

Study of Serum Intestinal Alkaline Phosphatase in Rosacea

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ABSTRACT

Background: Rosacea is a chronic inflammatory dermatosis, frequently associated to various gastrointestinal disorders. Recent studies suggest that intestinal alkaline phosphatase, an enzyme that guards intestinal homeostasis might be involved in the pathogenesis of rosacea.

Objective: The objective of this study is to investigate serum intestinal alkaline phosphatase – (IAP) enzymatic activity levels in rosacea patients and correlate them with different clinical forms.

Methods: Twenty six rosacea patients and twenty three age - and sex-matched healthy controls were included in our study. The severity of rosacea was assessed according to the National Rosacea Society classification system. The levels of serum IAP enzymatic activity were measured in all individuals.

Results: There was no statistically significant difference between IAP enzymatic activity levels in the patient and control group, but we demonstrated a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) when comparing patients with papulopustular rosacea to healthy controls and also when comparing patients younger than 40 years to matched controls younger than 40 years.

Conclusion: Our results suggest that increasing IAP enzymatic activity especially in papulopustular rosacea by special diet or by IAP supplementation might be beneficial in controlling this disease.

Key words: rosacea, intestinal alkaline phosphatase, age, papulopustular, erythematotelangiectatic