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WAO A World Federation of Allergy Asthma and Clinical Immunology Societies

ATOPIC DERMATITIS: PATHOPHYSIOLOGY, DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT

Sandra N. González-Díaz, MD, PhD
FAAAAI, FACAAI, SLAAI 2010-2012

December 2012

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- Current President of the Latin American Society of Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology (SLAAI) 2010-2012
- Director of the Residency Program in Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Regional Centre of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, University Hospital of Monterrey, NL since 1990
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- Director of Fundraising Department, University Hospital since 2007
- Director General, Department Fundraising at the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon
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- Past President of the Mexican Association of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CMICA) 2005-2007
- Past President Chapter of the Latin American Society Mesoamerica Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology (SLAAI) 1997-1999
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- Faculty of Medicine, U.A.N.L 1977-1983, Monterrey, NL Mexico
- Specialty of Internal Medicine, University Hospital, UANL Monterrey, N.L. 1986 - 1988
- Fellowship in Pediatric Allergy and Immunology Clinica, UCSF, University of San Diego, California, USA, 1987-1988
- Subspecialty in Allergy and Clinical Immunology, University Hospital UANL, Monterrey, N.L. 1988 - 1990
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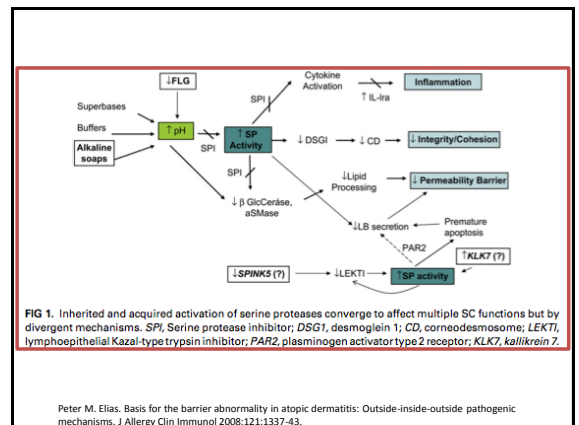
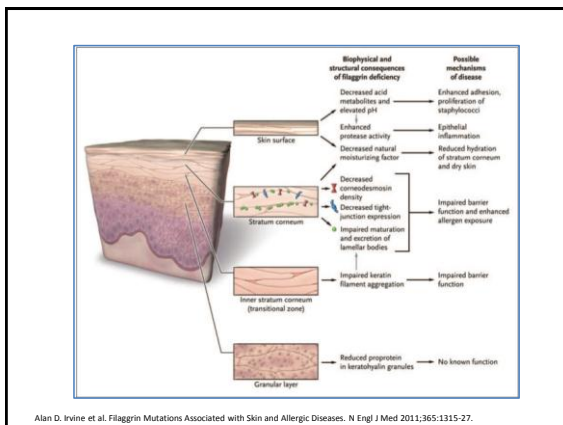
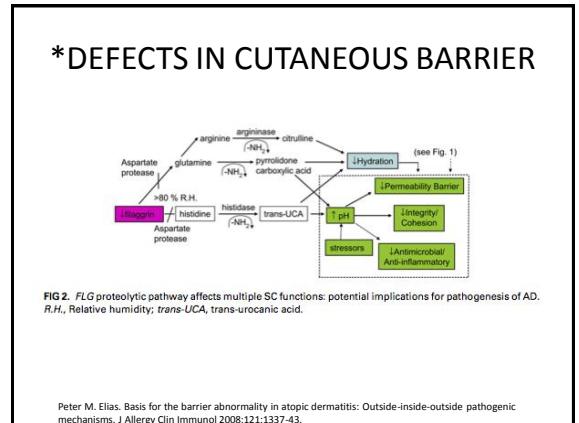
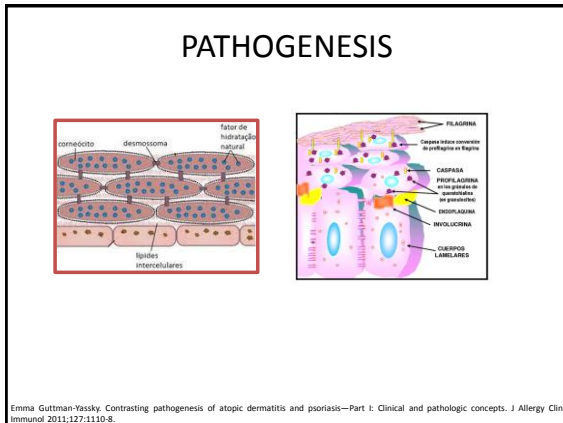
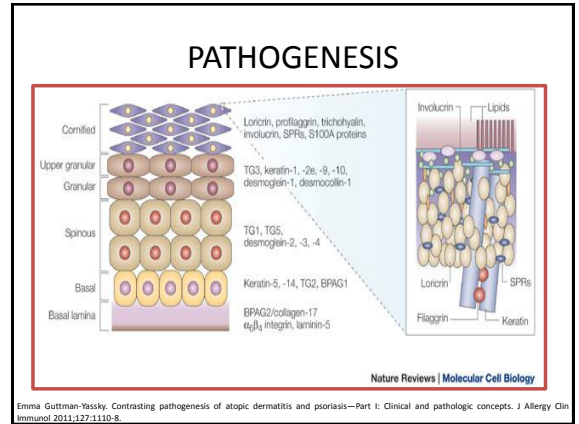
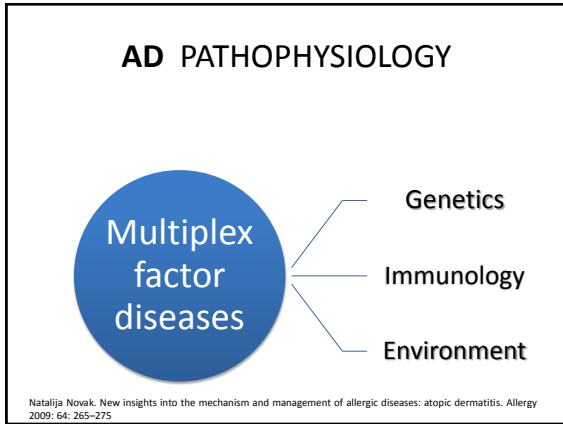


