

A Review of Common Rashes

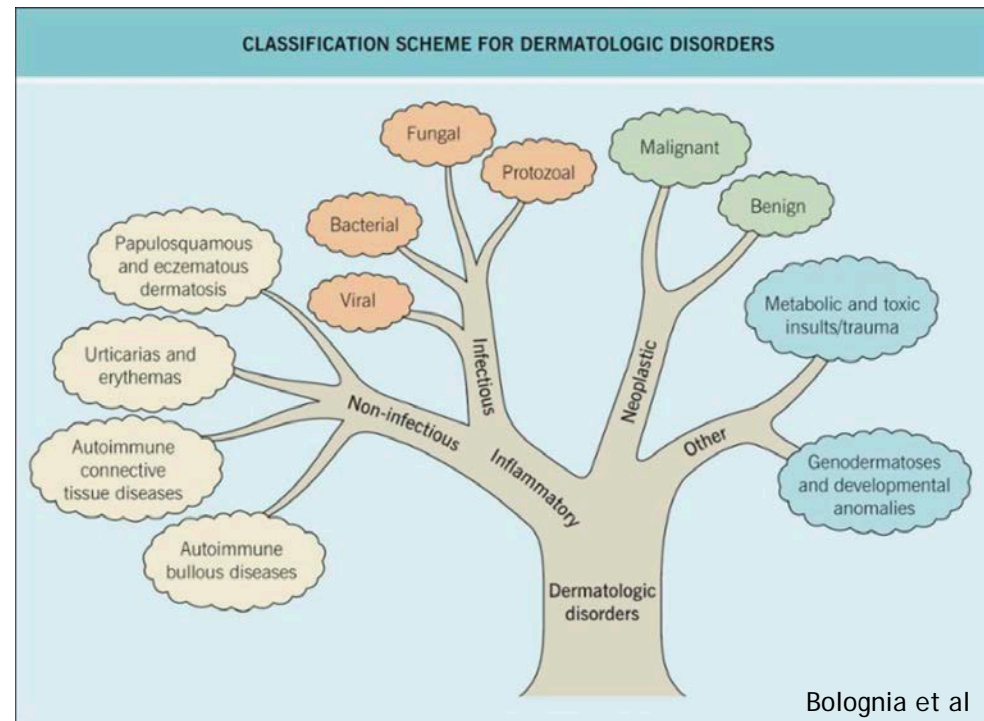
Jessica Hoy, DO, FAAD

Universal Dermatology & Vein Care

- No financial disclosures

The Rash complaint

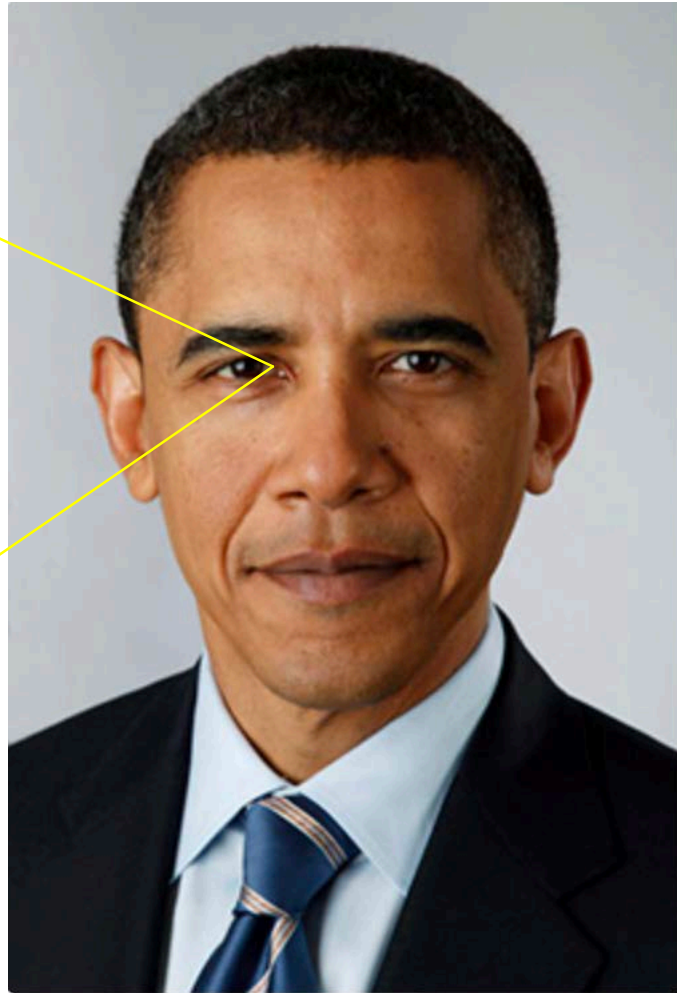
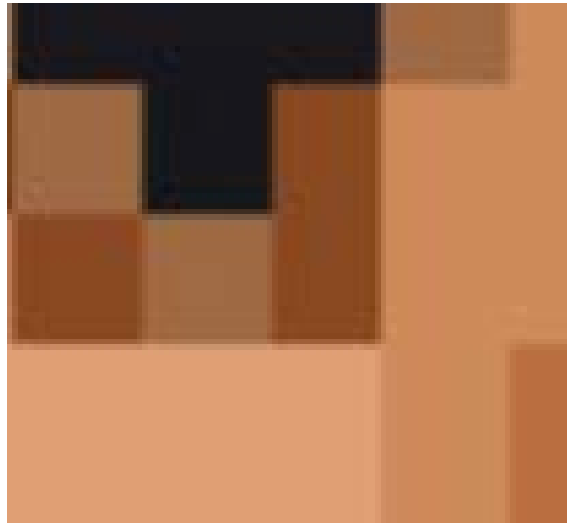
- Dermatologist's perspective
 - Rash= dermatitis= inflammatory skin disease
- Patient's perspective
 - Dermatitis
 - Acne, benign/malignant neoplasms, itch



