A rare case report of phytophotodermatitis following local application of ayurvedic treatment for a Colle's fracture.

KEY WORDS -

Phytophotodermatitis, furocoumarins, plant based substances, Ultraviolet A light

ABSTRACT-

Phytophotodermatitis, also known as phototoxic dermatitis, is a non-immune dermatological condition which occurs due to contact with the plant substances with subsequent exposure to sunlight (1) (2) (6). The causative agents in the plants have been identified as furocoumarins (1) (2) (6). In Asian countries, plant substances are widely used as therapeutic agents and also as cosmetic products. In the acute stage of the phytophotodermatitis, the skin rash is erythematous and itchy and resolves in a few days. But the post inflammatory hyperpigmentation can remain for weeks to months (1) (4) (5). Here we present a 58-year-old female who developed phytophotodermatitis following exposure to sunlight while using plant based local application as ayurvedic treatment for a colle's fracture. With the suggestive clinical history in the absence of systemic symptoms and normal range inflammatory markers, a diagnosis of phytophotodermatitis was made. She was managed conservatively with analgesics and topical steroids. Although phytophotodermatitis is rare, skin rash following recent contact with plant based substances will minimize unnecessary disquiets.