ATOPIC DERMATITIS
CRHONIC SKIN DISEASE

ERYTEMA ECCEMA INFECTIONS PRURITUS MARKS

BODY LOCALIZATION ITCHING CUTANEOUS HIPERREACTIVITY

Donald Y. M. Leung, MD, PhD Denver, Colo. Atopic dermatitis: New insights and opportunities for therapeutic intervention. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2000;106:840-74.



Antimicrobial barrier

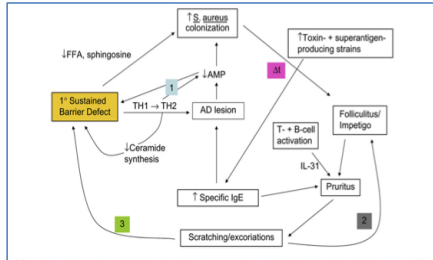
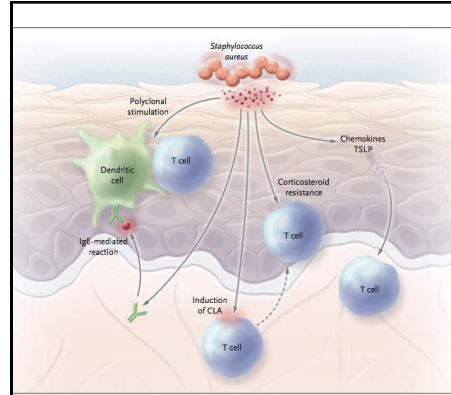


FIG 4. Role of secondary infections in further aggravation of AD. AMP, Antimicrobial peptides; FFA, free fatty acids.

Boguniewicz M, Schmid-Grendelmeier P, Leung DY. Atopic dermatitis. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2006;118:40-3.



Thomas Bieber. Atopic Dermatitis. N Engl J Med 2008;358:14 83-94.

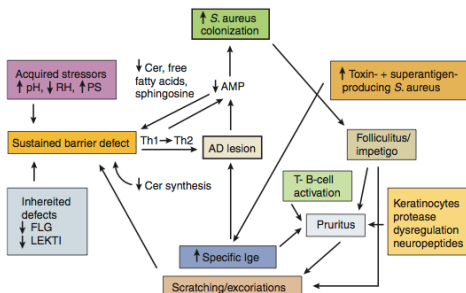


Figure 1. Secondary infections can further aggravate barrier abnormality in atopic dermatitis. AD, atopic dermatitis; AMP, adenosine monophosphate; Cer, ceramide; FLG, filaggrin; LEKTI, lymphoepithelial Kazal-type related tyrosin inhibitor; PS, psychological stress; RH, relative humidity; Th1, T-helper 1; Th2, T-helper 2 (Modified from Elias et al., in press.)

Outside-Inside model

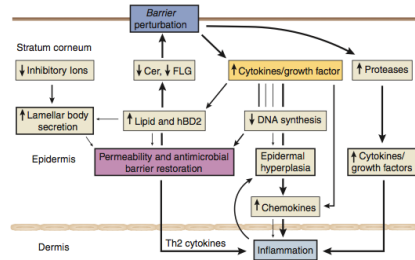


Figure 2. "Outside-inside-outside" model of AD. Cer, ceramide; FLG, filaggrin; hBD2, human β -defensin-2; Th2, T-helper 2. (From Figure 2. Cer, ceramide; FLG, filaggrin; hBD2, human β -defensin-2; Th2, T-helper 2. (From Steinhilber et al., 2005; modified from Elias et al., in press.)

Peter M. Elias, Martin Steinhilber. Outside-to-Inside" (and Now Back to "Outside") Pathogenic Mechanisms in Atopic Dermatitis. Journal of Investigative Dermatology (2008) 128, 1067-1070.

