21.0 and results are presented descriptively

Ethical approval (ADM/E 22/A/VOL. VII/148311668) was obtained from the hospital ethics and research committee.

# RESULTS

A total of 1043 adverse drug reaction reports were obtained over the period, of which 408 (39.1%) were cutaneous adverse reactions. The mean age (SD) of the patients was 34.0(21.9) years and the age group of the reports had adults aged 18-44 years having the largest proportion 171 (41.9%), while children aged 2-11 years had 34(8.3%) reports. There were no reports of neonates (age o-27 days) with cutaneous ADR. The reports had more females 260(63.7%) and most of the reports were from medical doctors 215(52.7%) Table 1.

Table 1: Characteristics of cutaneous adverse drug reactions reports at the Drugs Poison Information and Pharmacovigilance Center –UBTH from 2002 to 2022.

Characteristics	Frequency (%)	
	n=408	
Age group(years)		
0-27 days	o(o)	
1-23 months	15 (3.7)	
2-11years	34 (8.3)	
12-17years	18 (4.4)	
18-44 years	171(41.9)	
45-64 years	96 (23.5)	
65-74 years	23 (5.6)	
≥75 years	12 (2.9)	
Adults (age not stated)	36 (8.8)	
Not stated	3 (0.7)	
Sex		
Female	260 (63.7)	
Male	140 (34.3)	
Not Stated	8 (2.0)	
Reporter category		
Medical Doctors	215 (52.7)	
Pharmacist	185 (45.3)	
Not stated	4 (1.0)	
Nursing	1(0.2)	
Laboratory scientist	1(0.2)	
Pharmacologist	1(0.2)	
Drug Representative	1(0.2)	
Seriousness		
Yes	196 (48.0)	
No	162 (39.7)	
Not stated	50 (12.3)	

The commonest cutaneous presentations were urticaria 68(16.7%) and Steven Johnson Syndrome (SJS) 62 (15.2%), Rash (unspecified) 46(11.3%), Angioedema 37(9.1%), Pruritus 20(4.9%) while Palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia syndrome

was observed in 19(4.7%) of the cutaneous ADRs. (Table 2)

Regarding the outcome of the reactions, majority of the patients recovered fully, 159(39.0%), while there were 13 (3.2%) fatalities. These were Steven

Nigerian Journal of Medical and Dental Education

Volume 6 Issue 2 July-December 2024 72

Johnson's syndrome 3, Erythema Multiforme 2, Dermatitis Bullous -2, Angioedema-2, Generalized maculopapular rashes-2, Pruritis-1, and Urticaria-1. Serious ADRs occurred in 196(48%).

The implicated medicine classes and specific medications in this study were mainly antibacterials for systemic use 88(21.6%), antiprotozoals 77(18.9%) and antivirals agents for systemic use 57(14.0%), antineoplastics 27(6.6%) (Table 3).

Of the 196 serious adverse drug reactions observed in the study, the diagnoses with the highest proportions were Steven Johnson's syndrome 58(29.6%), angioedema 25(12.8%), urticaria 22(11.2%), Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis 14(7.1%) and rash 12(6.1%) and these reactions were mainly due to antibacterials for systemic use 49(25.0%), antiprotozoals 39(20%), antiepileptics 15(7.7%), antivirals for systemic use 11 (5.6%) and drugs acting on the renin-angiotensin system 10(5.1%).Main suspected drugs include sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine 28(14.3%), sulphamethoxazole-trimethoprim 14(7.1%), carbamazepine 12(6.1%), ampicillin/cloxacillin 10(5.1%), lisinopril 9 (4.6%), Nevirapine 8(4.1%) among others. (Table 4) Causality assessment was performed on the reports using the WHO causality assessment scales and it revealed that majority of the reactions were deemed possible 276(67.6%), others were probable 82(20.2%), certain 9(2.2%), while 36(8.8%) were unassessable, and 5(1.2%) were conditional.

