

Table SIV. Skin biopsy examination, overall and in strata of clinical and aetiological categories of chronic pruritus

	Total <i>n</i> ^b (%)	Clinical category			<i>p</i> -value ^a	Aetiological category				<i>p</i> -value ^a
		I: Pruritus on diseased skin <i>n</i> ^b (%)	II: Pruritus on non-diseased skin <i>n</i> ^b (%)	III: Chronic scratch lesions <i>n</i> ^b (%)		I: Dermato-logic <i>n</i> ^b (%)	II: Systemic <i>n</i> ^b (%)	III-IV: Neur/Psyc <i>n</i> ^b (%)	V-VI: Mixed/Other <i>n</i> ^b (%)	
Tissue eosinophilia										
Negative	60 (37.5)	22 (27.8)	13 (50.0)	25 (45.5)	0.04	22 (27.8)	13 (52.0)	4 (40.0)	21 (45.7)	0.08
Positive	100 (62.5)	57 (72.2)	13 (50.0)	30 (54.5)		57 (72.2)	12 (48.0)	6 (60.0)	25 (54.3)	
Histological pattern										
Lichenoid										
No	102 (97.1)	56 (98.2)	3 (100.0)	43 (95.6)	0.62	56 (98.2)	12 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	30 (93.8)	0.57
Yes	3 (2.9)	1 (1.8)	0 (0.0)	2 (4.4)		1 (1.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (6.2)	
Psoriasiform										
No	101 (96.2)	54 (94.7)	3 (100.0)	44 (97.8)	0.67	54 (94.7)	11 (91.7)	4 (100.0)	32 (100.0)	0.43
Yes	4 (3.8)	3 (5.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.2)		3 (5.3)	1 (8.3)	0 (0.0)	0	0.0
Spongiotic										
No	61 (58.1)	27 (47.4)	1 (33.3)	33 (73.3)	0.01	27 (47.4)	8 (66.7)	1 (25.0)	25 (78.1)	0.01
Yes	44 (41.9)	30 (52.6)	2 (66.7)	12 (26.7)		30 (52.6)	4 (33.3)	3 (75.0)	7 (21.9)	
Eosinophilic										
No	78 (74.3)	36 (63.2)	3 (100.0)	39 (86.7)	0.02	36 (63.2)	11 (91.7)	4 (100.0)	27 (84.4)	0.04
Yes	27 (25.7)	21 (36.8)	0 (0.0)	6 (13.3)		21 (36.8)	1 (8.3)	0 (0.0)	5 (15.6)	
Unspecific										
No	74 (70.5)	51 (89.5)	2 (66.7)	21 (46.7)	<0.001	51 (89.5)	6 (50.0)	3 (75.0)	14 (43.8)	<0.001
Yes	31 (29.5)	6 (10.5)	1 (33.3)	24 (53.3)		6 (10.5)	6 (50.0)	1 (25.0)	18 (56.2)	
Other										
No	102 (97.1)	54 (94.7)	3 (100.0)	45 (100.0)	0.32	54 (94.7)	12 (100.0)	4 (100.0)	32 (100.0)	0.73
Yes	3 (2.9)	3 (5.3)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)		3 (5.3)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	
Direct immunofluorescence deposits^c										
IgG										
Negative	134 (93.7)	62 (92.5)	23 (100.0)	49 (92.5)	0.47	62 (92.5)	21 (95.5)	8 (100.0)	43 (93.5)	1
Positive	9 (6.3)	5 (7.5)	0 (0.0)	4 (7.5)		5 (7.5)	1 (4.5)	0 (0.0)	3 (6.5)	
IgM										
Negative	93 (65.0)	41 (61.2)	15 (65.2)	37 (69.8)	0.62	41 (61.2)	16 (72.7)	6 (75.0)	30 (65.2)	0.72
Positive	50 (35.0)	26 (38.8)	8 (34.8)	16 (30.2)		26 (38.8)	6 (27.3)	2 (25.0)	16 (34.8)	
IgA										
Negative	115 (80.4)	53 (79.1)	19 (82.6)	43 (81.1)	0.92	53 (79.1)	19 (86.4)	8 (100.0)	35 (76.1)	0.45
Positive	28 (19.6)	14 (20.9)	4 (17.4)	10 (18.9)		14 (20.9)	3 (13.6)	0 (0.0)	11 (23.9)	
C3										
Negative	80 (55.9)	38 (56.7)	18 (78.3)	24 (45.3)	0.03	38 (56.7)	13 (59.1)	7 (87.5)	22 (47.8)	0.21
Positive	63 (44.1)	29 (43.3)	5 (21.7)	29 (54.7)		29 (43.3)	9 (40.9)	1 (12.5)	24 (52.2)	
Any										
Negative	57 (39.9)	24 (35.8)	12 (52.2)	21 (39.6)	0.38	24 (35.8)	11 (50.0)	6 (75.0)	16 (34.8)	0.12
Positive	86 (60.1)	43 (64.2)	11 (47.8)	32 (60.4)		43 (64.2)	11 (50.0)	2 (25.0)	30 (65.2)	

^a χ^2 test or Fisher's exact test where required. ^bNumbers may not add up to the total due to missing data. ^cSpecific immunofluorescence findings were observed in only 3 (2%) of 143 cases.