

# DERMATITIS (ECZEMA)

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# TYPES OF DERMATITIS

## **A- Common types of Dermatitis:-** •

- 1- Atopic Dermatitis •
- 2- Seborrheic Dermatitis •
- 3- Contact Dermatitis •
- 4- Dyshidrosis ( pompholyx ) •
- 5- Xerotic eczema

## **Less common types of Dermatitis:-**

- 1- Discoid eczema
- 2- Stasis Dermatitis
- 3- Neurodermatitis
- 4- Autoeczematisation
- 5- Eczema herpeticum

# A- Common types of Dermatitis:-

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# 1- ATOPIC DERMATITIS (ATOPIC ECZEMA)



# ATOPIC DERMATITIS (ATOPIC ECZEMA)

## Definition •

- **Atopic dermatitis** is a genetically determined •  
eczematous eruption that is pruritic, symmetric, and  
associated with personal family history of allergic  
manifestations(atopy).

# ATOPIC DERMATITIS (ATOPIC ECZEMA)

- **Diagnosis is based on the presence of three of the following major features and three minor features.**

## **Major Features**

- Pruritus
- Personal or family history of atopy: asthma, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis
- Facial and extensor involvement in infants and children
- Flexural lichenification in adults

# ATOPIC DERMATITIS (ATOPIC ECZEMA)

## Minor Features •

- Elevated IgE •
- Eczema-perifollicular accentuation •
- Recurrent conjunctivitis •
- Ichthyosis •
- Nipple dermatitis •
- Wool intolerance •
- Cutaneous *S. aureus* infections or herpes simplex infections •
- Food intolerance •
- Hand dermatitis (nonallergic irritant) •
- Facial pallor, facial erythema •
- Cheilitis •
- White dermographism •
- Early age of onset (after 2 months of age) •

# Etiology

- Unknown. Elevated T-lymphocyte activation, defective cell immunity, and B-cell IgE overproduction may play a significant role.

## Epidermal Barrier Dysfunction

- Filaggrin gene impairment
- ↑ Skin pH
- ↓ *S. aureus* resistance
- ↑ Allergen susceptibility
- ↓ Ceramides
- ↓ Hydration

## AD Pathogenesis

### Immunologic Abnormalities

- Calcineurin-mediated Th2 cell activation
- ↑ TEWL
- ↑ IL-4, IL-13 production
- ↑ Serum IgE
- ↑ PDE-4 activation

### Aggravating Factors

- Dry skin
- Harsh soaps, detergents, wool
- Seasonal changes
- Heat
- Sweating
- Infections
- Stress
- Food allergies



# Physical Examination

- **The primary lesions are a result of scratching** caused by severe and chronic pruritus (“the itch that rashes”). The repeated scratching modifies the skin surface, producing lichenification, dry and scaly skin, and redness.
- **In children**, red scaling plaques are often confined to the cheeks and the perioral and perinasal areas
- Lesions are typically found on the neck, face, upper trunk, and bends of elbows and knees (symmetric on flexural surfaces of extremities).
- There is dryness, thickening of the involved areas, discoloration, blistering, and oozing.

# Physical Examination

- Papular lesions are frequently found in the antecubital and popliteal fossae.
- Constant scratching may result in areas of hypopigmentation or hyperpigmentation (more common in dark-skinned patients).
- **In adults**, redness and scaling in the dorsal aspect of the hands or around the fingers is the most common manifestation of atopic dermatitis; oozing and crusting may be present.
- **Secondary skin infections** may be present (*S. aureus*, dermatophytosis, herpes simplex).