Table 2: Clinica	Presentation	of the	cutaneous	adverse	reactions	at	the	Drugs,	Poison	Information	, and
Pharmacovigilar	ice Center –UB	TH fror	n 2002 to 20	022							

Clinical presentation	Non-	Not stated	Serious	Frequency
-	serious			n=408(%)
Urticaria	41(25.3)	5(10)	22(11.2)	68(16.7)
Stevens-Johnson syndrome	4(2.5)	o(o)	58(29.6)	62(15.2)
Rash	16(9.9)	18(36.0)	12(6.1)	46(11.3)
Angioedema	11(6.8)	1(2.0)	25(12.8)	37(9.1)
Pruritus	13(8.0)	3(6.0)	4(2.0)	20(4.9)
Rash maculo-papular	11(6.8)	4(8.0)	5(2.6)	20(4.9)
Palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia	14(8.6)	3(6.0)	2(1.0)	19(4.7)
syndrome				
Dermatitis bullous	6(3.7)	1(2.0)	10(5.1)	17(4.2)
Toxic epidermal necrolysis	1(0.6)	0(0)	14(7.1)	15(3.7)
Skin exfoliation	7(4.3)	1(2.0)	3(1.5)	11(2.7)
Rash erythematous	2(1.2)	1(2.0)	6(3.1)	9(2.2)
Rash vesicular	5(3.1)	1(2.0)	3(1.5)	9(2.2)
Lip swelling	3(1.9)	1(2.0)	3(1.5)	7(1.7)
Ecchymosis	2(1.2)	0(0)	4(2.0)	6(1.5)
Erythema multiforme	0(0)	o(o)	5(2.6)	5(1.2)
Rash pustular	3(1.9)	2(4.0)	o(o)	5(1.2)
Skin ulcer	2(1.2)	1(2.0)	2(1.0)	5(1.2)
Lichenoid keratosis	2(1.2)	0(0)	2(1.0)	4(1.0)
Dermatitis exfoliative	1(0.6)	0(0)	2(1.0)	3(0.7)
Dermatitis exfoliative generalised	2(1.2)	0(0)	1(0.5)	3(0.7)
Face oedema	1(0.6)	0(0)	2(1.0)	3(0.7)
Rash pruritic	3(1.9)	o(o)	0(0)	3(0.7)
Urticaria popular	2(1.2)	0(0)	1(0.5)	3(0.7)
Alopecia	0(0)	2(4.0)	0(0)	2(0.5)
Cheilitis	1(0.6)	o(o)	1(0.5)	2(0.5)
Exfoliative rash	0(0)	1(2.0)	1(0.5)	2(0.5)
Fixed eruption	0(0)	2(4.0)	0(0)	2(0.5)
Generalised bullous fixed drug eruption	0(0)	0(0)	2(1.0)	2(0.5)
Penile ulceration	0(0)	1(2.0)	1(0.5)	2(0.5)
Rash popular	1(0.6)	o(o)	1(0.5)	2(0.5)
Vaccination site urticaria	1(0.6)	o(o)	1(0.5)	2(0.5)
Others	7(4.3)	2(4.0)	3(1.5)	12(2.9)

Others include; Application site vesicles, hand dermatitis, lip blister, perioral dermatitis, purpura, Rash- morbiliform, papulosquamous, skin burning sensation, hyperpigmentation. Skin necrosis, SLE rash, Eyelid swelling.

ATC Level II Drug class	Proportion	Most implicated drug per class		
	n=408(%)			
Jo1-Antibacterials for systemic use	88(21.6)	Sulphamethoxazole/Trimethoprim 20(22.7),		
Po1- Antiprotozoals	77(18.9)	Sulphadoxine/Pyrimethamine 41(53.2)		
Jo5-Antivirals for systemic use	57(14.0)	Nevirapine 46(80.7)		
Lo1- Antineoplastic agents	27(6.6)	Capecitabine(48.1), docetaxel		
Cog-Agents acting on the Renin-	20(4.9)	Lisinopril 17		
Angiotensin System				
No3- Antiepileptics	16(3.9)	Carbamazepine 13		
Mo1-Antinflammatory and antirheumatic	15(3.7)	Diclofenac -9		
products				
Jo4- Antimycobacterials	12 (2.9)	Antituberculous combinations		
No2-Analgesic	11(2.7)	Metamizole 2		
Herbal medicines	9(2.2)	Herbal supplements		
Bo1- Antithrombotic agents	6 (1.5)	Warfarin 3		
Multiple drugs	5(1.2)	Multiple drugs		
Ao2-Drugs for acid related disorders	5(1.2)	Omeprazole 4		
Jo7-Vaccines	5(1.2)	Measles live attenuated 2		
Co8- Calcium channel blockers	5(1.2)	Amlodipine 4		
A10- Drugs used in diabetes	4 (1.0)	Glibenclamide 3		
Bo3- Antianaemic preparations	4( 1.0)	Ferrous sulphate 3		
Mo3- Muscle Relaxants	4(1.0)	Baclofen 2		
No5- Pscyholeptics	4(1.0)	Risperidone 2		
A11-Vitamins	3(0.7)	Mutlivitamins -3		
Jo2-Antimycotics for systemic use	3(0.7)	Fluconazole-3		
Co4-Diuretics	2(0.5)	Amiloride/Hydrochlorothiazide/ Indapamide		
Go3- Sex hormone	2(0.5)	Norethisterone		
Ho2- Corticosteroids for systemic use	2(0.5)	Dexamethasone		
Mo4-Antigoout	2(0.5)	Allopurinol-2		
No6- Psychoanaleptics	2(0.5)	Amitriptyline		
Po2- Antihelminthics	2(0.5)	Albendazole /Mebendazole		
Topical products,	6(1.3)	Antifungal, antiseptic, latex gloves, topical		
		NSAIDs, Ectoparasiticides		
Others	10(2.5)			

