

Increased Risk of Suicide Attempt in Patients with Atopic Dermatitis: A Nationwide Population-Based Cohort Study

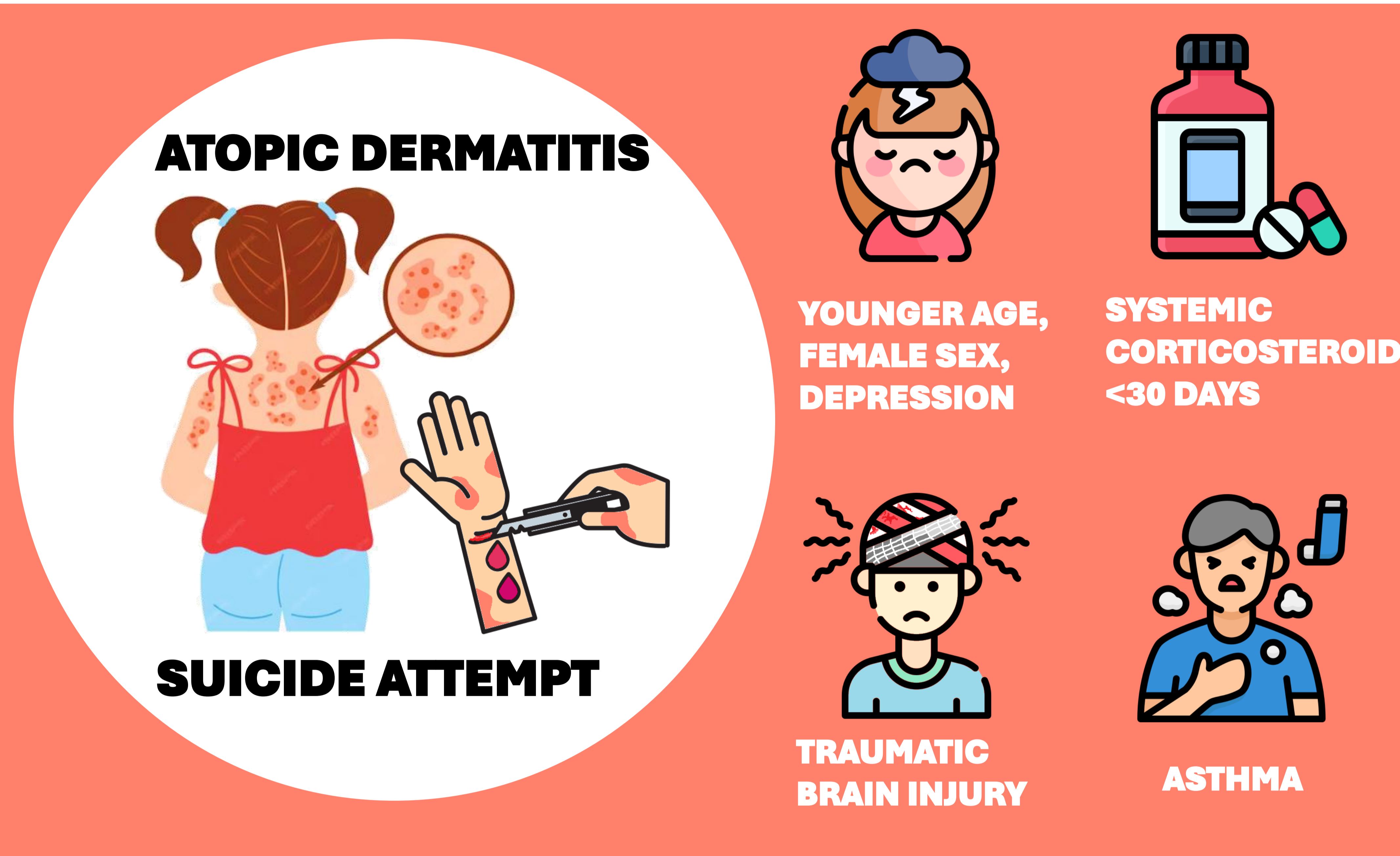
Authors: Mu-Chun Lin, M.D.^{1,†}; Sheng-Hsiang Ma, M.D.^{2,†}; Ying-Hsuan Tai, M.D.³; Ying-Xiu Dai, M.D.²; Mu-Hong Chen, M.D., Ph.D.^{4*}; Chih-Chiang Chen, M.D., Ph.D.^{2*}

¹Department of Psychiatry, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan

