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## *Acne vulgaris* and *rosacea* as a cosmetic and psychological problem

### Abstract

This study presents the results of a survey conducted among 47 students (18 girls and 29 boys aged 13–14) of primary schools from the Podkarpackie Voivodeship (Southern Poland). The aim of the study was to self-assess the knowledge of young people about the types of acne and ways of dealing with this problem. The survey results showed that for both girls and boys this is an embarrassing problem and therefore they try to cover up the skin lesions using methods known to them. Most respondents feel embarrassed when talking about skin problems. In relation to their own complexion problems, a significant number of respondents do not believe that they can please others and are afraid of other people judging their appearance. Girls are more sensitive to this type of problems. Most respondents are aware that acne can also affect adults, but do not know any further details about it.

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### Introduction

*Acne vulgaris* is a disease that has been known since ancient times (Biegalska, Żaba, 2004). Then the search for methods of treating this troublesome skin disease began. The beginning of the 20th century was a time of intensive expansion of knowledge about acne. The first clinical division of this disease was then made (Wilczyńska, Lewandowski, 2012). At the beginning of the 20th century, *acne vulgaris* was called juvenile acne (Latin: *acne juvenilis*) (Biegalska, Żaba, 2004). However, it is not a disease of teenagers, because it also affects a small percentage of newborns and infants; young, adult men and women also complain about these ailments – Fig. 1 – Appendix 1 (Bojar, Holland, 2004).

*Acne vulgaris* is a disease that affects both sexes, but men, due to genetic and hormonal conditions, are more predisposed to this type of skin disorders (Leyden, 2001). It is

a chronic inflammatory disease affecting the seborrheic areas (mainly chest, face, back), characterised by, among others: the presence of: comedones (*comedo*), papular eruptions (*papula*), pustular eruptions (*pustula*) (Fig. 1 – Appendix 1), purulent cysts (*cystis*) and scars (*koleoid*) (Biegalska, Żaba, 2004). Its etiopathogenesis is multifactorial. The causes are usually: seborrhoea (disturbances in the functioning of the sebaceous glands), keratinization within the hair follicle (due to irritation of the follicle walls, presence of sebaceous content and bacteria), colonization of bacteria and microorganisms (favoured by excessive production of sebum and closure of the sebaceous gland opening), hormonal disorders (increased activity of androgens, especially during puberty), genetic conditions (genetically determined excessive production of sebum), mental state of the patient (release of adrenal steroids into the blood due to stress) (Marks, Dawber, 1971; Sidbury, Paller, 2000; Biegalska, Żaba, 2004; Bojar, Holland, 2004; Szepietowski, Reicha, 2009; Arora et al., 2010; Michalak-Stroma et al., 2010).

Unlike teenage acne, rosacea (Latin: *acne rosacea*) begins at the age of 20–30 with a tendency to frequent erythema on the skin of the cheeks, nose and forehead. A clear progression of this disease is observed in the next decade of life, and full development occurs at the age of 40–50 (De Bersaques, 1995; Culp, Scheinfeld, 2009) (Fig. 1E-F – Appendix 1). The first medical description of this disease appeared in the literature in the 14th century. The author was a French surgeon, Dr. Guy de Chauliac (Sorsa et al., 1993). He described the erythema occurring on the skin of the cheeks, nose and forehead as “*gutterose*”, i.e. pink dotting, or “*couperose*”, which currently means rosacea in French (Rundhaug, 2005; Descargues et al., 2006). In 1891, Henri G. Piffard, a professor of dermatology from New York, based on characteristic clinical symptoms, for the first time distinguished *acne vulgaris* from *acne rosacea*, treating it as a different form of acne (Robak, Kulczycka, 2010). The etiopathogenesis of rosacea is also multifactorial. The causes of this disease may be: vascular disorders (temporary to permanent erythema phases and the development of telangiectasia), ultraviolet radiation (under its influence, erythema occurs), microorganisms (mainly the human demodex *Demodex folliculorum* G. Simon and bacilli of *Helicobacter pylori* (Marshall et al.) Goodwin et al.), reactive oxygen species ROS (their source may be leukocytes infiltrating the skin and/or keratinocytes), and others (Brauchle, 1996; Ballaun et al., 2000; Zouboulis, 2001; Rebora, 2002; Dressler-Carre, 2005; Landow, 2005; Izikson et al., 2006; Nally, Berson, 2006; Berman et al., 2007; Fernandez-Obregon, Patton, 2007; Yamasaki et al., 2006; Yang et al., 2008; Grønhøj Larsen et al., 2009).

*Acne vulgaris* usually appears during puberty, i.e. at a time of strong changes, both biological, hormonal and psychological. Puberty means sudden changes, sometimes difficult for a young person to accept. A growth spurt and biological maturation focus teenagers' attention on their bodies – their self-image is then disturbed, and according to psychologists, acne can even lead to serious psychological and social consequences (Kellett, Gawkrödger, 1999; Wilczyńska, Lewandowski, 2012; Gupta et al., 2016; El-Hamd et al., 2017). Young people want to be liked, especially since there is often a “cult of beauty” among teenagers, and people with skin disorders are often simply not accepted. Similarly, stress can also exacerbate another dermatosis, which is rosacea, which occurs in middle-aged people (Jaworek et al., 2008). Due to its recurrent course and often ineffective treatment, this disease also negatively affects the psychosocial functioning of many patients (Chodkiewicz et al., 2007; Gupta et al., 2016; Polak et al., 2020).