Table 3: Medicines causing cutaneous adverse drug reactions reported to the UBTH's Drugs, Poison Information, and Pharmacovigilance Center from 2002 to 2022.

**Others-** Opthamologicals, contrast media, drugs for functional gastrointestinal disorders, diagnostic agents, general nutrients, obstructive airway disease drug. **UBTH**- University of Benin Teaching Hospital.

# DISCUSSION

In this study of cutaneous adverse drug reactions, using the ICSRs submitted to a local pharmacovigilance database over a 20-year period, those aged 18-44 years were mostly affected and more in females. The profile of the reactions was wide and varied ranging from different rashes; morphology of maculopapular, erythematous, vesicular and pustular among others. The study also revealed a high proportion of serious cutaneous adverse reactions mainly Steven Johnson's Syndrome, angioedema, urticaria, toxic epidermal necrolysis, and these were mainly due to antibacterials for systemic use sulphamethoxazole/trimethoprim, such as ampicillin/cloxacillin. There were 13 fatalities in this study, comprising mainly of blistering diseases

such as SJS, dermatitis bullous disorders, and erythema multiforme. Angioedema also resulted in 2 fatalities. Other discomforting cutaneous adverse reactions observed in this study were pruritus, palmar-plantar erythrodysaesthesia syndrome, alopecia and exfoliative dermatitis. Doctors and pharmacists were the major reporters of these reactions and with the WHO causality assessment, most of the reactions were deemed plausible.

This study, conducted using a local Pharmacovigilance database shows that the prevalence of cutaneous adverse drug reactions was considerable and required evaluation. Other studies have equally shown that CADRs are common (Sushma et al., 2005; Salami et al., 2010; Tian et al., 2015; Modi et al., 2019). In Nigeria, a

review of dermatoses in outpatient clinic also implicated drug–induced aetiology (2.9%) as a common presentation (Henshaw et al., 2018). Dermatological reactions are easily recognized by patients and physicians alike, thereby making reporting easier. Also, the uncomfortable and unaesthetic nature of the adverse reactions make patients present early.

Reaction	Drugs implicated	Proportion	
Steven Johnson Syndrome (58)	Sulfadoxine/Pyrimethamine	18(31.0)	
	Sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim	7(12.1)	
	Ampicillin/Cloxacillin	5(8.6)	
	Nevirapine	2(1.0)	
	Carbamazepine	4(6.9)	
	Amoxicillin	3(5.2)	
	Allopurinol	2(1.0)	
	Diclofenac	3(5.2)	
	Zidovudine/Lamivudine/Nevirapine	2(3.4)	
	Baclofen	2(3.4)	
	Rifampicin	2(3.4)	
	Antituberculous agent/Metamizole	2(3.4)	
	Artemether-lumenfatrine	1(1.7)	
	Dactinomycin/Piroxicam/doxorubicin	3(5.2)	
	Herbal supplement/ Thioacetazone/	2(1.7)	
Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis			
	Sufadoxine/pyrimethamine	3(21.4)	
	Herbal Supplement	3(21.4)	
	Sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim	2(14.3)	
	Amoxicillin	1(7.1)	
	Antimalarial/ Chloroquine	2(14.3)	
	Multiple drugs	1(7.1)	
	Olanzepine	1(7.1)	
	Nevirapine	1(7.1)	
	Paracetamol combinations/psycholeptics	1(7.1)	
Angioedema	Lisinopril	12(32.4)	
-	Ramipril	2	
	Methocarbamol	1	
	Pregabalin	1	
	Herbal medicine	1	
	Multiple drugs	1	
	Sodium amidotrizoate		
	Others: Paracetamol/Rifampicin/Terbinafine	14(3,4)	
	Albendazole/amoxicillin-clavulanate/		
	Ceftriazone/ciprofloxacin/ampicillin-		
	cloxacillin/artemether-lumenfatrine/Artesunate-		
	amodiaquine, Fluconazole, Iron sucrose, Tramadol.		
	Valproic acid		