# Diagnostic Tests

- Laboratory tests are generally not helpful. •
- Elevated IgE levels are found in 80% to 90% of patients with atopic dermatitis. •
- Blood eosinophilia correlates with disease severity. •

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Scabies •
- Psoriasis •
- Dermatitis herpetiform •
- Contact dermatitis •
- Photosensitivity •
- Seborrheic dermatitis •
- Candidiasis •
- Lichen simplex chronicus •

# TREATMENT

## First Line •

- Avoidance of triggering factors: •
- Sudden temperature changes, sweating, low humidity in the winter •
- Contact with irritating substance (e.g., wool, cosmetics, some soaps and detergents, tobacco) •
- Stressful situations •
- Allergens and dust •
- Excessive hand washing •
- Clip nails to decrease abrasion of skin. •
- Emollients can be used to prevent dryness. Severely affected skin can be optimally hydrated by occlusion in addition to application of emollients. •
- Low-to medium-potency topical steroids BID to affected areas. •
- Oral antihistamines (nonsedating qAM, sedating qHS). •

# TREATMENT

## Second Line •

- Crisaborole 2% ointment (eucrisa) is a • phosphodiesterase type-4 (PDE<sub>4</sub>) inhibitor effective topical treatment for mild to moderate atopic dermatitis in patients  $\geq 2$  years old. Cost is a major limiting factor. It is administered by subcutaneous injection.
- Topical immunomodulators pimecrolimus and • tacrolimus are nonsteroid antiinflammatories that may be helpful in some patients. •

# TREATMENT

## Third Line •

- Phototherapy (Narrowband UVB) •
- Systemic immunomodulators and antiinflammatories •  
(methotrexate, cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil)
- **Systemic biologic therapy** •
- Dupilumab (dupixent) is a human monoclonal antibody •  
FDA-approved for treatment of adults with moderate to  
severe atopic dermatitis that has not responded to  
topical therapies. •

# 2- SEBORRHEIC DERMATITIS

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# SEBORRHEIC DERMATITIS



# SEBORRHEIC DERMATITIS

## **Definition** •

- Seborrheic dermatitis (SD) is a common, •  
inflammatory skin condition characterized  
by a mild to severe rash with scaling and erythema that •  
occurs in areas of the skin rich in sebaceous glands.

# Etiology

- Fungal infections of the *Malassezia* species have been associated with SD, and the skin changes are thought to result from an inflammatory response to *Malassezia* yeast. Altered immune function may play a role. Patients with SD may show upregulation of interferon (IFN)- $\alpha$ , expressed interleukin-6 (IL-6), expressed IL-1 $\beta$ , and IL-4.

# Clinical Manifestation(s)

- Cradle cap is the earliest manifestation of SD. It is due to maternal hormones that result in increased lipid production, leading to overgrowth of *Malassezia* species. •
- **SD in both newborns and postpubertal adults predominantly affects areas in which sebaceous glands are most numerous (scalp, forehead, eyebrows, eyelids, ears, cheeks, and presternal and interscapular areas).** •
- The lesions are often easily confused with psoriasis, especially in the scalp. •
- Dandruff is the lay term applied to chronic low-grade SD. •

## **Physical Examination •**

- The lesions are sharply marginated, dull red or yellowish, and covered with a greasy scale. •

## **Diagnostic Tests •**

- HIV •
- Fungal culture of skin scraping to rule out tinea capitis •

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Psoriasis •
- Tinea capitis •
- Contact dermatitis •
- Atopic dermatitis •
- Rosacea •
- Erythrasma •
- Xerotic eczema •
- Candidiasis •

# TREATMENT

## First Line •

- General recommendations: wash skin regularly, • soften and remove scales, and apply moisturizing emollients after washing. Scale removal can be accomplished through the application of mineral or olive oil and removed with a comb or brush after 1 hour.
- **Topical steroids:** can be in the form of shampoos, • creams, or ointments. These can be used alone or in more severe SD **with antifungals.**

# TREATMENT

## Second Line •

- Antifungals (e.g., Nizoral, selenium sulfide, ketoconazole [the most evidence for effectiveness among antifungals], ciclopirox, fluconazole). Reserve oral antifungal therapy for patients with widespread SD or SD that is refractory to topical therapy. •

Itraconazole 200 mg/day for 7 days is a sample oral regimen. •



# TREATMENT

## Third Line •

- Calcineurin inhibitors (e.g., tacrolimus ointment, pimecrolimus cream): good when face and ears are affected. •
- Keratolytics (e.g., tar, salicylic acid, zinc pyrithione). •