The quality of life of patients suffering from chronic dermatological diseases has recently become the subject of many studies. It was noted that most dermatological diseases are not directly life-threatening, but they have a huge impact on many aspects of the life of the patient and his family. The aim of the survey was to self-assess young people's knowledge about the types of acne and ways of dealing with this problem.

### Research methodology

The research tool was an anonymous survey conducted among 47 students of the Primary School in Bobrowa (50°06'59"N 21°25'53"E), Korzeniów (50°09'47"N 21°27'36"E) and Nagozszyn (50°08'14"N 21°24'45"E), in the Podkarpackie Voivodeship (Southern Poland). The research group included a total of 18 girls and 29 boys, aged 13–14.

The survey conducted here consisted of 23 questions regarding knowledge about skin types, type and location of skin lesions, sources of information about acne and methods of its treatment, methods of concealing skin lesions, perception of one's attractiveness in relation to one's own skin problems, etc. – Appendix 2. It also included questions regarding knowledge about acne in adults, including: ability to determine the type of skin lesions, concealment methods and adults' reactions to attempts to talk about their skin problems. The survey had suggested answers, and in a few cases an open answer was also possible. Multiple answers to the same question were also allowed. The construction of the survey was based on the study by Wilczyńska K., Lewandowski J. (2012).

Based on the survey, a summary table was created, which contains a comprehensive summary of all the results obtained. Selected most important points of the survey were illustrated in pie charts, along with the percentages of the answers obtained by respondents. For three questions regarding the perception of oneself in the context of skin problems and functioning in the environment (questions 11, 13, 18), the following scores were assigned to each question: “+1” – if the answer was affirmative, “-1” – if the answer was negative, and “0” – if the respondent chose the answer “*I don't care, I have no opinion*”. The respondents' answers to these survey questions were compared and the average results for girls and boys in the analysed statistical population were calculated. A parametric one-way ANOVA test was used to assess statistical differences between the mean results in two separate groups of respondents, using Duncan's post hoc test. Statistical significance was assumed to be  $p \leq 0.05$ . The summary table and charts were prepared using Microsoft EXCEL.

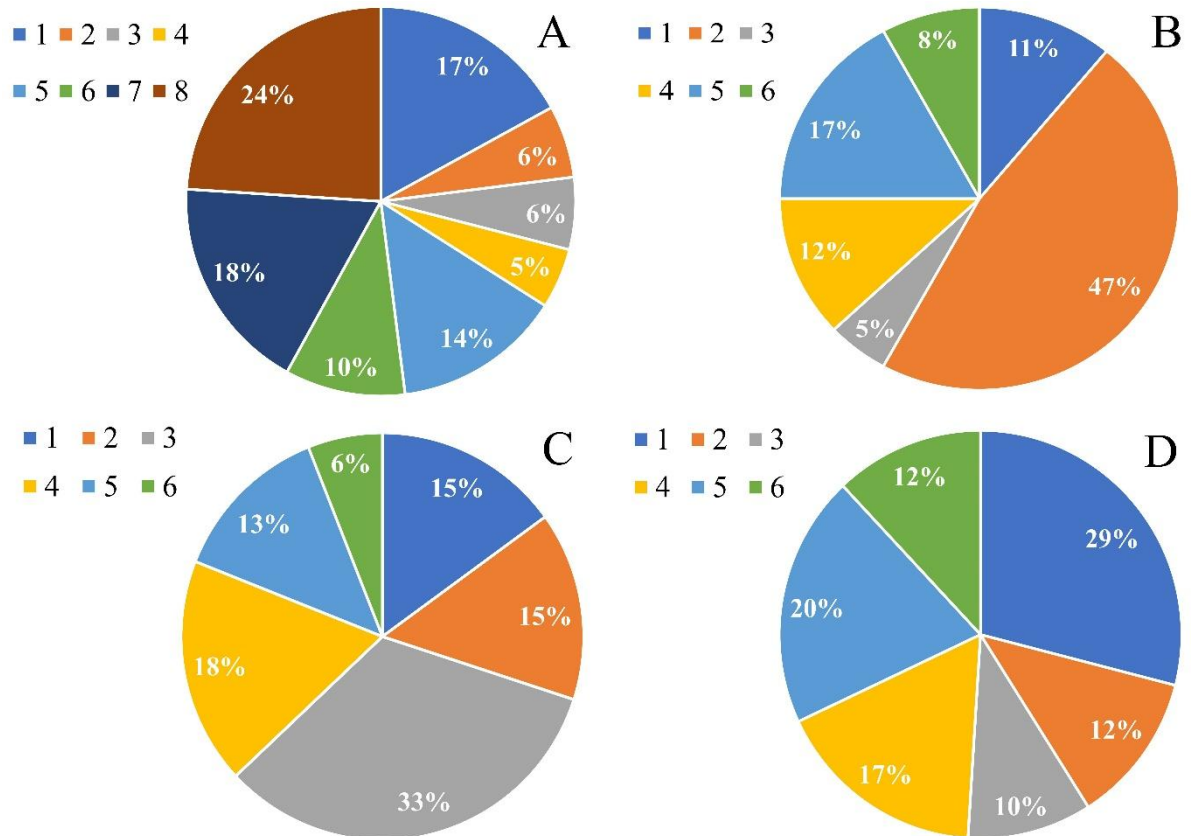
## Results

The respondents had a relatively poor level of knowledge regarding their complexion type, as nearly half of them were unable to determine their own complexion type (only 34% of respondents provided it). More than half of the girls were able to correctly determine their complexion type, while among the boys only five out of 29 respondents (question 2 – Appendix 2). More than half of all respondents noticed unfavorable changes in their skin; most aged between 12 and 14. 16 people could not indicate the exact age at which they noticed these types of skin changes (Table 1 – Appendix 3). Most respondents observed skin changes in the form of blackheads, epidermal peeling and discoloration, which accounted for a total of 49% of the responses, and 27% noticed more severe skin changes in the form of papules, purulent conditions, seborrhea and acne scars (Fig. 2A).