Table 4: Medicines causing major Serious cutaneous adverse drug reactions in the University of Benin Te	aching
Hospital's Drugs Poison Information and Pharmacovigilance Center from 2002 to 2022	

Common presentations observed in this study were mainly urticaria, SJS, rashes, angioedema, TENS. These were also the most commonly reported reactions in an Indian systematic review (Patel et al., 2014). Other reactions noted in this study were angioedema, and various forms of rashes. It is important to elucidate the types of rashes that are associated with drugs, so this may aid the early identification of ADRs in general practice, and even for trainee physicians. Some non-serious adverse reactions may be severe and often cause emotional distress to the patients, these can include pruritus, alopecia, penile ulceration, facial oedema as seen in the study. (Sushma et al., 2005; Marzano et al., 2016) There was significant reporting of serious cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs), which may be due to the reporting bias arising from the perception of the reporters (clinicians and pharmacists). SCAR would be an important contributor to the global burden of adverse drug reactions.(Adedapo et al., 2021; Pirmohamed, 2004) Previous studies and bulletins from the National Pharmacovigilance Centers also show that SCARs are quite common and can be fatal (National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), 2018; Oshikoya et al., 2020). Identified serious adverse reactions such as SJS, TENS, angioedema, have been shown to have genetic influences. Furthermore, available reviews have identified genetic polymorphisms associated with various SCARs in other populations, such as carbamazepine-induced SJS/TEN in Caucasians expressing the HLA-A\*31:01 gene and the Chinese expressing HLA-A\*33:03, and Nevirapine induced SJS/TEN in blacks have a HLA-C\*04:01 (Chan et al., 2015; Tempark et al., 2022). There are very few studies that have evaluated the genetic influences of commonly utilized medications in Africans, and more importantly in Nigerians despite the findings of genetic diversity in black Africans (Rajman et al., 2017). There will be a need to further identify atrisk alleles in Nigerians to avert the development of these reactions to commonly used medicines. It is also interesting to note that majority of the drugs causing Steven Johnson syndrome are the commonly known culprits (Del Pozzo-Magaña & Liy-Wong, 2022).

Non-genetic factors have also been implicated in the development of SCARs, such as the female sex, explained by the augmentation of the immunological processes for the reactions by female sex hormones. The medications implicated in the development of SCAR in this study were commonly prescribed druas such ลร sulphamethoxazole-trimethoprim, sulphadoxinepyrimethamine, carbamazepine and nevirapine, this may be due to the fact that communicable diseases had a high disease burden previously, however, with the changing pattern of morbidities in the country (Oni & Unwin, 2015), the development of angioedema from Lisinopril is noted. A firm approach to understanding the association between the homogenously black African and the development of SCAR to drugs that have sulphonamides in their structure is required.

Of note in this study is the low reporting of cutaneous adverse drug reactions in the paediatric age group, this may be due to non-recognition and attribution of observed skin reactions or dermal reactions to medicines administered to this age group. In clinical parlance, dermal reactions are attributed to some ongoing systemic illness or environmental factors. Another study also showed few reports of the paediatric age group in patients with SCAR (Oshikoya et al., 2020).

In this study, antimicrobials were the most implicated in the development of cutaneous adverse drug reactions as stated above. Also noted were antivirals, specifically Nevirapine which is used in combination with other highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) drugs, Nevirapine has been shown to be a common cause of adverse effects (Pawar et al., 2015), the proportion noted in this study is equally significant. In the previous years, antivirals were the commonest causes of cutaneous ADR (National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC), 2012). Another notable finding in this study was the development of angioedema with lisinopril, an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor (ACEi), used in the management of hypertension and heart failure. The ACEi have been shown to cause angioedema which is worse in blacks. (Ajayi & Adigun, 2000; Mahmoudpour et al., 2013)

Capecitabine and docetaxel are antineoplastics that were associated with palmar-plantar erythrodysaestheisia syndrome- otherwise known as hand-foot syndrome, this is a condition that affects the quality of life of the affected clients. A cohort study in Brazil found an incidence of 34% of patients on capecitabine developing the syndrome, although the association with dose could not be established but there is a likelihood that genetic factors play a significant role in the development of this syndrome. (Rodrigues de Queiroz et al., 2022)

Herbal medicines also caused cutaneous ADR as well as SCAR in this study, the constituents of these medicines are unknown, therefore it was difficult to perform causality assessment in this instance. Other studies have shown that traditional medicines do cause cutaneous ADR (Barvaliya et al., 2023).