IMMUNE SYSTEM

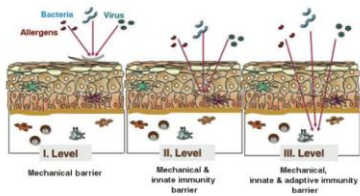


Figure 7. Deficiencies on the level of the skin barrier function as well as the innate and adaptive immune system contribute to the pathophysiological puzzle of atopic dermatitis (AD). The first level of the barrier is the mechanical skin barrier represented by the stratum corneum and the upper part of the skin. The second level of the skin barrier is represented by structures of the innate immune system such as pattern recognition receptors expressed by skin cells or antimicrobial peptides. The third level of the skin barrier is represented by the cellular defense of components of the adaptive immune system. DC, dendritic cell; M, mast cell; MC, macrophage; T, T cell.

N. Novak. New insights into the mechanism and management of allergic diseases: atopic dermatitis. Allergy 2009; 64: 265-275

IMMUNE SYSTEM

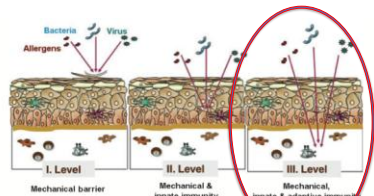


Figure 7. Deficiencies on the level of the skin barrier function as well as the innate and adaptive immune system contribute to the pathophysiological puzzle of atopic dermatitis (AD). The first level of the barrier is the mechanical skin barrier represented by the stratum corneum and the upper part of the skin. The second level of the skin barrier is represented by structures of the innate immune system such as pattern recognition receptors expressed by skin cells or antimicrobial peptides. The third level of the skin barrier is represented by the cellular defense of components of the adaptive immune system. DC, dendritic cell; M, mast cell; MC, macrophage; T, T cell.

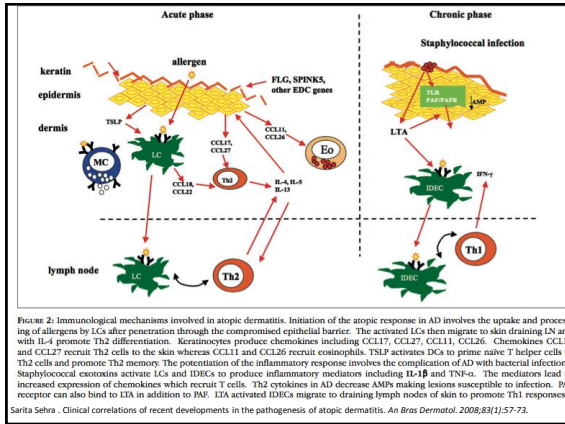
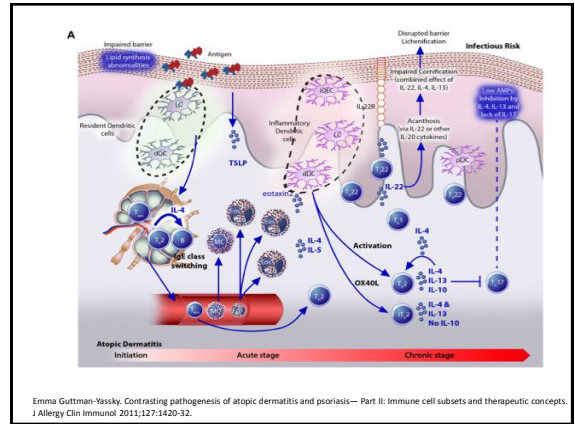


FIGURE 2: Immunological mechanisms involved in atopic dermatitis. Initiation of the atopic response in AD involves the uptake and processing of allergens by LCs after penetration through the compromised epithelial barrier. The activated LCs then migrate to skin draining LN and with IL-4 promote Th2 differentiation. Keratinocytes produce chemokines including CCL11, CCL27, CCL11, CCL26. Chemokines CCL11 and CCL27 recruit Th2 cells to the skin whereas CCL11 and CCL26 recruit eosinophils. TSLP activates DCs to prime naive T helper cells Th2 cells and promote Th2 memory. The potentiation of the inflammatory response involves the complication of AD with bacterial infection. Staphylococcal exotoxins activate LCs and IDECs to produce inflammatory mediators including IL-1 β and TNF- α . The mediators lead to increased expression of chemokines which recruit T cells. Th2 cytokines in AD decrease AMPs making lesions susceptible to infection. B γ receptor can also bind to PAF. LTA activated IDECs migrate to draining lymph nodes of skin to promote Th1 responses. Sarita Sehra. Clinical correlations of recent developments in the pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis. *An Bras Dermatol*. 2008;83(1):57-73.



Emma Guttman-Yassky. Contrasting pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis and psoriasis—Part II: Immune cell subsets and therapeutic concepts. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2011;127:1420-32.

