



Case Histories in Dermatology

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Stepped approach to management

Mild atopic eczema	Moderate atopic eczema	Severe atopic eczema
Emollients	Emollients	Emollients
Mild-potency topical corticosteroids	Moderate-potency topical corticosteroids	Potent topical corticosteroids
	Topical calcineurin inhibitors	Topical calcineurin inhibitors
	Bandages	Bandages
		Phototherapy
		Systemic therapy

Healthcare practitioners should review repeat prescriptions of individual products and combinations of products with children with atopic eczema (and their parents or carers) at least once a year to ensure that treatment remains optimal.



Supported by education

- How much to use
- How to apply and how often to apply prescribed treatments, including emollients, steroids, calcineurin inhibitors and medicated dressings (bandages)
- Stepped approach to treatment
- How to prevent infection
- How to treat infected atopic eczema



Finger Tip Unit



- One FTU is the amount of topical steroid that is squeezed out from a standard tube along an adult's fingertip
- A fingertip is from the very end of the index finger to the first crease in the finger
- One FTU is enough to treat an area of skin twice the size of the flat of an adult's hand with the fingers together

Guttate Psoriasis

- Wide spread 'tear drop' like lesions – trunk and limbs mainly
- Typical onset 7-10 days post URTI/Strep throat infection
- Affects children/young adults
- May spontaneously resolve after 2-3 months
- May go on to develop plaque psoriasis at a later stage in life
- May have slight scale present

Management:

Emollients, natural sunlight, topical corticosteroids may be helpful, narrowband UVB for widespread, unresponsive disease



Scabies

- Provide patient information
- Commence treatment with 5% permethrin cream
- Other scabicides may be more irritant
- Apply to all skin from neck down, skin creases, genitalia and beneath nails & soles of feet
- Wash off after 8-24 hours
- Cream should be reapplied to hands if washed within 8 hours of application
- Repeat after 7 days
- Treat secondary infection as with antibiotics as required
- Remember to treat the contacts
- Educate patient re post infestation itch up to 4 weeks following successful treatment
- Re-treat as necessary and check contacts



Molluscum Contagiosum

- Common and relatively harmless viral skin infection
- Can be caught by direct contact
- Most common in children, young adults and eczema sufferers
- Lesions can be itchy or sore and can become inflamed or infected
- Usually go away by themselves over a 6 to 18 months period
- Cryotherapy
- Curettage
- Imiquimod (not licensed to treat these lesions)
- Topical 5% potassium hydroxide, twice daily for 4-6 days treatment
- Encourage patients to use their own towels, flannels, clothing etc. to prevent spreading it to other family members
- No need to keep off school or stop swimming