# 3- CONTACT DERMATITIS (CONTACT ECZEMA)

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# CONTACT DERMATITIS (CONTACT ECZEMA)



# CONTACT DERMATITIS (CONTACT ECZEMA)

## Definition •

- Contact dermatitis is an acute or chronic skin inflammation or dermatitis resulting from exposure to substances in the environment. It can be subdivided into “**irritant**” **contact dermatitis** (nonimmunologic physical and chemical alteration of the epidermis) and “**allergic**” **contact dermatitis** (delayed hypersensitivity reaction). •

# Etiology

- **Irritant contact dermatitis:** cement (construction workers), rubber, ragweed, malathion (farmers), orange and lemon peels (chefs, bartenders), hair tints, shampoos (beauticians), soaps, rubber gloves (medical, surgical personnel), depilatories .
- **Allergic contact dermatitis:** poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, belt buckles , other nickel (jewelry), oils, balsam of Peru (hand and face dermatitis), neomycin , formaldehyde (cosmetics), acrylic in adhesive tape, rubber(shoe dermatitis)

## **Clinical Manifestation(s)**

- Mild exposure may result in dryness, erythema, and fissuring of the affected area (e.g., hand involvement in irritant dermatitis caused by exposure to soap; genital area involvement in irritant dermatitis caused by prolonged exposure to wet diapers).
- Poison ivy dermatitis can present with vesicles and blisters; linear lesions (as a result of dragging of the resins over the surface of the skin by scratching) are a classic presentation.

## **Physical Examination**

- The pattern of lesions is asymmetric; itching, burning, and stinging may be present.
- The involved areas are erythematous, warm to touch, and swollen and may be confused with cellulitis.

# Diagnostic Tests

- **A diagnosis of contact dermatitis is made from the history and distribution of lesions and is confirmed by patch testing to the suspected allergen**
- Patch testing is useful to confirm the diagnosis of contact dermatitis; it is indicated particularly when inflammation persists despite appropriate topical therapy and avoidance of suspected causative agent. Patch testing should not be used for irritant contact dermatitis because this is a nonimmunologic-mediated inflammatory reaction.
- Dermoscopy and microscopy may be useful when suspecting scabies.
- A potassium hydroxide (KOH) preparation may be useful if suspecting tinea or Candida infection.

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Impetigo •
- Lichen simplex chronicus •
- Atopic dermatitis •
- Nummular eczema •
- Seborrheic dermatitis •
- Psoriasis •
- Scabies •
- Insect bites •
- Sunburn •
- Candidiasis •



# TREATMENT

## First Line •

- **Removal of the irritant substance** by washing the skin with plain water or mild soap within 15 minutes of exposure is helpful in patients with poison ivy, poison oak, or poison sumac dermatitis. •
- Patients with shoe allergy should change their socks at least once a day; use of aluminum chloride hexahydrate in a 20% solution QHS will also help control perspiration. •
- Use hypoallergenic surgical gloves in patients with rubber and surgical glove allergy. •
- Cold or cool water compresses for 20 to 30 minutes five to six times a day for the initial 72 hours are effective during the acute blistering stage. •
- Colloidal oatmeal (Aveeno) baths can also provide symptomatic relief. •
- **Patients with mild to moderate erythema** may respond to topical steroid ointments or creams. •
- **Oral antihistamines** will control pruritus, especially at night. Calamine lotion is also useful for pruritus; however, it can lead to excessive drying. •

# TREATMENT

## **Second Line •**

- Oral corticosteroids are generally reserved for severe, widespread dermatitis. •
- Intramuscular steroids are used for severe reactions and in patients requiring systemic corticosteroids but unable to tolerate them by mouth. •

## **Third Line •**

- Phototherapy •
- Azathioprine •
- Cyclosporine •

## 4- DYSHIDROTIC ECZEMA (POMPHOLYX)



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# DYSHIDROTIC ECZEMA (POMPHOLYX)

## Definition •

- Dyshidrotic eczema is a recurrent, pruritic, vesicular eruption of the palms, soles, or digits. •



# Etiology

- **Unknown. Atopy, heat, and emotional stress may be contributing factors. An increased incidence of allergic contact dermatitis to nickel has also been reported.**