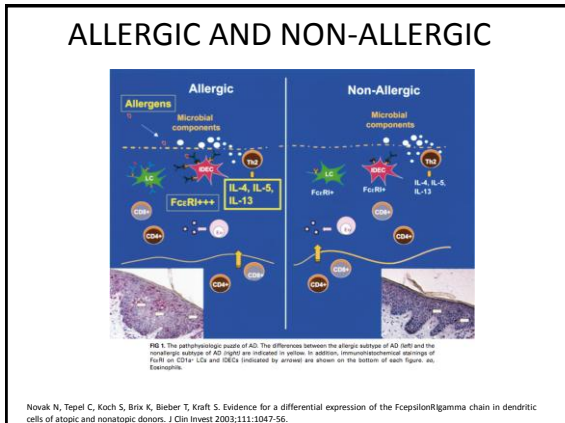


FIG 1. The pathophysiologic basis of AD. The differences between the allergic subset of AD (left) and the nonallergic subset of AD (right) are indicated in yellow. In addition, immunohistochemical staining of both of CD4⁺ LCs and IDECs indicated by arrows are shown on the bottom of each figure. See Eosinophils.

Novak N, Topel C, Koch S, Brix K, Bieber T, Kraft S. Evidence for a differential expression of the Fc ϵ 1 γ 3 chain in dendritic cells of atopic and nonatopic donors. *J Clin Invest* 2003;111:1047-56.

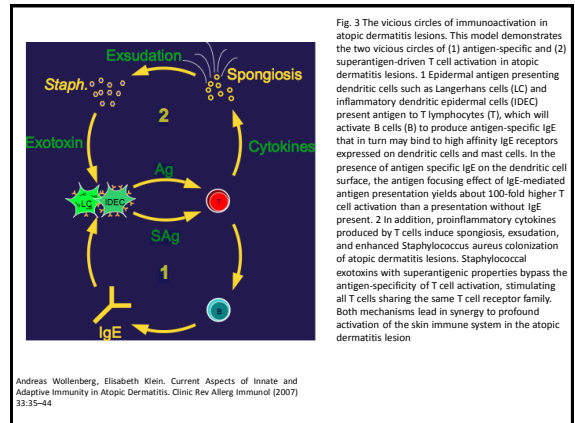


Fig. 3 The vicious circles of immunosactivation in atopic dermatitis lesions. This model demonstrates the two vicious circles of (1) antigen-specific and (2) superantigen-driven T cell activation in atopic dermatitis lesions. 1 Epidermal antigen presenting dendritic cells such as Langerhans cells (LC) and inflammatory dendritic epidermal cells (IDEC) present antigen to T lymphocytes (T), which will activate B cells (B) to produce antigen-specific IgE that in turn may bind to high affinity IgE receptors expressed on dendritic cells and mast cells. In the presence of antigen specific IgE on the dendritic cell surface, the antigen focusing effect of IgE-mediated antigen presentation yields about 100-fold higher T cell activation than a presentation without IgE present. 2 In addition, proinflammatory cytokines produced by T cells induce spongiosis, exsudation, and enhanced Staphylococcus aureus colonization of atopic dermatitis lesions. Staphylococcal exotoxins with superantigenic properties bypass the antigen-specificity of T cell activation, stimulating all T cells sharing the same T cell receptor family. Both mechanisms lead in synergy to profound activation of the skin immune system in the atopic dermatitis lesion

Andreas Wollenberg, Elisabeth Klein. Current Aspects of Innate and Adaptive Immunity in Atopic Dermatitis. *Clinic Rev Allergy Immunol* (2007) 33:35-44

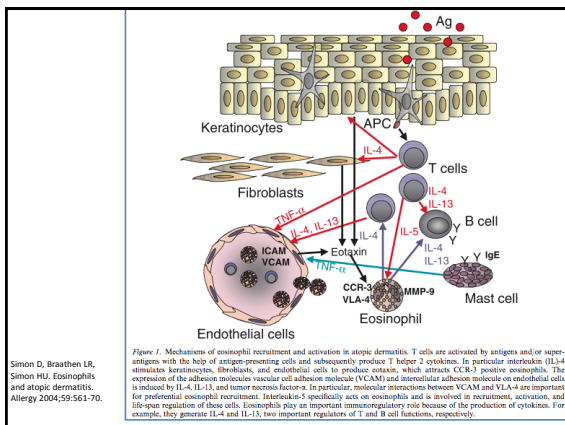
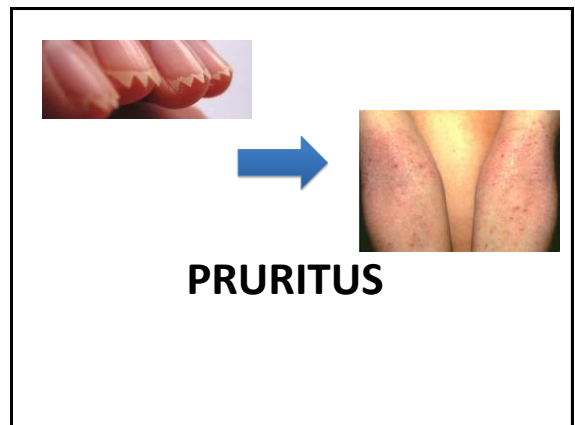


