## COMPARING THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL, IMMUNOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL FEATURES OF EXTRINSIC AND INTRINSIC-TYPE ATOPIC DERMATITIS

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The present study was meant to survey and compare the epidemiological, clinical and immunological features of the two forms of atopic dermatitis (AD) in patients included in the study. The findings of the examinations including 94 children (41 boys and 53 girls) suffering from AD were assessed. Based on the total IgE and specific IgE levels and the outcome of the prick-test on environmental allergens, 58 patients (61.7%) proved to be affected by extrinsic-type atopic dermatitis (EAD) and 36 patients (38.3%) were affected by intrinsic-type atopic dermatitis (IAD). No difference was found between the clinical symptoms and their localisation in the two groups; the first symptom of the disease appeared as early as before the second year of age in EAD (65.6%), while in IAD this rate was as low as 36.1%. The incidence of AD was higher in girls (56.4%) and this difference was found more expressed in IAD (63.9%). The family history proved positive in almost the same rate in the both groups (53.4%, vs. 44.4%). 48.9% of patients with EAD were simultaneously suffering from some other type of atopic diseases, which was very rarely observed in those with IAD (13.9%). The autors wish to emphasise that, in accordance with data in the literature, the types of AD can be regarded as a uniform clinical picture with respect to clinical symptoms, however, with regard to the type of response to genetic and environmental provoking factors they do differ from one another.