Karima Osman

MSA Abstract

Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are neurodevelopmental conditions associated with dermatologic manifestations, yet the impact of co-occurring ADHD and ASD on acne vulgaris and atopic dermatitis remains underexplored. This retrospective cohort study analyzed de-identified patient records from the TriNetX database, categorizing patients under 26 into four cohorts: ADHD only, ASD only, both ADHD and ASD, and neurotypical controls. Groups were stratified by sex and balanced for age, sex, race, and ethnicity. Compared to neurotypical peers, males with ADHD had an increased risk of both acne (OR: 1.498, $p < .001$) and atopic dermatitis (OR: 1.277, $p < .001$), as did females with ADHD (acne OR: 1.387, $p < .001$; eczema OR: 1.289, $p < .001$). Males with co-occurring ADHD and ASD had elevated odds of acne (OR: 1.270, $p < .001$) and eczema (OR: 1.228, $p < .001$), whereas females with both conditions showed no significant differences. Notably, females with ASD alone had a reduced risk of acne (OR: 0.721, $p < .001$) and no significant difference in eczema prevalence. These findings suggest that ADHD may contribute to difficulties in adhering to dermatologic care routines, while ASD may have a protective effect, particularly in females. Further research into skincare adherence and modifications for neurodivergent individuals may improve patient outcomes.