The respondents indicated that the most common places of skin lesions were: forehead, nose and beard, and less frequently the back, chest and entire face (40% of responses in total) (Fig. 2B). Most people sought advice on skin issues only from their parents (30% of responses), while a significant part did not seek any advice at all (33% of responses) (Table 1 – Appendix 3). The surveyed students gain knowledge about acne from the Internet (33% of responses), television (18%) and youth guides and magazines (30%). (Tab. 1 – Appendix 3, Fig. 2C).

The most frequently mentioned methods of treating *acne vulgaris* by respondents are: externally applied drugs (29% of responses) and care with cosmetics available in drugstores

(20% of responses) (Table 1 – Appendix 3, Fig. 2D). In response to the question about what method of acne treatment they use, 15 respondents declared they used external drugs, 3 people said they were antibiotics, 3 people declared treatment with cosmetics purchased at a drugstore, 2 people followed a diet, and 24 people did not provide any answer.

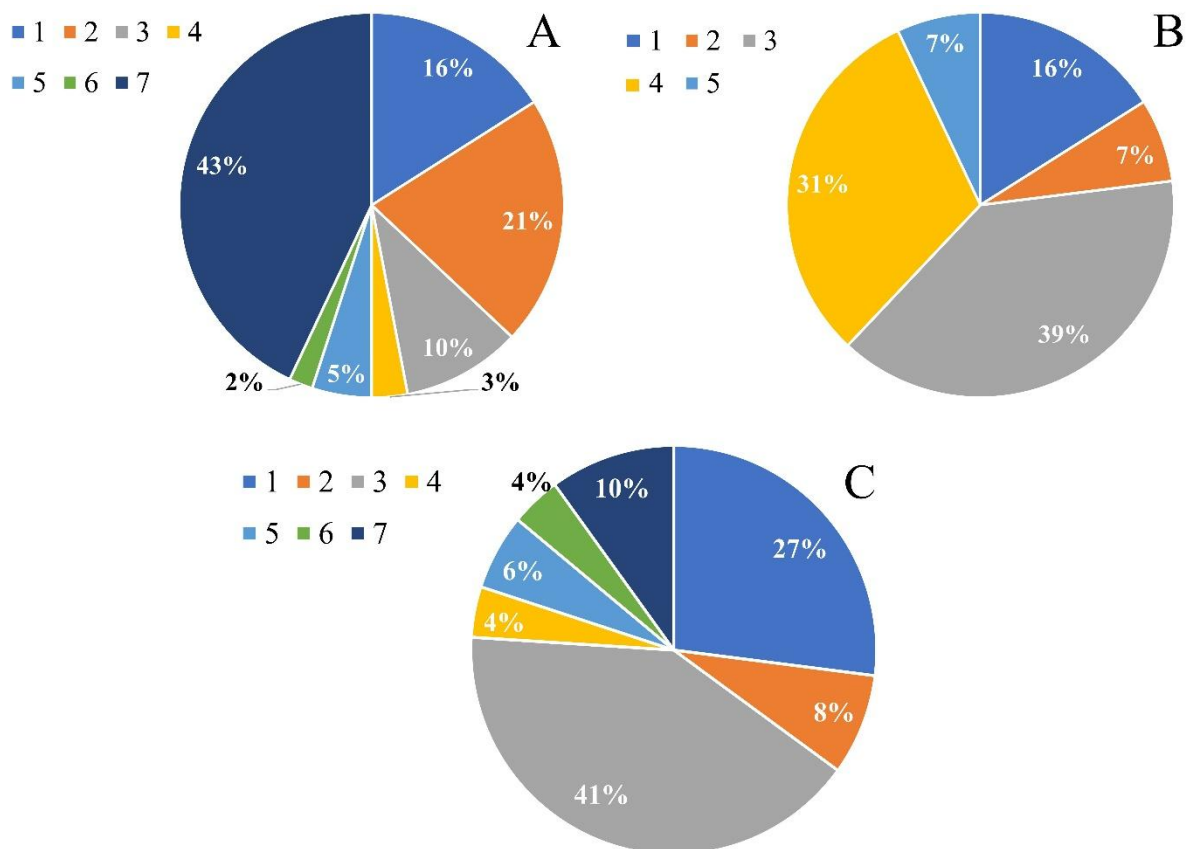


**Fig. 2.** Percentage comparison of the answers obtained by the respondents regarding: A – knowledge of the types of skin lesions observed by the respondents (1 – blackheads, 2 – papules, 3 – purulent conditions, 4 – seborrhea, 5 – exfoliation of the epidermis, 6 – scars after acne lesions, 7 – discoloration, 8 – I cannot define); B – places of acne skin lesions (1 – whole face, 2 – forehead, nose and beard, 3 – neck and chin, 4 – chest, 5 – back, 6 – nape); C – sources of knowledge about acne (1 – youth magazines, 2 – youth guides, 3 – Internet, 4 – television, 5 – friends, 6 – other); D – knowledge of agents used to treat acne (1 – externally applied drugs, 2 – antibiotics, 3 – hormonal drugs, 4 – treatments in a beauty salon, 5 – care with cosmetics available in drugstores, 6 – diet)