Limitation: this study assessed a wide and varied presentation of cutaneous ADR with some emphasis on the suspected medication and pattern of skin manifestation. It is not exempt from the challenges associated with the spontaneous adverse reaction reporting system where data may be incomplete and other factors which impact on the development of the ADR are not available due to logistic reasons.

# CONCLUSION

The study reveal that cutaneous adverse drug reactions are prevalent and constitute a notable health burden. Drugs that were prominent in the causation of CADR were antimicrobials, antineoplastic and drugs acting on the reninangiotensin system. There is significant reporting of serious cutaneous ADR drug- induced blistering diseases such as SJS, TENS, erythema multiforme, and angioedema were the prevailing conditions.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Staff of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital's Drugs Poison Information and Pharmacovigilance Center from 2002vto 2022, the South-South –Zonal Pharmacovigilance Centre staff for diligent records keeping.

# Financial support and sponsorship

This work received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial or not-for-profit sectors

# **Conflicts of interest**

None declared

# REFERENCES

- Adedapo ADA, Adedeji WA, Adedapo IA, et al. (2021) Cohort study on adverse drug reactions in adults admitted to the medical wards of a tertiary hospital in Nigeria: Prevalence, incidence, risk factors and fatality. Br J Clin Pharmacol; 87(4): 1878– 1889. DOI: 10.1111/BCP.14577.
- Ajayi AA and Adigun AQ (2000) Angioedema and cough in Nigerian patients receiving ACE inhibitors. Br J Clin Pharmacol; 50(1): 81–82. DOI: 10.1046/J.1365-2125.2000.00207.X.
- Ampadu HH, Hoekman J, de Bruin ML, et al. (2016) Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting in Africa and a Comparison of Individual Case Safety Report Characteristics Between Africa and the Rest of the World: Analyses of Spontaneous Reports in VigiBase®. Drug Saf; 39(4):335–345. DOI: 10.1007/540264-015-0387-4.
- Barvaliya MJ, Chetan AC, Chandan N, et al. (2023) Suspected cutaneous adverse drug reactions reported with traditional medicines: analysis of data for United Nations Asia region from WHO VigiBase. Front Pharmacol; 14: 1088841. DOI: 10.3389/fphar.2023.1088841.
- Brown EG, Wood L and Wood S (1999). The Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (MedDRA). Drug Saf; 20(2):109–117. DOI: 10.2165/00002018-199920020-00002.
- Chan SL, Jin S, Loh M, et al. (2015). Progress in understanding the genomic basis for adverse drug reactions: A comprehensive review and focus on the role of ethnicity. Pharmacogenomics. Future Medicine Ltd. DOI: 10.2217/PGS.15.54.

- Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (1999). Reporting Adverse Drug Reactions: Definitions of Terms and Criteria for Their Use (Z Bankowski, R Bruppacher, I Crusius, et al.eds ). Switzerland: Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences(CIOMS).
- Del Pozzo-Magaña BR, Liy-Wong C (2022). Drugs and the skin: A concise review of cutaneous adverse drug reactions. Br J Clin Pharmacol. DOI: 10.1111/BCP.15490.
- Henshaw E, Ibekwe P, Adeyemi A, et al. (2018) Dermatologic practice review of common skin diseases in Nigeria. Int J Health Sci Res; 8(1): 235–248.
- Isah A, Olowofela A (2014). Clinical pharmacology in Nigeria: the Benin City experience. Pharmacology matters, July. London.
- Mahmoudpour SH, Leusink M, Putten L van der, et al. (2013). Pharmacogenetics of ACE inhibitor-induced angioedema and cough: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Pharmacogenomics 14(3): 249–260. DOI: 10.2217/pgs.12.206.
- Marzano AV, Borghi A, Cugno M (2016). Adverse drug reactions and organ damage: The skin. Eur J Intern Med; 28: 17–24. DOI: 10.1016/j.ejim.2015.11.017.
- Modi A, Desai M, Shah S, et al. (2019). Analysis of cutaneous adverse drug reactions reported at the regional ADR monitoring center. Indian J Dermatol 64(3): 250. DOI: 10.4103/ijd.IJD\_682\_16.
- Naranjo CA, Busto U, Sellers EM, et al. (1981) A method for estimating the probability of adverse drug reactions. Clinical Pharmacol Therap; 30(2): 239-245.
- National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC) N (2012) Public Alert on Banned Products. Pharmacovigilance/FDIC newsletter. Abuja, Nigeria.
- National Pharmacovigilance Centre (NPC) National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) (2018). Sulfadoxine/Pyrimethamine and Stevens-Johnson Syndrome. Pharmacovigilance /Post Marketing Surveillance Newsletter. Abuja.
- Ogar CK, Abiola A, Yuah D, et al. (2019) A Retrospective Review of Serious Adverse Drug Reaction Reports in the Nigerian VigiFlow Database from September 2004 to December 2016. Pharmaceutical Med 33(2): 145–157. DOI: 10.1007/s40290-019-00267-2.
- Oni T, Unwin N (2015). Why the communicable/non-communicable disease

