



## Original Article

# Dermatological Patients at the Outdoor of an Upazila Health Complex

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### Abstract

In outdoor of Adamdighi Upazila Health & Family Welfare Complex of Bogra district, the attendance of patients suffering from skin and venereal diseases were observed. Out of total 1,54,843 patients, 23,820 patients were suffering from various forms of dermatological diseases. The percentage of patients suffering from skin and venereal diseases were 15.34 %. Female patients were 13,667 in number (57.38%) and male patients were 10,153 in number (42.62%). Male, female ratio is 1.35:1. Most of the patients were suffering from dermatological diseases attending outdoor of the said health complex belong to 14 years and above age group (67.53%). It was observed that though previously most of the rural people neglected their skin diseases, but now a day, a good number of patients of the rural areas are conscious about their skin conditions and attend outdoor of health and family welfare complex.

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### Introduction

Skin is the largest organ of the body. The skin is also the window through which a physician can see the entire body. The surface area of skin is about 3.5 sq. meters in an adult. There are about 3500 skin diseases so far recognized. Since the dawn of history, there is much evidence that the diseases of skin were recognized and therapeutic efforts were attempted. A large number of people in our country are affected with skin diseases throughout the year. Fortunately the problem of the skin seldom results in death. But the sufferings due to skin diseases cannot be overlooked because it is most often reflected by an inability to work or adverse effect on social function. In our country there is no survey about how much people had a skin condition that limited their employment or daily activities in home. But in United States this

is about 1 % (over 2 million persons). In our country most of the people are not conscious about their skin diseases. They only come to the doctor when the diseases become acute. But now a day, people are going more and more conscious about their skin diseases. During the last 10 – 15 years, there has been a dramatic change in the treatment of skin diseases. We, the dermatologist of Bangladesh are not lacking behind and trying to offer the latest treatment for the dermatological patients. PUVA therapy, dermato electrocautery, chemical cautery, cryo surgery, punch grafting etc. are available in our country at present.

### Materials and method

Total 1,54,843 patients attended at outdoor of Adamdighi Upazila Health and Family Welfare Complex, Bogra of which 23,820 patients were

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suffering from various kind of dermatological diseases. The study was performed during the period of January 2001 to December 2001. The skin and venereal diseases were diagnosed clinically and laboratory investigations were done when needed. Health assistants and family welfare assistants referred the patients suffering from various kinds of dermatological diseases to the OPD of the said health complex. Some patients came to outdoor without being referred by anybody. Patients suffering from nongonococcal urinary tract infections were excluded from this study.

## Results

**Table 1:** Percentage of total number of dermatological patients in relation to total number of patients attending out patient department.

Total number of patients Attended at outdoor	Total number of dermatological patients	Percentage
1,54,843	23,820	15.38

**Table 2:** Total number of dermatological patients in relation to sex (total number of dermatological patients - 23, 820)

Sex	Number of dermatological patients	Percentage
Male	10,153	42.63
Female	13,667	57.38

**Table 3:** Total number of dermatological patients in relation to age (total number of dermatological patients - 23, 820)

Age	Number	Percentage
0 – 5	2828	11.87
5 – 14	4906	20.60
14 – above	16,086	67.53

## Discussion

In year 2001, about 23,820 numbers of patients suffering from skin and venereal diseases attended at outdoor of adamdighi upazila health and family welfare complex, Bogra. The percentage of dermatological patients in comparison to other diseases is 15.38 %. Female patients are more than male patients. 14 years and above age group are the most sufferers. No female patients suffering from STD attended the OPD of health complex. Only 40 male patients suffering from STD attended the OPD. Number of dermatological patients was more than 2000 per month from January to September. 14 years and above group are the more who attended the outdoor.

## Conclusion

Though there are no posts of dermatologists at upazila level, a good number of patients suffering from various sorts of dermatological disorders are attending at OPD. Previously at our graduation level few diseases (6 – 7 diseases) were being taught. So when a young doctor is posted at upazila level, he has to face a lot of problems regarding the diagnosis and treatments of dermatological disorders. So more and more about dermatology should be included in the course and curriculum at undergraduate level. At the same time more posts of the dermatologists should be created at Medical Colleges, district and Thana levels so that the dermatologists can offer their services properly and satisfactorily.

## References:

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