# Clinical Manifestation(s)

- Sudden eruptions of symmetric vesicles appear on the palms of hands and plantar feet. •
- **Intense pruritus often precedes and accompanies the eruptions.** •
- Because of the increased thickness of the keratin layer at these sites, the vesicles appear as small, pale papules before rupturing. •
- With the passage of time, the affected parts may show scaling and cracking. •
- **Slow resolution of vesicles occurs over 2- to 3-week period.** •

# Physical Examination

- **Fluid-filled vesicles 2 to 5 mm in diameter can be seen on the palms, soles, and digits .**
- **Rings of scale, peeling, and brown spots may all be present from previous vesiculation.**

# Diagnostic Tests

- Specific investigations include:- •
  - 1- **patch testing for contact allergens** •
  - 2- **potassium hydroxide preparation** •
  - 3- **bacterial culture.** •



# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Contact dermatitis •
- Pustular psoriasis •
- Inflammatory tinea •
- Bullous pemphigoid •
- Id reaction •

# TREATMENT

## **First Line •**

- Cold wet dressings •
- Topical corticosteroids •
- Oral antihistamines to alleviate pruritus •

# TREATMENT

## **Second Line •**

- Oral corticosteroids •

## **Third Line •**

- Phototherapy with NBUVB or bath PUVA •
- Azathioprine •
- Methotrexate •

## 5-Xerotic eczem

**Definition:-** is dry skin that becom es so serious that •  
it turns into eczema. It w orsens in dry w inter weather,  
and limbs and trunk are most often affected. **This**  
**disorder is very common among the older** •  
**population.**

# Less common types of

## Dermatitis:-

- 1- Discoid eczema ( Nummular Eczema )
- 2- Stasis Dermatitis
- 3- Neurodermatitis
- 4- Autoeczematisation
- 5- Eczema herpeticum

# 1- NUMMULAR ECZEMA

## Definition •

- Nummular eczema, also known as discoid eczema or nummular dermatitis, is a dermatitis manifesting with pruritic, coin-shaped lesions. •



# Etiology

- Unknown. Cutaneous xerosis is often present. •



# Clinical Manifestation(s)

**There are two peak ages of onset: it affects young women (15–30 years old) and middle-aged adults of both sexes.** •

• Early lesions are seen as papules or vesicles. Lesions may be exudative and crusted. •

## **Physical Examination** •

• Patients present with single or multiple pruritic, coin-shaped, erythematous plaques with vesiculation, particularly involving the lower legs, forearms, and backs of hands. •



# Diagnostic Tests

- Usually no tests are necessary. Biopsy may be performed when diagnosis is in doubt. **Patch testing is positive in nearly 30% of patients.**

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Psoriasis •
- Atopic dermatitis •
- Contact dermatitis •
- Stasis dermatitis •
- Tinea infection •
- Scabies •

# TREATMENT

## **First Line** •

- Topical corticosteroids •

## **Second Line** •

- Topical steroid-antiseptic combination •
- Topical steroid-antibiotic combination •

## **Third Line** •

- Systemic corticosteroid •

## 2- STASIS DERMATITIS



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# STASIS DERMATITIS

## **Definition •**

- Stasis dermatitis is an inflammatory skin disease of the lower extremities, commonly seen in patients with chronic venous insufficiency. •

# Etiology

- Stasis dermatitis is thought to occur as a direct result of any insult or injury of the lower extremity venous system leading to venous insufficiency, including: •
- Deep vein thrombosis •
- Trauma •
- Pregnancy •
- Vein stripping •
- Vein harvesting in patients requiring coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) •
- Venous insufficiency subsequently results in venous hypertension, causing skin inflammation and the aforementioned physical findings and clinical presentation. •

# Clinical Manifestation(s)

- **Stasis dermatitis occurs more commonly in the elderly.**
- It is rarely seen before the age of 50 years and is estimated to occur in up to 6% to 7% of the patients older than 50 years.
- **It occurs in woman more often than men**, perhaps related to lower-extremity venous impairment aggravated through pregnancy
- **Onset is insidious.**
- **Pruritus is present.**
- **Progressive pigment changes can occur as a result of extravasation of red blood cells and hemosiderin deposition within the cutaneous tissue.**