Among the surveyed students, 17 stated that they had an embarrassing problem with their complexion, while as many as 22 answered that skin problems were not an embarrassing problem for them. For 7 people this phenomenon is indifferent. Some students use concealer and cosmetic powder to conceal skin lesions (31% of responses), while a significant number do not use any methods of concealing skin lesions (as many as 43% of responses) (Fig. 3A). 13 respondents believe that they are unattractive, because to skin lesions on the face. For 19

respondents, this is not a problem, and five have no opinion on it. Acne lesions do not affect the frequency of social gatherings in 21 respondents who cover up these lesions and go to meetings. 24 respondents do not notice a problem with skin problems and go to a meeting without covering up, and for only one student it is a reason to give up a social meeting. When talking about complexion problems, most respondents feel embarrassed, but continue talking about it (39% of responses). A significant proportion also react with laughter and jokes about their appearance (31%) (Fig. 3B).

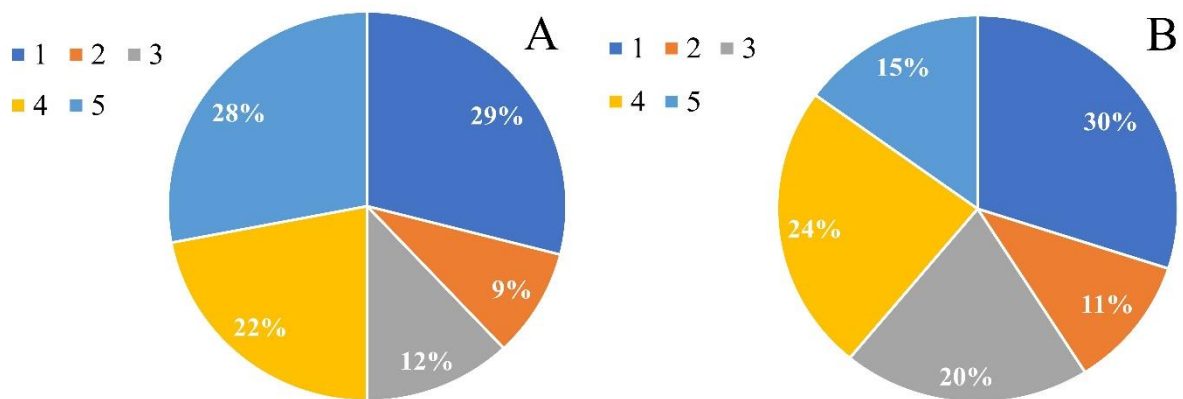
In relation to their own complexion-related problems, the majority of respondents do not believe that they can please others (27% of responses) and feel afraid of other people assessing their appearance (41% of responses) (Table 1 – Appendix 3, Fig. 3C ). 26 respondents believe that physical attractiveness is not the basis for professional or social success, and 20 respondents believe on the contrary. 27 respondents believe that skin lesions on the face do not constitute a problem at school or at work; for 6 respondents, it affects their studies and work. 13 students have no opinion on this topic.



**Fig. 3.** Percentage comparison of answers obtained by respondents regarding: A – methods of concealing acne skin lesions (1 – concealer, 2 – cosmetic powder, 3 – long bangs, 4 – hood on the head, 5 – tilted head, 6 – others, 7 – does not use any methods); B – reaction to a direct conversation about skin problems (1 – avoiding

the conversation, 2 – nervousness and quickly ending the conversation, 3 – embarrassment and continuing the conversation, 4 – laughter and jokes about one’s own appearance, 5 – resent being interfered in their affairs); C – attitude towards one’s own skin-related problems (1 – do not believe that I can be attractive to others, 2 – hypersensitivity about appearance, 3 – fear of other people’s assessment of appearance, 4 – fear of professional help due to the possibility of confirmation seriousness of skin problems, 5 – lack of acceptance of one’s appearance without a vision of how to remedy it, 6 – lack of faith in the possibility of cure, 7 – others)

Almost 95% of respondents know that acne occurs not only in adolescents, but also in adults; only 5% of respondents did not know about acne in adults. Among the respondents, most people perceive skin changes in adults, consisting of redness on the face, and in the form of pustules (57% of responses in total) (Fig. 4A; Table 1 – Appendix 3).