Figure 7. Mechanism of eosinophil recruitment and activation in atopic dermatitis. T cells are activated by antigens and/or superantigens with the help of antigen-presenting cells and subsequently produce T helper 2 cytokines. In particular interleukin (IL)-4 stimulates keratinocytes, fibroblasts, and endothelial cells to produce certain, which attracts CCR3 positive eosinophils. The expression of the adhesion molecules vascular cell adhesion molecule (VCAM) and intercellular adhesion molecule on endothelial cells is induced by IL-4, IL-13, and tumor necrosis factor- α . In particular, molecular interactions between VCAM and VLA-4 are important for preferential eosinophil recruitment. Interleukin-5 specifically acts on eosinophils and is involved in recruitment, activation, and life-span regulation of these cells. Eosinophils play an important immunoregulatory role because of the production of cytokines. For example, they generate IL-4 and IL-13, two important regulators of T and B cell functions, respectively.

Simon D, Braathen LR, Simon HU. Eosinophils and atopic dermatitis. *Allergy* 2004;59:561-70.



PRURITUS

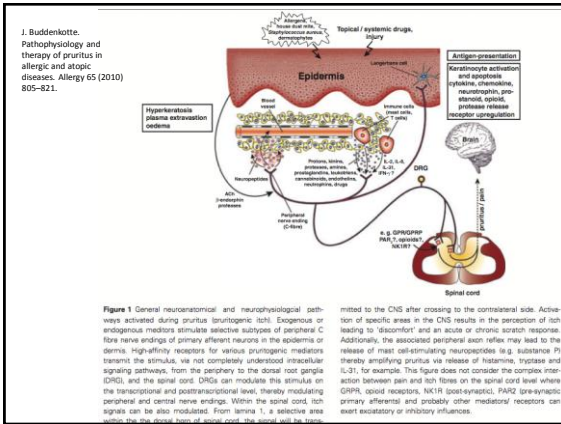
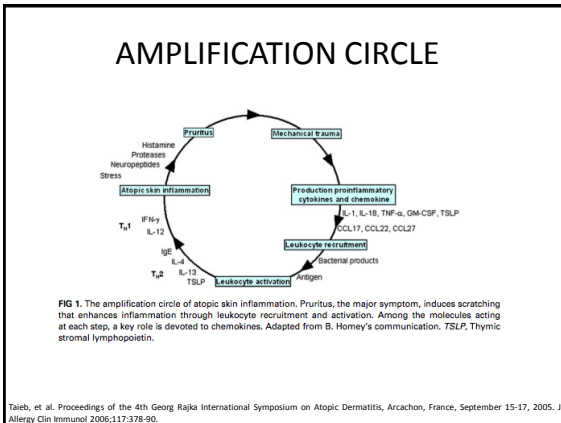


Table 1 Mediators of itch in atopic dermatitis

Substrate	Provocation of itch	Mechanism
Spinal inducer of itch		
GRP	+	Binding to GRPR of the spinal cord
Cutaneous inducers of itch		
Histamine	+	Binding to histamine receptors on sensory nerve fibres
Neuropeptides (e.g. substance P)	(+)	Mast cell degranulation, increased concentration in lesional skin
Acetylcholine	+	Central sensitization?
Trypsase/kallikrein, cathepsin S	+	Binding to PAR ₂ on sensory nerve fibres
Cytokines: Interleukin 2	+	Possible release of various mediators
Interleukin 8	-	
Interleukin 31	+	m.n.n.
Neurotrophin-4	+	Release mediators like PAF, leucotriens; histamine, protease liberation
Eosinophil	+/?	m.n.n. (IFN γ receptor on nerves?)
Platelet activating factor	+	Histamine liberator
Leukotriens	+	m.n.n. (LTB ₄)
Cutaneous suppressors of itch		
Cannabinoids	Interruption of itch transmission	Binding to CB1 and CB2 on cutaneous sensory nerve fibres
Opioid peptides	Induction of itch-inhibiting neurons on spinal level; suppression in the skin?	Binding to opioid receptors
TRP channels (Vanilloids)	Suppression of itch transmission	TRPV1, TRPV3 involved in itch
Interferon gamma	Suppression of pruritus	Direct or indirect effects on sensory nerves
Calcineurin inhibitors	Interruption of itch transmission	Downregulation of pruritic cytokines by affecting T cells
		Binding to TRPV1 on cutaneous sensory nerve fibres
		Ameliorating neuropeptide release
		Decreasing effects of neuropeptides on mast cells?

-, no induction of itch; (+), induction of weak itch; +, clear induction of itch; m.n.n., mechanism not known.
J. Buddenkotte. Pathophysiology and therapy of pruritus in allergic and atopic diseases. Allergy 65 (2010) 805-821.