# Physical Examination

- Chronic edema usually described as “**brawny**” •  
**edema**, as stasis dermatitis pathologically is associated with dermal fibrosis
- Erythema •
- Scaly •
- Eczematous patches •
- Commonly located over the medial malleolus •



# Diagnostic Tests

- **The diagnosis of stasis dermatitis is primarily made by a detailed history and physical examination.**

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Contact dermatitis •
- Atopic dermatitis •
- Cellulitis •
- Tinea dermatophyte infection •
- Pretibial myxedema •
- Nummular eczema •
- Lichen simplex chronicus •
- Xerosis •
- Asteatotic eczema •
- Deep vein thrombosis •

# TREATMENT

## First Line •

- Elevate the leg above heart level for 30 minutes three to four times a day (avoid in arterial occlusive diseases). •
- Use a compression stocking with a gradient of at least 30 to 40 mm Hg. In obese patients, an intermittent pneumatic compression pump is recommended. •
- For weeping skin lesions, wet to dry dressing changes are helpful. •
- The mainstay of treatment of stasis dermatitis is to control leg edema and prevent venous stasis ulcers from developing. •
- In patients with acute stasis dermatitis, a compression (Unna) boot can be applied. •

# TREATMENT

- **Topical corticosteroid creams or ointments** (e.g., **triamcinolone 0.1% BID**) are used often to help reduce inflammation and itching.
- **Secondary infections** should be treated with appropriate antibiotics. Most secondary infections are the result of *Staphylococcus* or *Streptococcus* organisms.
- **Diuretics** may be helpful in controlling edema.
- **Aspirin (300–325 mg)** promotes healing of chronic venous ulcers.

## **Second Line**

- Patients with chronic stasis dermatitis can be treated with topical emollients (e.g., white petrolatum, lanolin, Eucerin).
- Topical dressings

# TREATMENT

## **Third Line •**

- Surgical therapy: •
- Venous stripping •
- Superficial and deep perforator vein ligation •
- Endovenous stenting •

## 3- NEURODERMATITIS



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# NEURODERMATITIS

## LICHEN SIMPLEX CHRONICUS (Neurodermatitis) •

### Definition

- Lichen simplex chronicus is a neurodermatitis • manifesting with localized areas of thickened scaly skin due to prolonged and severe scratching in patients, often without an underlying dermatologic condition.

# Etiology

- **LSC** can be considered a **neurodermatitis** due to long-term, chronic rubbing and scratching more vigorously than a normal pain threshold would allow, resulting in thickened and leathery skin. •
- **Common triggers are excess dryness of skin, heat, sweat, and psychologic stress.** It can also accompany other conditions such as the fungal infections (candidiasis or tinea cruris), psoriasis, lichen sclerosus, or neoplasia. •
- **Other causes include atopic dermatitis and insect bites.** Rare cases have shown links to lithium use, hair dye containing PPD, and long-term exposure to vehicle pollution. •