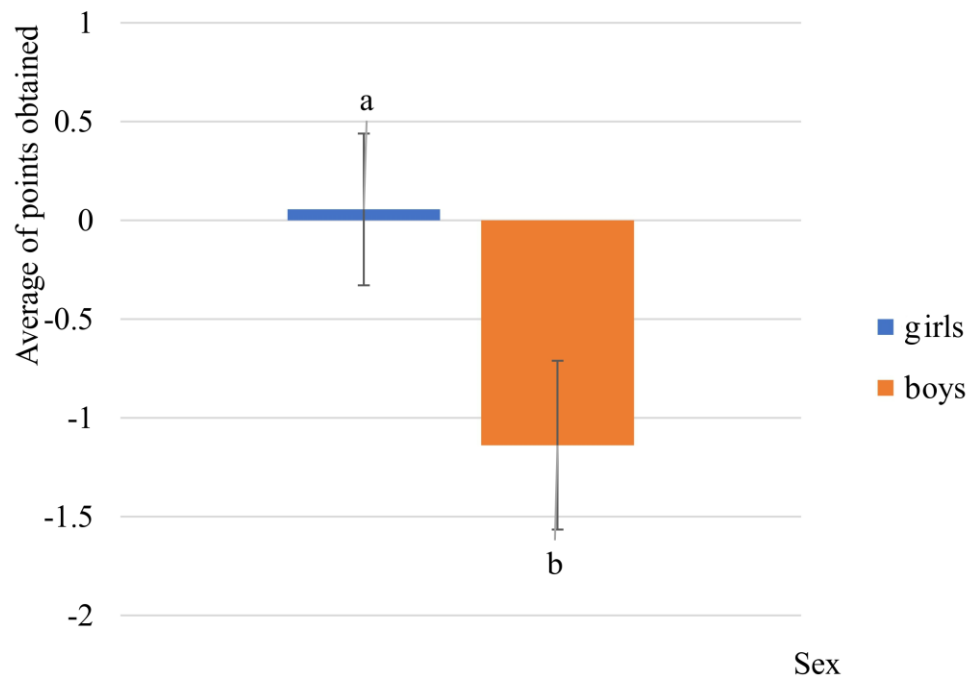


**Fig. 4.** Percentage comparison of answers obtained by respondents regarding: A – knowledge about the perception of skin lesions in adults (1 – facial redness, 2 – erythema, 3 – presence of papules, 4 – presence of pustules, 5 – I did not notice); B – people’s reactions adults on their skin problems (1 – avoiding the conversation, 2 – nervousness and interrupting the conversation, 3 – nervousness and continuing the conversation, 4 – laughter and jokes about one’s appearance, 5 – resent being interfered in their affairs)

However, skin changes in adults were observed by only 12 respondents, and 7 of them were able to indicate the symptoms in the form of pimples, papules, and redness on the face. 33 respondents did not observe any skin changes in adults.

The most frequently mentioned forms of concealing visible skin lesions on the face in adults by respondents are also cosmetic powder and concealer. 13 respondents did not notice any methods of concealing acne in adults. According to respondents, most adults avoid talking about their own skin problems (30% of responses), or they show nervousness when talking about it (20% of responses); some also react with laughter and jokes about their appearance (24% of responses) (Table 1 – Appendix 3, Fig. 4B).

Comparison of the average score obtained from three questions regarding self-perception in the context of skin problems and functioning in the environment (questions 11, 13, 18 - Appendix 2) showed that, in general, boys pay less attention to this type of problems. The results obtained here are statistically significant in relation to the group of girls (Fig. 5).



**Fig. 5.** Comparison of the average score from three questions regarding self-perception in the context of skin problems and functioning in the environment (questions 11, 13, 18) in groups of girls (n = 18) and boys (n = 29); mean values  $\pm$  SD with different letters (a-b) are statistically different according to Duncan's test, with  $p \leq 0.05$

## Discussion

*Acne vulgaris* is one of the most common dermatological diseases and ailments of adolescence. According to Biegalska and Żaba (2004) and Wolska (2005), this disease affects approximately 80% of the population, and according to Adamski and Kaszuba (2008) even 100% of the population. In descriptions by various authors, the appearance of acne is noticeable between the ages of 11 and 40. In this study, the respondents noticed the appearance of disturbing changes on their skin between the ages of 12 and 14; this is within the range given above (Table 1 – Appendix 3). The bibliography states that mild lesions such as comedonal, papular and papulopustular acne cover approximately 85% of the population, and severe forms (with complications in the form of scars and discoloration) cover the remaining 15% (Kaszuba et al., 2008). The acne lesions most frequently mentioned by the surveyed students were blackheads, epidermis exfoliation and discoloration. A much smaller



proportion of respondents notice skin changes in the form of papules, purulent conditions, seborrhea and acne scars (Fig. 2A).

The surveyed boys and girls get both advice and knowledge about skin problems from the Internet, television, and then from youth guides and magazines; few turn to their parents for advice and help (Fig. 2C). As the survey showed, knowledge about how to deal with the problem of acne varies among the surveyed students and largely depends on the source from which it comes. It should certainly be stated that there is no appropriate and sufficient education at school and young people are forced to use the most easily available, and not always valuable, materials, i.e. the media and youth press. This is also confirmed by previous research by Krajewska et al. (2003). Also in the opinion of Pawin et al. (2009), the sources of knowledge and advice about skin problems are mainly the mass media, followed by family doctors (usually downplaying the problem), friends or relatives.

The results of this study show that for both girls and boys, *acne vulgaris* is an embarrassing problem. Therefore, they try to deal with this problem using the methods available to them. Since the survey was conducted in a rural environment, it is easy to see that most students do not seek professional advice, but cover up skin lesions on their own, using cosmetic products most easily available in drugstores (Fig. 2D, 3A). This may be the result of various environmental factors, e.g. family wealth, simple access to beauty salons or specialised dermatology clinics.

