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Melasma: Unknowingly multifarious

Shamma Aboobacker
KMCT Medical College, India

Melasma, derived from the Greek word 'Melas' meaning black and 'Chloazein' meaning green, is an acquired symmetric hypermelanotic condition that has a striking appearance and resultant mental impact. There are a number of norms linked with melasma including role of ultraviolet exposure, occurrence in pregnancy, female predisposition and even its nature through the earliest report of melasma as 'Lihei Ban' in Chinese medicine meaning persistent condition. Much of research focused on etiology is highlighted however a consensus is lacking. The peculiarity in lesional skin is the presence of hyper functional melanocytes that possess increased expression of estrogen receptors and PDKZ1 domains that are involved in increased melanogenesis. The rather indirect roles exhibited by UV light, drugs, anaemia and systemic conditions may be noted.

Biography

Shamma Aboobacker graduated from Yenepoya Medical College, India. She completed professional training as MSc in Clinical Dermatology at Cardiff University and MD DVL at Pondicherry University. She has expertise as Clinical Dermatologist since 2011, in United Arab Emirates and India, and currently an Assistant Professor at KMCT Medical College. She has keen interest in research activities and focuses on delivering up to date patient care. Her areas of proficiency include pigmentary disorders, skin malignancy, psoriasis and platelet rich plasma therapy. She is currently working on research involving melasma and another on platelet rich plasma therapy. She has published papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member of *Journal of Surgical Dermatology*.

drshamma.aboo@gmail.com

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