# Clinical Manifestation(s)

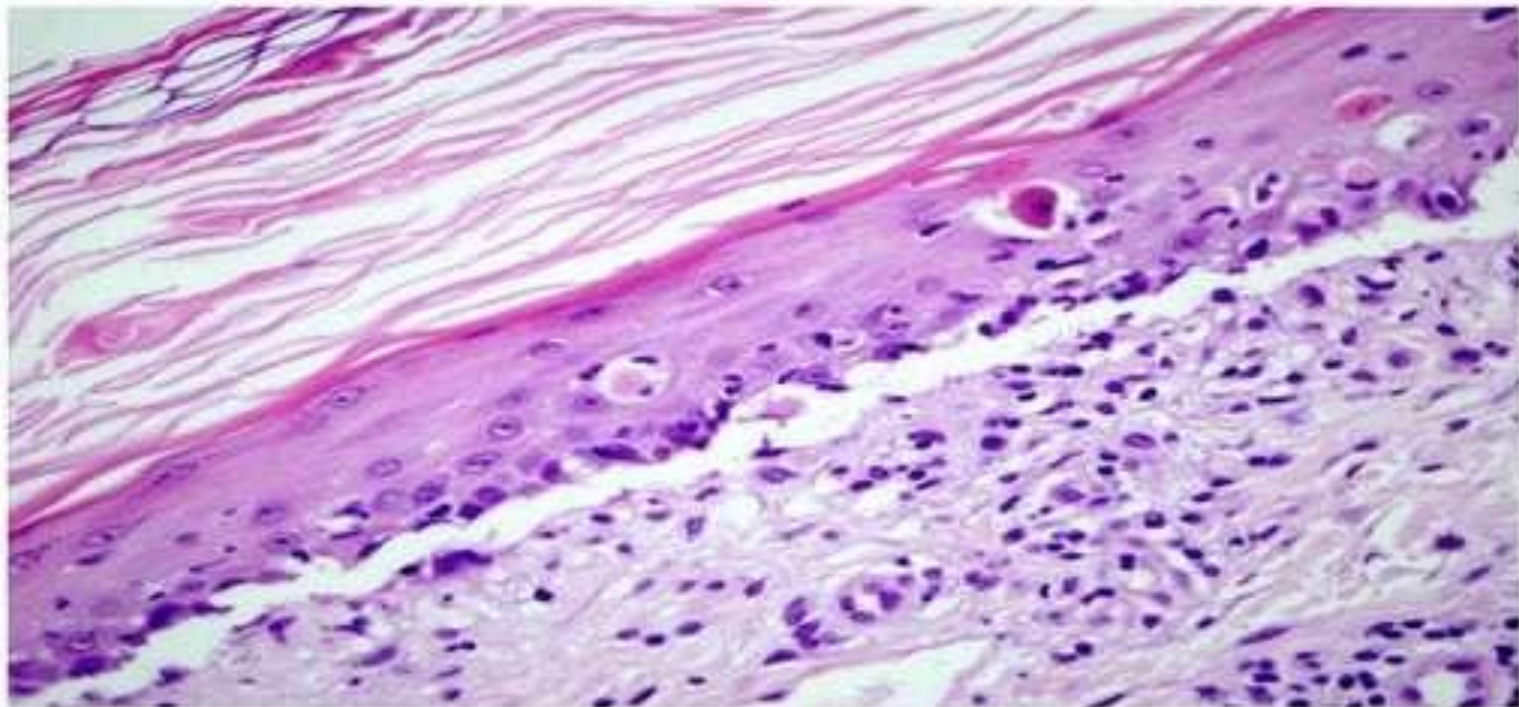
- Patients present with profound pruritus and localized scaly plaques with accentuated skin markings said to resemble tree bark .

## **Physical Examination**

- Lichenified circumscribed plaques are seen, and lesions may be hyperpigmented in patients with darker skin.
- **Commonly involved areas include hands and wrists, back and sides of neck, anterior tibias, anogenital areas, and ankles.**

# Diagnostic Tests

- Skin biopsy reveals hyperkeratosis, patchy parakeratosis, and elongation of the rete ridges.



# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Lichen planus •
- Psoriasis •
- Atopic dermatitis •
- Insect bite •
- Nummular eczema •
- Contact dermatitis •
- Stasis dermatitis •

# TREATMENT

## **First Line •**

- Patient education is essential to break the itch– scratch cycle and facilitate treatment of any underlying dermatitis. •
- **Hydroxyzine 25 mg at bedtime is effective in decreasing nocturnal itching. •**
- **Topical corticosteroids •**
- **Intralesional corticosteroids •**

## **Second Line •**

- Flurandrenolide tape •
- Doxepin cream •

## **Third Line •**

- Psychotherapy •
- Anxiolytics, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors •  
(SSRIs)

## 4- Autoeczematization

### Definition •

**Autoeczematization (id reaction •  
autosensitization)** is an eczematous reaction to an infection with parasites, fungi, bacteria or viruses. It is completely curable with the clearance of the original infection that caused it. The appearance varies depending on the cause. It always occurs some distance away from the original infection. •

# 5- ECZEMA HERPETICUM



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# ECZEMA HERPETICUM

## Definition •

- **Eczema herpeticum**, also known as **Kapsiform** • **varicelliform eruption**, is a widespread infection due to herpes simplex virus that occurs in patients with atopic dermatitis.