Taking into account the methods of treating *acne vulgaris*, most students used external pharmacological treatment; however, few used oral pharmacological treatment – antibiotics, medicinal cosmetics from drugstores and an appropriate diet (Table 1 – Appendix 3). Currently, in the professional treatment of this type of diseases, due to the social aspect of the disease, it is postulated to include additional therapeutic factors in addition to traditional pharmacological treatment. Family can be considered such a factor because it significantly affects the mental state of a young person. A child should feel confident and feel that he or she is an important link in the family. The family should assure him that, despite cosmetic defects, he is still interpersonally attractive. This type of action allows the patient to find his way in a not always friendly external environment (Czelej, Tuszyńska-Bogucka, 2004; Polak et al., 2020).

Most respondents feel embarrassed when talking about skin problems. Some respondents do not believe that they can please others (27% of responses) and are afraid of other people judging their appearance (41% of responses). More than half of respondents believe that physical attractiveness is the basis for professional or social success. The obtained

results are comparable to the results of the research by Wilczyńska and Lewandowski (2012). Currently, this kind of views are extremely popular among rural and urban children, which is especially promoted by youth magazines and Internet portals. Among the surveyed group of boys, skin problems do not have such a negative impact on their self-acceptance and perception by the environment. Girls are more sensitive to these factors (Fig. 5).

Of those surveyed, 95% know that acne also occurs in adults. It indicates skin changes on the face, consisting of redness, erythema and the presence of pustules (Fig. 4A). According to respondents, most adults avoid talking about their own skin problems, are nervous but continue the conversation, while some react with laughter and jokes about their appearance (Fig. 4B). In hypersensitive people, a cosmetic defects are the cause of frequent absences from work, which on a larger scale exposes both the employer and the patient to serious economic consequences. Patients with low self-esteem often exaggerate the symptoms of their illness, which has serious consequences. Also in recent years, many studies have appeared indicating the existence of a relationship between the condition of the skin and the level of stress experienced by patients. On the one hand, the presence of lesions and the need for their constant treatment is a source of severe stress for many patients. On the other hand, stress itself is a very important factor that exacerbates the course of many dermatological diseases, such as *acne vulgaris* and *acne rosacea* (Devrimci-Ozguven et al., 2000; El-Hamd et al., 2017).

Chronic dermatological diseases adversely affect many aspects of the patient's life (Gupta et al., 2016). There are many reasons, but one of the most important is the negative reaction of the environment, which often results from lack of knowledge about the disease and unjustified fear of infection. This causes a large group of dermatology patients to have a strong sense of stigmatisation. This has a negative impact on learning among children and professional work among adults (Żelazny et al., 2004; Tyc-Zdrojewska et al., 2011; El-Hamd et al., 2017). The feeling of stress that accompanies patients with dermatological diseases, the need for long-term, often troublesome treatment and the frequent lack of understanding from those around them result in the development of various mental disorders, most often of a depressive and anxiety nature (Gupta et al., 2016; Polak et al., 2020). Therefore, reducing stress levels, improving mental condition, and, when necessary, implementing appropriate psychiatric treatment, may increase the effectiveness of dermatological treatment of such common diseases as *acne vulgaris* or *rosacea* (Tyc-Zdrojewska et al., 2011). Appropriate health education is equally important in this respect, conducted at school by specialists, not youth media.

## Conclusions

The aim of the study was to self-assess the knowledge of young people about the types of acne and ways of dealing with this problem. This study found a relatively low level of knowledge among the respondents regarding complexion type. However, most of the students were able to correctly indicate and define skin lesions. In the study group, the most common places of acne lesions were: forehead, nose and beard, less frequently the back and chest [1]; Research has shown that there is no appropriate and sufficient education on this subject at school, which is why young people are forced to use the most accessible and not always valuable sources, i.e. the media and the press. Knowledge among young people about how to deal with the problem of acne varies and largely depends on the quality of the source of information on this topic [2]; The survey proved that skin lesions on the face, both for girls and boys, are an embarrassing problem and therefore they try to cover up these imperfections using known methods, usually the most accessible ones [3]; When talking about skin problems, most respondents feel embarrassed, some react with laughter and jokes about their appearance. In relation to their own complexion problems, most of the respondents do not believe that they can please others and they are afraid of other people judging their appearance, but this is not so important in the group of surveyed boys [4]; Most students are aware that acne can affect adults and, like some teenagers, it can make them feel embarrassed and nervous when talking about it [5].

## Conflict of interest

The author declare no conflict of interest related to this article.

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**Fig. 1.** Selected types of acne: A – comedonica (*acne comedonica*) (Source: <https://www.heydoc.pl/tradzik-zaskornikowy-przyczyny-leczenie-jak-pozbyc-sie-zaskornikow/>), B – papular (*acne papulosa*) (Source: <https://wizaz.pl/pielęgnacja/tradzik-grudkowy-sprawdz-jak-go-rozpoznać-i-leczyć-364840-r1/>), C – ropowiczy (*acne phlegmonosa*) (Source: <https://e-recepta.net/blog/tradzik-ropowiczy-what-are-its-causes-and-treatment-methods/>), D – infantile (*acne infantilis*) (Source: Public domain), E – rosacea (*acne rosacea*), F – rosacea in *rhinophyma* stage (Source: Sand et al., 2010)

*Acne vulgaris* and *rosacea* as a cosmetic and psychological problem  
– anonymous survey (template)

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Sex: .....

