

- This is a cross sectional, multicentric clinico-epidemiological study of melasma in India
- Of 331 patients with mean age  $37.2 \pm 9.3$  years (range 20 - 62 years) with melasma included in the study, the prevalence of melasma was higher in females with a female to male ratio of approximately 4:1.
- There is a regional variability in the demographics, clinical manifestations and factors that precipitate melasma among patients in India.
- Sun exposure is a major precipitating factor in melasma but only 10% of the patients used sunscreen with sun protection factor  $>50$ .
- Overall, 51% of the patients had not received any treatment for melasma. However, 71% of the patients who had tried previous treatments had used triple combination with majority having used a mometasone based triple combination.
- A large proportion of patients were unsatisfied with their current treatment for melasma.

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