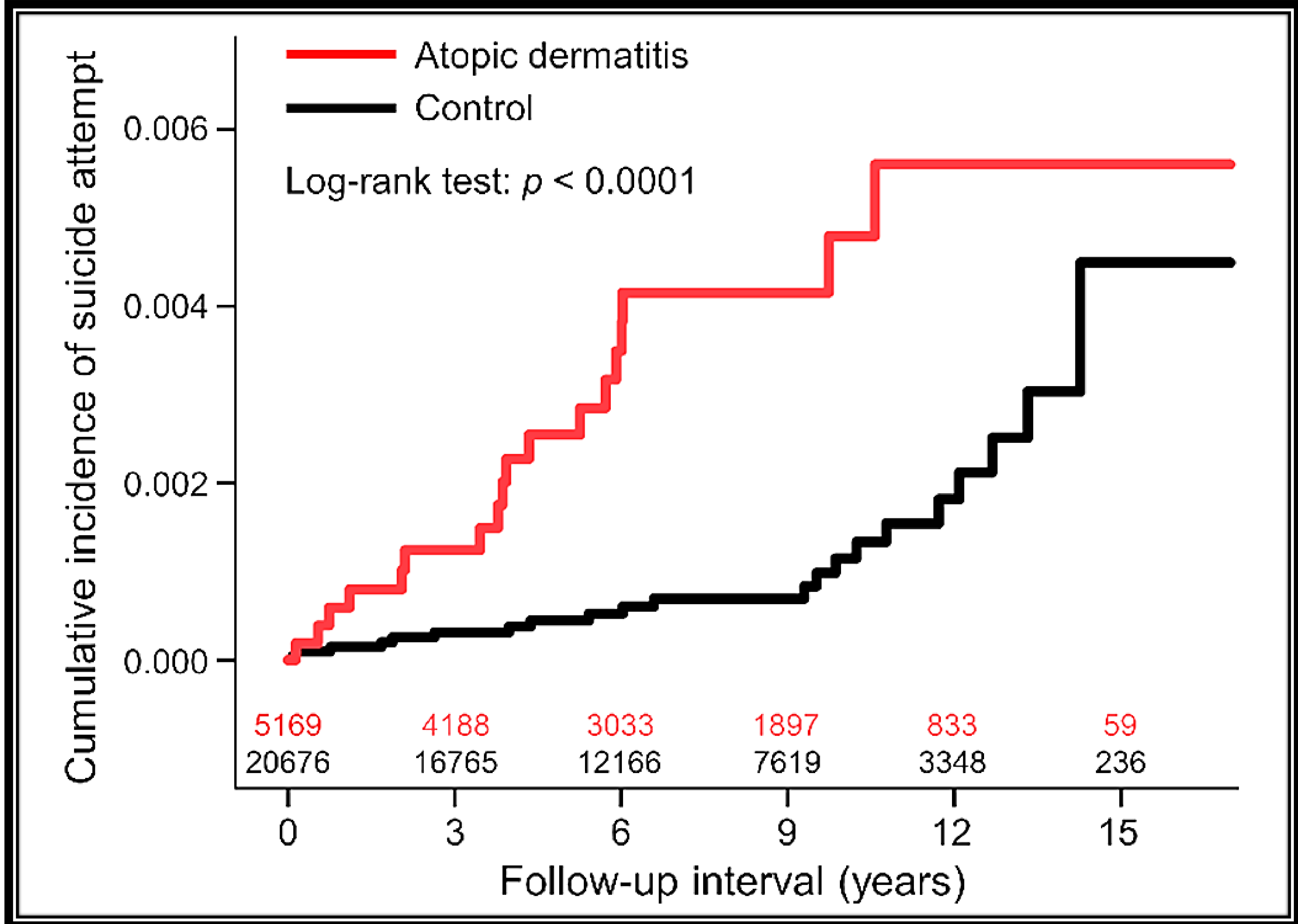
³Department of Anesthesiology, Shuang Ho Hospital, Taipei Medical University, New Taipei City, Taiwan

²Department of Dermatology, Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taipei City, Taiwan

⁴Department of Psychiatry, Taipei Veterans General Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan



Cumulative incidence of suicide attempt comparing patients with atopic dermatitis to the control group



AIM & DESIGN

- Atopic dermatitis (AD) is associated with an increased risk of mental illness. However, few studies have explored the association between AD and suicidal risk.
- Between 1997–2013, 5,169 patients with AD and 20,676 controls (1:4) from the Taiwan’s National Health Insurance Research Database.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Individuals with AD were found to have an elevated risk of suicide attempts.
- The risk of suicide remained significant in patients with AD of younger age, female sex, and those with systemic corticosteroid use for <30 days.
- Certain comorbidities increased the suicidal risk, including traumatic head injury, major depressive disorder, and asthma.

LIMITATIONS

- Bias related to race, age, and coding might have existed in this retrospective cohort study.
- The effects of treatments other than systemic steroids for AD on suicide risk were not analyzed in this study.