Diagnosis Criteria in AD

- Diagnosis
 - Hanifin & Rajka
 - UK
 - American Academy of Dermatology

	Hanifin & Rajka	AAD
Sensitivity	96%	86%
Espe	93%	95%

M. S. de Bruin Weller. Evaluation of the child with atopic dermatitis. Clinical and experimental Allergy 2011

UK Diagnostic criteria

Table 1. UK diagnostic criteria

UK diagnostic criteria

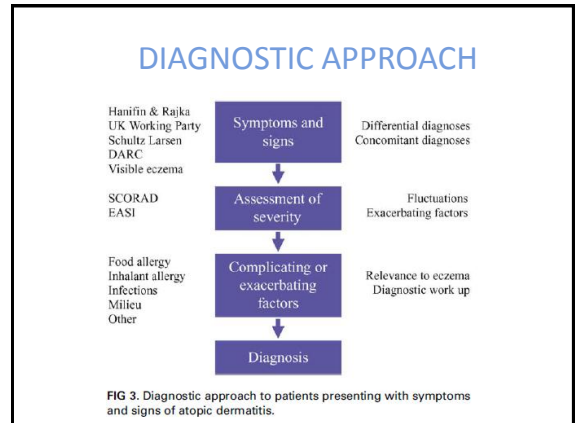
child must have itchy skin conditions in the past 12 months PLUS three or more of:

- History of involvement of skin creases
- Personal history of asthma or hayfever*
- History of generally dry skin in the past year
- Visible flexural dermatitis[#]
- Onset below age 2**

*history of atopic disease in 1st degree relative if age < 4 years.
#as defined by photographic protocol.
**not used in children < 4 years.

DIFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

The New England Journal of Medicine 2005; 352:2314-24



SCORAD INDEX

EUROPEAN TASK FORCE ON ATOPIC DERMATITIS

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ DD/M/YYYY

Date of Visit: _____ DD/M/YYYY

Figures in parenthesis for children under two years

A: EXTENT Please indicate the area involved: _____

B: INTENSITY _____

C: SUBJECTIVE SYMPTOMS
Pruritus + Sleep Loss: _____

A/5 + 7B/2 + C

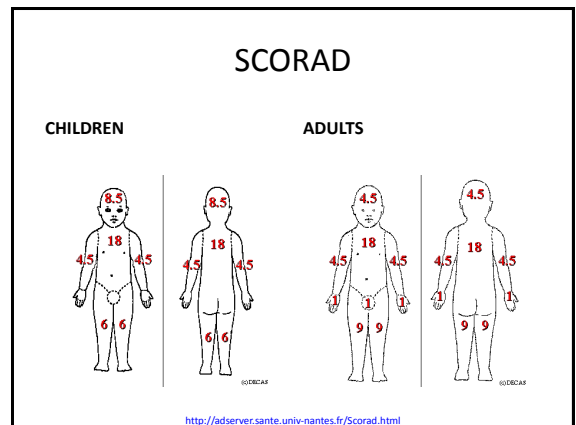
CRITERIA	INTENSITY	MEANS OF CALCULATION
Erythema	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Oedematous papulation	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Dryness/itch	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Excoriations	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Lichenification	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Discoloration	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Pruritus*	0-3	Intensity (0-3)
Sleep loss*	0-3	Intensity (0-3)

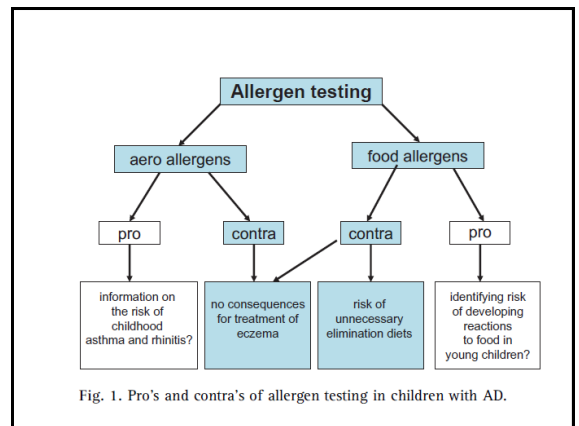
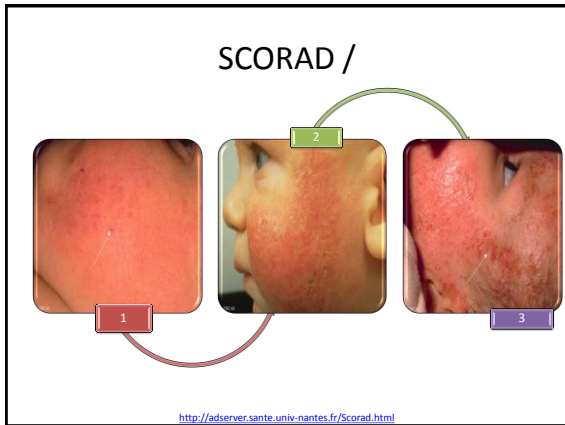
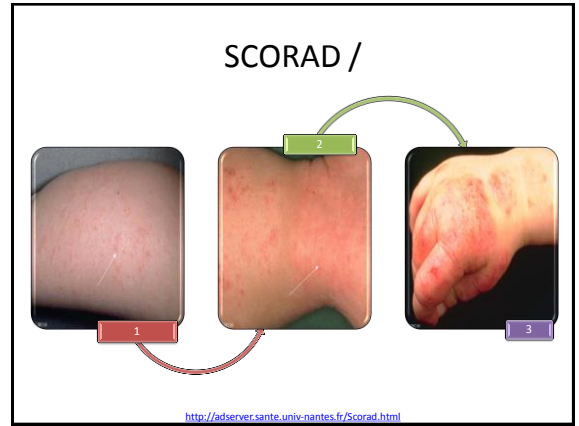
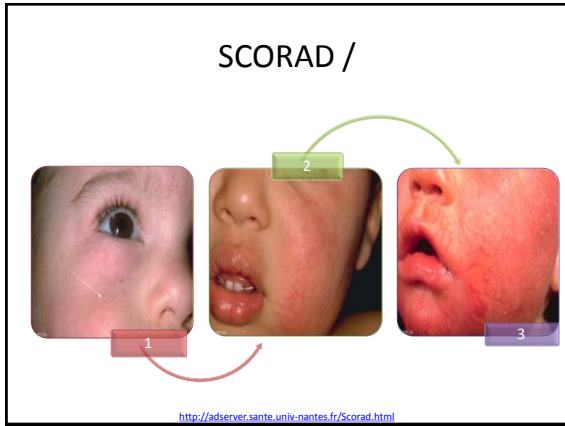
Visual analog scale (average for the last 3 days or nights)