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1. DO YOU KNOW WHAT COMPLEXION YOU HAVE?  
A) Yes  
B) No

---

2. IF YES, WRITE WHICH KIND? .....

---

3. HAVE YOU NOTICED ANY DISTURBING CHANGES IN YOUR SKIN??  
A) Yes  
B) No

---

4. THE AGE AT WHEN YOU NOTICED SKIN CHANGES IS:  
A) 10–11 years of age  
B) 12–13 years of age  
C) 14–15 years of age  
D) I can't determine

---

5. CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE CHANGES YOU NOTICED AS (you can select more than one answer):  
A) comedones  
B) papular eruptions  
C) purulent eruptions  
D) seborrhea  
E) peeling of the epidermis  
F) scars after acne lesions  
G) discoloration  
H) I can't determine

---

6. THE ABOVE CHANGES ARE LOCATED AT (you can select more than one answer):  
A) the whole face  
B) forehead, nose and beard  
C) neck and chin  
D) chest  
E) back  
F) nape

---

7. HAVE YOU ASKED FOR ADVICE FROM...? (you can select more than one answer):  
A) cosmetologist's  
B) doctor's  
C) parent's  
D) other person's  
E) I didn't address anyone

---

8. IF YOU HAVE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ACNE, WRITE WHERE YOU GET IT FROM (you can select more than one answer):  
A) youth magazines  
B) guides for young people  
C) Internet  
D) television  
E) friends/colleagues  
F) other sources (what?) .....

---

9. WHICH FORM OF ACNE TREATMENT HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT? (you can select more than one answer):  
A) externally applied drugs  
B) oral antibiotics  
C) hormonal drugs  
D) treatments in a beauty salon



- E) care with cosmetics available in the drugstore
- F) diet

- 
10. HAVE YOU USED SOME OF THE METHODS LISTED IN QUESTION NO. 9?
- A) No
  - B) Yes (which one? – and how long, how often?).....
- 
11. ARE THE TROUBLES YOU HAVE WITH COMPLEXION AN EMBARRASSING PROBLEM FOR YOU?
- A) Yes
  - B) No
  - C) It isn't important to me
- 
12. DO YOU USE ANY METHODS TO COVER OR HIDE CHANGES ON YOUR SKIN? (you can select more than one answer):
- A) cosmetic concealer
  - B) cosmetic powder
  - C) long bangs
  - D) hood on the head
  - E) head tilted
  - F) other ways (what?).....
  - G) I don't use any methods
- 
13. DUE TO COMPLEXION PROBLEMS, DO YOU THINK YOU ARE UNATTRACTIVE?
- A) Yes
  - B) No
  - C) I have no opinion
- 
14. IF ACNE CHANGES APPEAR ON YOUR FACIAL SKIN BEFORE YOU ARE PLANNED TO GO TO A SOCIAL MEETING, THEN:
- A) you are trying to cover them up using methods known to you
  - B) you cancel the meeting and provide another explanation
  - C) you don't see a problem with it and go to the meeting
- 
15. HOW DO YOU REACT WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR SKIN PROBLEMS?
- A) you avoid conversation
  - B) you are nervous and interrupt the conversation
  - C) you are embarrassed, but you continue the conversation
  - D) you laugh and even joke about your appearance
  - E) you resent him for interfering in your problems
- 
16. WHAT IS YOUR ATTITUDE TO COMPLEXION PROBLEMS?
- A) you don't believe you can be attractive to others
  - B) you are oversensitive about your appearance
  - C) you are afraid that your appearance is judged by other people
  - D) you are afraid of professional help because it may confirm the seriousness of your problem
  - E) you don't accept your appearance, but you don't know how to deal with it
  - F) you do not believe that the lesions can be cured
  - G) other observations .....
- 
17. DO YOU THINK THAT PHYSICAL ATTRACTIVENESS IS THE BASIS OF PROFESSIONAL OR SOCIAL SUCCESS?
- A) No
  - B) Yes (Why?).....
- 
18. DO YOU THINK THAT SKIN CHANGES ON THE FACE ARE A PROBLEM IN STUDY AND WORK?
- A) Yes

- B) No
- C) I have no opinion

---

19. DID YOU KNOW THAT ACNE OCCURS NOT ONLY IN YOUNG PEOPLE, BUT ALSO IN ADULTS?

- A) Yes
- B) No

---

20. CAN YOU DESCRIBE SKIN CHANGES IN ADULTS AS (you can select more than one answer):

- A) facial redness
- B) erythema
- C) presence of lumps
- D) pustules
- E) I didn't notice

---

21. HAVE YOU OBSERVED THE ABOVE SYMPTOMS IN YOUR FAMILY OR IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT IN ADULTS?

- A) Yes (which one?).....
- B) No

---

22. HAVE YOU NOTICED IN ADULTS WHO HAVE VISIBLE COMPLEXION CHANGES, ANY METHODS OF COVERING THE CHANGES ON THE FACE?

- A) cosmetic concealer
- B) cosmetic powder
- C) long hair
- D) head tilted
- E) they do not use any methods

---

23. HOW DO ADULTS REACT WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT THEIR SKIN PROBLEMS?

- A) they avoid conversation
- B) they are upset, they interrupt the conversation
- C) they are nervous and continue the conversation
- D) they are nervous and continue the conversation
- E) they resent being interfered in their affairs

---

Thank you for filling out the survey honestly!

