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## Dermatoglyphics as markers of prenatal disturbances in schizophrenia: a case-control study

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**Abstract:** Several studies have reported the importance of dermatoglyphics as markers of a prenatal disturbance in patients with schizophrenia. Due to the fact that finger- and handprints are formed by the end of the second trimester, they may provide clues to disturbances in early development. The aim of this study was to determine specific dermatoglyphical frequencies in a sample of patients with schizophrenia and normal controls. Materials and methods: Fingerprints and palm prints were obtained from 45

schizophrenic patients as well as 45 healthy controls. The dermatoglyphic patterns on the fingers (total finger ridge count [TFRC]) and palms (a-b, b-c, and c-d ridge counts; total a-b ridge count [TABRC]; total c-d ridge count [TCDRC]; and atd angle) were evaluated. Results: There was a significant decrease in both the TABRC ( $P < 0.01$  for males and  $P < 0.001$  for females) and the TCDRC ( $P < 0.05$  for males and  $P < 0.001$  for females) in the schizophrenic group compared with the control group. There was no significant difference in the TFRC in the male schizophrenic group compared with the male control group; however, there was a