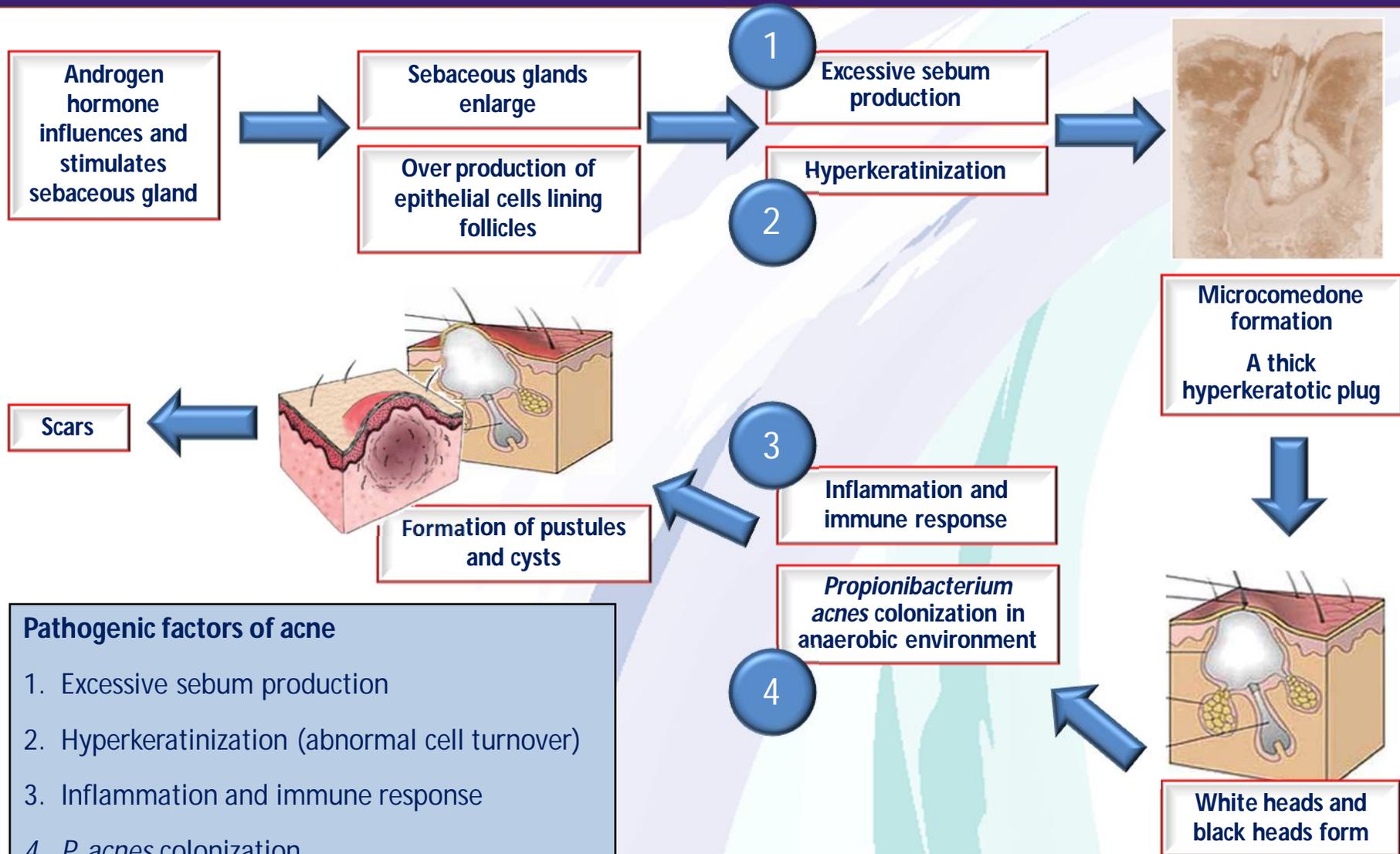


Keratosis Pilaris

- Thought to affect 1:3 people
- Follicular plugging on upper parts of arms and thighs
- Childhood & adolescence into early adulthood
- Inherited - autosomal dominant gene - meaning 1:2 chance of each child of an affected parent inheriting the condition
- Occasionally itchy
- Rarer forms can affect the back and chest, and rarer still, the face and eyebrows
- Some erythema around the small, spiky bumps
- Feels and looks like 'goose bumps'
- Regular emollients are inadequate
- Emollients containing salicylic acid, lactic acid and/or urea are considered more effective
- May improve on its own



The acne disease pathway



EDF Guidelines on Acne

COMEDONAL

HIGH STRENGTH

- None

MEDIUM STRENGTH

- Topical retinoids

LOW STRENGTH

- BPO or
- Azelaic acid



MILD TO MODERATE PAPULOPUSTULAR ACNE

HIGH STRENGTH

Adapalene + BPO (FC) or
BPO + Clindamycin (FC)

MEDIUM STRENGTH

Azelaic acid or
BPO or
topical retinoid or
systemic antibiotic + adapalene

LOW STRENGTH

Blue light or oral zinc or
topical erythromycin+
isotretinoin(FC) or
topical erythromycin + tretinoin
(FC) or
systemic antibiotic + azelaic acid
or systemic antibiotics +adapalene
+ BPO (FC)



SEVERE PAPULOPUSTULAR/ MODERATE NODULAR ACNE

HIGH STRENGTH

Isotretinoin

MEDIUM STRENGTH

Systemic antibiotics
+adapalene or
systemic antibiotics +
azelaic acid or
systemic antibiotics
+adapalene+BPI (FC)

LOW STRENGTH

Systemic antibiotics +
BPO

Females - hormonal
antiandrogens +topical
treatment or hormonal
antiandrogens
+systemic antibiotics



SEVERE

HIGH STRENGTH

Isotretinoin

MODERATE STRENGTH

systemic antibiotics +
azelaic acid

LOW STRENGTH

systemic antibiotics
+BPO or systemic
antibiotics +
adapalene or

Systemic antibiotics +
adapalene +BPO (FC)

Females – Hormonal
antiandrogens +
systemic antibiotics



In summary

- As Healthcare professionals, it is important that we care for people with skin problems in an holistic manner – often psychosocial comorbidities are experienced by a majority of patients with skin disease
- Skin disease may elicit psychosocial comorbidities, and psychosocial stresses may elicit skin disease

Evidence sources

- British Association of Dermatologists – www.bad.org.uk
- Primary Care Dermatology Society - www.pcids.org.uk
- NICE - nice.org.uk
- DermNet.NZ - www.dermnetnz.org
- Dermquest.com
- www.gmc-uk.org