CLINICAL PARAMETERS FOR ASSESSMENT SKIN OILINESS IN SURGICAL PATIENTS

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Introduction:

The heels represent an area susceptible to the appearance of wounds due to their anatomical characteristics(1). About oiliness, it stands out that epidermal lipid deficiencies have been shown to impact the barrier function of the stratum corneum(2).

Objective:

To evaluate the skin oiliness of the cutaneous sites (heel and instep) of patients in the operating room.

Methods:

Secondary analysis from an intra-patient randomized clinical trial (RCT) conducted in a university hospital in southern **Brazil**, from March 2019 to February 2020, with patients undergoing elective surgery, cardiac and gastrointestinal specialty. The variable oiliness was collected at the beginning of surgery - *baseline*, measured in the center of the heel and instep, using a bioelectrical impedance skin analyzer and the measurement was given in percentage (%). The variables was tested using the Shapiro-Wilk test, Wilcoxon test and Spearman's test Brazilian Registry of Clinical Trials under identifier **RBR-5GKNG5.**

Assess skin oiliness

Skin oiliness measurement site

Results:

- One hundred and thirty five patients were analyzed
- 91 (67.4%) patients undergoing cardiac surgery and 44 (32.6%) gastrointestinal
- n=107; 79.3% had some comorbidity.

Skin oiliness measurement site

- 270 heels and 270 insteps were analyzed
- The median of skin oiliness on the heel (22.6%) and on the instep (29.2%) showed a statistically significant difference (p-value <0.001) and a low positive correlation (r=0.339; p-value <0.001).

Conclusion:

It was identified that the oiliness of the heel is lower than that of the instep. Furthermore, the correlation is positive between the cutaneous sites, that is, the greater the heel skin oiliness, the greater the instep skin oiliness. In this sense, the nursing team can use the instep oiliness as a comparison region for the heel oiliness. It is noteworthy that the skin oiliness can reduce the skin tolerance to external forces such as friction, favoring the development of pressure injuries

Reference:

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