Chief complaint: "I have a rash!"

- History taking
 - Timing: days, months, years
 - Distribution: scalp, intertriginous, acral, generalized, laterality
 - Quality: Itching, burning, pain, asymptomatic
 - Modifying: Exacerbating factors, inciting event
 - What have you tried?
- Physical exam
 - Full skin examination
 - Good lighting





Get the patient in a gown!

Case 1



Pityriasis Rosea

- Acute self-limited papulosquamous eruption
- Adolescents and young adults
- Typically persists for 6-8 weeks with spontaneous resolution
- HHV-6 & 7 proposed etiologies

- Classically begins with solitary “herald patch” → generalized symmetric distribution over trunk and proximal extremities
 - Can involve neck, inguinal folds, rarely peripheral face
- Oval patches and plaques with central fine scale
 - Long axis along cleavage clines (“Christmas tree” pattern)
- Typically asymptomatic, or mild itch





Pityriasis Rosea (PR)

- Clinical pearls
 - If persists longer than 6-8 weeks, consider biopsy or referral
 - Ddx includes secondary syphilis
 - Checks palms, soles, oral commissures
 - Consider RPR
 - PR presenting in early pregnancy (first 15 weeks of gestation)
 - Associated with birth complications
 - Consult Ob/Gyn to consider checking HHV-6 viral load and close monitoring

Case 2



Perioral dermatitis

- Commonly presents in middle aged women and children
- Grouped erythematous papulopustular eruption
- Localized perioral, perinasal and/or periocular location
- Relative sparing of immediate circumoral area
- Burning!, itch
- History of inhaled or topical corticosteroids



© 2019 VisualDX



3

Bologna et al



© 2013 VisualDX



© VisualDX/Richard P. Usatine, MD

Perioral dermatitis

- Clinical pearls
 - Think **periorificial** dermatitis
 - Discontinue topical steroids
 - May need to be weaned off to avoid flare
 - Avoid fluorinated toothpaste, mint/cinnamon flavored candy, gum and toothpaste
 - Gently cleanse face after inhaled corticosteroid use
 - No comedones
- Treatment
 - Topical clindamycin, metronidazole
 - Topical calcineurin inhibitors
 - +/- oral antibiotics