dichotomy is problematic for public health control strategies: Implications of multimorbidity for health systems in an era of health transition. Int Health 7(6): 390–399. DOI: 10.1093/inthealth/ihvo40.

- Opadeyi AO, Fourrier-Réglat A, Isah AO (2021) Impact of an educational intervention on adverse drug reaction reporting in tertiary hospitals in South-South Nigeria. West Afr J Med 38(7): 634–645.
- Oshikoya K, Ogunyinka I, Ogar C, et al. (2020) Severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions manifesting as Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis reported to the national pharmacovigilance center in Nigeria: a database review from 2004 to 2017. Ther Adv Drug Saf. 12(11): 2042098620905998. DOI: 10.1177/2042098620905998.
- Patel T, Thakkar S and Sharma D (2014) Cutaneous adverse drug reactions in Indian population: A systematic review. Indian Dermatol Online Journal 5(Suppl 2): S76–S86. DOI: 10.4103/2229-5178.146165.
- Pawar MP, Pore S, Pradhan S, et al. (2015) Nevirapine: Most Common Cause of Cutaneous Adverse Drug Reactions in an Outpatient Department of a Tertiary Care Hospital. J Clin Diagn Res 9(11): FC17–FC20. DOI: 10.7860/JCDR/2015/13672.6768.
- Pirmohamed M (2004) Adverse drug reactions as cause of admission to hospital: prospective analysis of 18 820 patients. BMJ 329(7456): 15–19. DOI: 10.1136/bmj.329.7456.15.
- Rajman I, Knapp L, Morgan T, et al. (2017). African Genetic Diversity: Implications for Cytochrome P450-mediated Drug Metabolism and Drug Development. EBioMedicine 17: 67–74. DOI: 10.1016/j.ebiom.2017.02.017.

Rodrigues de Queiroz MV, Tardin Rodrigues de

Medeiros AC, Pires Toledo S, et al. (2022). Hand-foot syndrome caused by capecitabine: incidence, risk factors and the role of dermatological evaluation. Ecancermedicalscience 16: 1390. DOI: 10.3332/ecancer.2022.1390.

- Salami T, Asalu A and Samuel S (2010) Prevalence of cutaneous drug eruptions in adult Nigerians with HIV/AIDS. Niger Postgrad Med J 17(2): 160–163.
- Selvarajah LR, Choon SE (2017) Incidence of cutaneous adverse drug reactions among medical inpatients of Sultanah Aminah hospital Johor Bahru. Med J Malaysia 72(3): 151–156.
- Sushma M, Noel M V., Ritika MC, et al. (2005) Cutaneous adverse drug reactions: A 9-year study from a South Indian Hospital. Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf 14(8): 567–570. DOI: 10.1002/PDS.1105.
- Tempark T, John S, Rerknimitr P, et al. (2022) Drug-Induced severe cutaneous adverse reactions: Insights into clinical presentation, immunopathogenesis, diagnostic methods, treatment, and pharmacogenomics. Frontiers Pharmacol 13: 832048. DOI: 10.3389/fphar.2022.832048.
- Tian X-Y, Liu B, Shi H, et al. (2015) Incidence of adverse cutaneous drug reactions in 22,866 Chinese inpatients: a prospective study. Arch Dermatol Res 307(9): 829–834. DOI: 10.1007/s00403-015-1589-4.
- WHO-UMC (2012) The use of the WHO-UMC system for standardised case causality assessment. Available at: http://www.whoumc.org/graphics/26649.pdf (accessed 12 June 2015).
- World Health Organization (1972). International drug monitoring: the role of national centres. Technical Report Series. Geneva, Switzerland.