PRURITUS (0 to 10)

SLEEP LOSS (0 to 10)

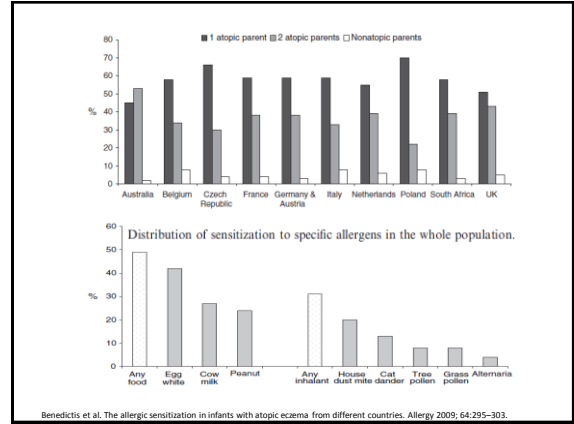
Severity grading	Mild	Moderate	Severe
SCORAD index	< 25	25-50	> 50
Objective SCORAD	< 15	15-40	> 40
TIS	< 3	3-6	≥ 6



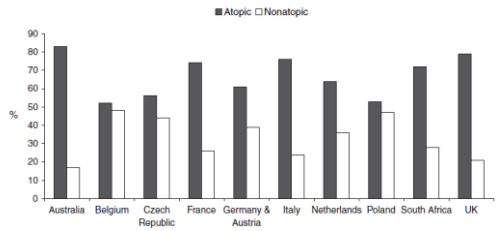


The allergic sensitization in infants with atopic eczema from different countries

Benedictis et al. The allergic sensitization in infants with atopic eczema from different countries. *Allergy* 2009; 64:295–303.



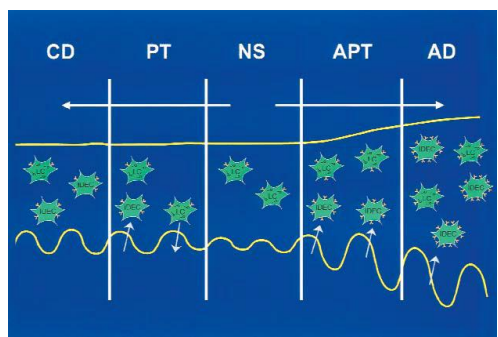
The allergic sensitization in infants with atopic eczema from different countries



Benedictis et al. The allergic sensitization in infants with atopic eczema from different countries. *Allergy* 2009; 64:295–303.

The diagnostic value of atopy patch testing and prick testing in atopic dermatitis: facts and controversies. *Clinics in Dermatology* (2010) 28, 38–44

Test	Sensitivity	Specificity
Prick tests	69%-82%	44%-52%
Specific IgE	65%-94%	42%-64%
APT	42%-56%	69%-92%



Karin Kerschhohr. Atopy patch test reactions show a rapid influx of inflammatory dendritic epidermal cells in patients with extrinsic atopic dermatitis and patients with intrinsic atopic dermatitis. *JACI* 2003

Comparison of irritant reactions between using lyophilized and commercial food allergen extracts in atopy patch tests in a normal population

Onsaree Boonyavilwat, Panchama Pacharn, Orathai Piboonpocanun, Pakit Vichyanond and Nualanong Visitsunthorn