**Tab. 1.** Summary of the results of a survey regarding knowledge about acne vulgaris and rosacea, conducted among 47 respondents aged 13-14 (Podkarpackie Voivodeship, Southern Poland);  
X – selected answer; sex: F – female, M – Male; mc – mixed complexion, oc – oily complexion

Question No.		Respondent number																																													Sum of responses				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45		46	47		
Sex	F	X	X	X		X				X					X		X				X	X							X	X				X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	18	
	M				X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	29
1	A	X	X			X				X		X				X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X			X		26		
	B			X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X				X			X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X			X		X			X	X			X	X	21		
2		mc	mc			mc					mc					mc	mc	mc	mc		oc	mc																				mc	mc	mc	mc			mc		16	
3	A	X		X	X	X		X	X		X		X			X				X	X	X					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	27		
	B		X			X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X				X	X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	20
4	A														X		X																																2		
	B				X	X													X				X																				X	X	X		X	X		12	
	C						X			X	X		X					X		X			X						X				X	X	X	X				X	X		X				X	X		17	
	D	X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X				X		X		X		X				X	X	X			X							X							X	X			X	X	16
5	A		X													X							X	X	X																	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	13	
	B						X								X						X	X	X																				X		X					5	
	C																							X										X											X					5	
	B																							X																					X		X			4	
	E						X	X									X							X	X		X									X	X						X	X						11	
	F			X							X													X	X																				X	X			8		
	G				X		X		X										X					X	X														X	X					X	X			14		
	H	X				X			X	X	X		X	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X					X			X				X		X		18		
6	A	X				X																X				X	X								X												X		7		
	B		X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X			X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X		X	32	
	C																						X																								X	X			3
	D												X																X															X	X	X	X	X			8
	E						X					X		X		X									X											X							X	X						11	
	F						X																	X																			X					X	X	5	
7	A									X													X	X																							X		5		
	B	X	X		X								X										X															X									X		9		
	C			X		X	X	X		X	X						X	X		X				X	X		X								X											X				16	

	D					X	X													X																	6		
	E			X		X	X		X		X						X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			18		
<b>8</b>	A	X	X						X						X				X								X	X					X	X				11	
	B	X	X			X						X	X	X										X						X		X	X					11	
	C	X		X		X			X					X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	24	
	D			X	X								X												X	X							X	X				13	
	E									X					X										X	X								X	X			9	
	F									X				X														X					X					4	
<b>9</b>	A	X	X	X	X	X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	34	
	B	X	X												X			X	X	X						X	X	X	X									14	
	C	X	X			X													X	X								X	X							X		12	
	D	X	X		X	X				X			X						X	X					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			20	
	E	X	X			X	X	X							X	X	X								X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X			23
	F	X	X				X				X				X	X	X					X	X				X	X				X	X					14	
<b>10</b>	A		X		X		X	X	X	X				X	X	X					X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		23	
	B	X		X		X				X				X	X	X			X	X				X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		22	
<b>11</b>	A	X			X					X		X	X					X	X							X	X							X	X	X	X	17	
	B		X		X			X	X	X		X		X				X	X					X	X		X	X						X	X	X		22	
	C			X			X		X	X				X				X								X	X									X	X	7	
<b>12</b>	A		X																	X														X	X	X		9	
	B	X	X	X		X									X			X								X	X						X	X	X	X		12	
	C			X												X											X						X		X			6	
	D																																		X			2	
	E																	X																X				3	
	F																																					1	
	G				X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		25	
<b>13</b>	A				X					X				X	X											X	X						X	X	X		13		
	B		X		X				X	X		X	X	X											X	X	X		X					X	X	X		19	
	C	X		X		X	X	X			X			X	X										X	X	X	X		X				X				15	
<b>14</b>	A	X	X	X			X							X	X											X	X								X	X	X	21	
	B																																X				1		
	C				X	X		X	X					X	X											X	X	X	X							X		24	
<b>15</b>	A			X	X	X				X																								X			7		



C									X	X					X			X											X							X	9					
D	X	X		X							X			X	X			X	X															X		X					11	
E	X			X																X													X		X							7

## Trądzik pospolity i różowaty jako problem kosmetyczny oraz psychologiczny

### **Streszczenie**

Niniejsza praca przedstawia wyniki badań ankietowych przeprowadzonych wśród 47 uczniów (18 dziewcząt i 29 chłopców w wieku 13-14 lat) szkół podstawowych z województwa podkarpackiego (Południowa Polska). Celem pracy była samoocena wiedzy młodzieży na temat rodzajów trądziku i form radzenia sobie z tym problemem. Wyniki ankiety pokazały, że zarówno dla dziewcząt jak i chłopców jest to wstydlivy problem i związku z tym usiłują oni sami zatuszować zmiany skórne znanymi sobie metodami. W trakcie rozmowy o problemach z cerą większość respondentów odczuwa skrepowanie. W stosunku do własnych problemów związanych z cerą, znaczna część ankietowanych nie wierzy, że może podobać się innym oraz odczuwają strach przed oceną swojego wyglądu przez inne osoby. Bardziej wrażliwe na tego rodzaju problemy są dziewczęta. Większość ankietowanych jest świadoma, że trądzik może dotyczyć również osób dorosłych, ale nie zna bliższych szczegółów na ten temat.

**Słowa kluczowe:** trądzik, edukacja zdrowotna, problemy skórne, badania ankietowe

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