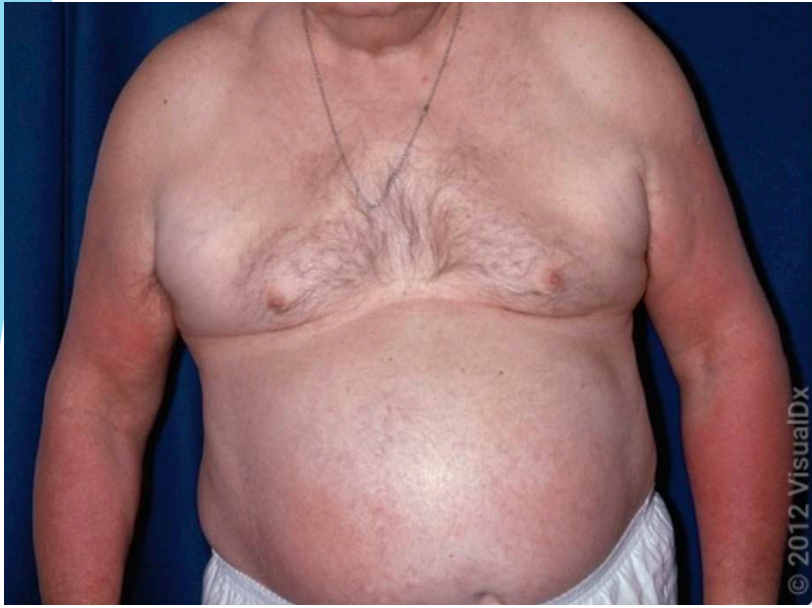
Case 3

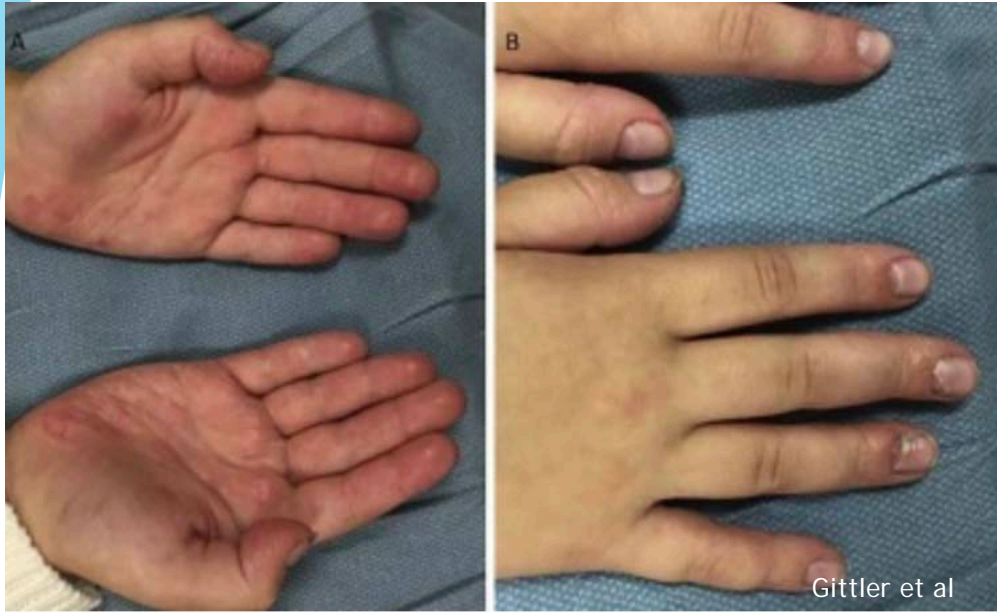




Allergic contact dermatitis

- Delayed type IV hypersensitivity skin reaction to external stimuli
- 20% of all contact dermatitis
- Most common
 - Nickel, Balsam of Peru, Fragrance
- American Contact Dermatitis Society allergen of the year 2022
 - Aluminum
- Clinical presentations
 - Eyelid
 - Hands
 - Scalp/neck
 - Trunk/axilla
 - Dorsal feet
 - Waistband







Allergic contact dermatitis

- Clinical pearls
 - Detailed history is key
 - Occupation, hobbies, timeliness, home environment, sports, personal care habits
 - Physical exam
 - Try “skin diet”
 - Refer for patch testing: TRUE test vs NACDG series

Case 4



Stasis Dermatitis

- Common component of the clinical spectrum of chronic venous insufficiency
 - Valve incompetence → edema → pro-inflammatory mediators, focal thrombosis, tissue hypoxia → fibrosis
- Eczematous, weeping ill-defined plaques with brawny hyperpigmentation +/- edema
 - Itchy >> pain
- Exacerbated by allergic or irritant contact dermatitis



Stasis Dermatitis

- Clinical pearls
 - Bilateral cellulitis exceedingly rare
 - Cross sectional study of pts admitted from the ED over 2 years
 - 259 patients, 79 (30.5%) were misdiagnosed with cellulitis, and 52 of these were admitted primarily for the treatment of cellulitis
 - 84.6% did not require hospitalization based on ultimate diagnosis, and 92.3% received unnecessary antibiotics
 - Consider acute lipodermatosclerosis
 - DDx includes tinea corporis/pedis
 - Check toenails
- Gentle skin care regimen
- Topical steroids
- Compression stockings

Case 5





Tinea Versicolor

- Presents commonly in young adults
- Climates with high humidity and temperatures
- Superficial fungal infection due to *Malassezia* yeast

- Hypo- or hyperpigmented macules coalescing into patches with fine scale involving seborrheic distribution
- Rarely pruritic





Tinea Versicolor

- Clinical pearls
 - Check for seborrheic dermatitis of scalp/face
 - Post inflammatory changes may last weeks-months
 - Maintenance therapy may be needed to prevent flares
 - Atrophic variant
- Topical antifungals
- Pulse oral antifungals
 - Oral ketoconazole now carries black box warning



Summary

- History and physical exam are key
- Common things are common
 - Reassess, biopsy or refer if not classically responding

References

- BOLOGNIA, J., JORIZZO, J. L., & SCHAFFER, J. V. (2012). *Dermatology*. [Philadelphia], Elsevier Saunders.
- Gittler JK, Garzon MC, Lauren CT. "Slime" May Not be so Benign: A Cause of Hand Dermatitis. *J Pediatr*. 2018 Sep;200:288.
- Raison-Peyron N, Bergendorff O, Bourrain JL, Bruze M. Acetophenone azine: a new allergen responsible for severe contact dermatitis from shin pads. *Contact Dermatitis*. 2016 Aug;75(2):106-10.
- Weng QY, Raff AB, Cohen JM, et al. Costs and Consequences Associated With Misdiagnosed Lower Extremity Cellulitis. *JAMA Dermatol*. 2017;153(2):141-146.

Thank you!



jessicavhoy@gmail.com