## Etiology •

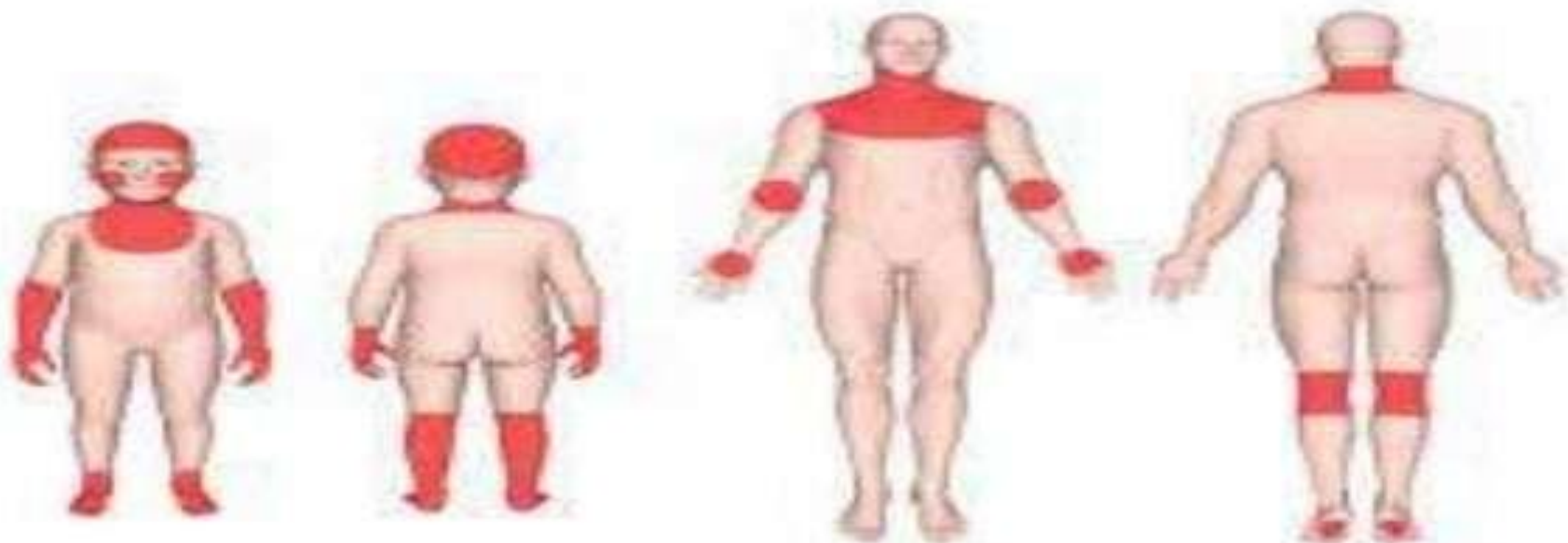
- Herpes simplex virus •



# Clinical Manifestation(s)

- This condition is most common in areas of atopic dermatitis, often the face.
- Secondary bacterial infections may occur.

Common Sites of Eczema in Children and Adults



# Clinical Manifestation(s)

## **Physical Examination •**

- Umbilicated vesicles and pustules in various stages •
- “Punched out” hemorrhagic ulcers •
- Crusts may coalesce and form eroded plaques. •
- Secondary bacterial infections may occur. •

## **Diagnostic Tests •**

- Herpesvirus cultures of fluid from intact vesicles •

# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- Impetigo •
- Contact dermatitis •
- Pemphigus •
- Dermatitis herpetiformis •
- Bullous pemphigoid •

# TREATMENT

- Systemic antiviral agents (acyclovir, valacyclovir, famciclovir) •



THAK YOU

*I HOPE TO YOU ALL THE BEST •*

*BEST REGARDS •*