IgE antibody responses in young children with atopic dermatitis. [Wahn U, Warner J, Simons EE, de Benedictis FM, Diepgen TL, Nasipitz CK, de Longueville M, Bauchau V: EPAAC Study Group. *Pediatr Allergy Immunol.* 2008](#)

The Relationship Between Serum Levels of Total IgE, IL-18, IL-12, IFN-γ and Disease Severity in Children With Atopic Dermatitis

Relationship between serum levels of interleukin-18, IgE and disease severity in patients with atopic dermatitis. [Trzeclak M. *Department of Dermatology, Venereology and Allergology, Medical University of Gdańsk, Gdańsk, Poland.*](#)

Advances in Management of Atopic Dermatitis: New Therapies and Novel Uses of Existing Treatments

Elizabeth P. Chase, MD, and April W. Armstrong, MD, MPH

Seminars in
Cutaneous
Medicine
and Surgery

Treatment with a barrier-strengthening moisturizing cream delays relapse of atopic dermatitis: a prospective and randomized controlled clinical trial

K. Wrén,¹ C. Nohlgård,¹ F. Nyberg,¹ L. Holm,¹ M. Svensson,^{1*} A. Johansson,^{1*} P. Wallberg,^{1*} B. Berne,^{1*} F. Edlund,¹ M. Lööfd,^{1*}

	Group using moisturizer (n = 22)	Group using no treatment (n = 22)
No. (%) of patients having a relapse	7 (32%)	15 (68%)
Median time to relapse (days)	> 180	30
Hazard ratio (no treatment/moisturizer)	3.2 (95% CI 1.3 to 7.8 P = 0.01)	
Absolute risk reduction (%)	36%	
Number needed to treat (NNT)	2.8	
Relative risk reduction (%)	53%	

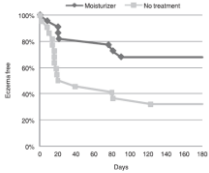


Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier plot of time to recurrence of eczema in the moisturizer and no treatment groups.

Wrén K, Nohlgård C, Nyberg F, et al. Treatment with a barrierstrengthening moisturizing cream delays relapse of atopic dermatitis: A prospective and randomized controlled clinical trial. J. Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol 2009

Treatment of *Staphylococcus aureus* Colonization in Atopic Dermatitis Decreases Disease Severity

Jennifer T. Huang, Melissa Abrams, Brook Tlougan, Alfred Rademaker and Amy S. Paller
Pediatrics 2009;123:e808

TABLE 2 Changes in EASI Scores According to Location

Group	n	Change in EASI Score, Mean ± SE	P
Exposed sites: head and neck			
Change from baseline to 1 mo			
Treatment	11	-0.98 ± 0.86	.32
Placebo	14	-0.16 ± 0.80	
Change from baseline to 3 mo			
Treatment	9	-1.06 ± 1.04	.62
Placebo	13	-0.57 ± 0.86	
Bath-submerged sites: upper limbs, trunk, and lower limbs			
Change from baseline to 1 mo			
Treatment	11	-2.61 ± 0.60	.03
Placebo	14	-0.78 ± 0.55	
Change from baseline to 3 mo			
Treatment	9	-4.94 ± 0.74	.0005
Placebo	13	-0.88 ± 0.62	

Silver-loaded seaweed-based cellulosic fiber improves epidermal skin physiology in atopic dermatitis: safety assessment, mode of action and controlled, randomized single-blinded exploratory *in vivo* study

Joachim W. Fluhr,^{1,2} Maria Breternitz,¹ Doreen Kowatzki,¹ Andrea Bauer,¹ Joerg Bossert,¹ Peter Elsner¹ and Uta-Christina Hippler¹

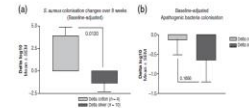


Figure 2. *Staphylococcus aureus* reduced but not significant changes for apathogenic bacteria. (a) Comparing the two groups of patients with atopic dermatitis a significant reduction of *S. aureus* was detectable for baseline adjusted bacterial counts (P = 0.0120, cotton n = 4, silver n = 10). (b) Apathogenic bacterial colonization showed no change in the cotton group and a slight but not significant decrease was observed in the silver T-shirt group; however, the two groups did not show a significant difference (cotton n = 18, silver n = 19).

Table 1 Recent Prospective Studies Examining Recombinant Monoclonal Antibodies or Fusion Proteins in the Treatment of AD

Agent	MOA	Rationale	Study	Study Design
Infliximab	Antibody against TNF- α	TNF- α is increased in AD lesions	Jacobi et al ²⁷	Open-label
Omalizumab	Antibody against IgE	Blocks IgE from binding to receptor on mast cells	Sheinkopf et al ²⁸ Heil et al ²⁹	Open-label
Efalizumab	Antibody against CD11a	Disrupts recruitment of T cells	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Takiguchi et al ³⁰	Open-label
Alefacept	Fusion protein, which interferes with LFA-3/CD2 interaction	Impairs T cell activation	Mouli et al ³¹	Open-label
			Simon et al ³²	Open-label
Mepolizumab	Antibody against IL-5	IL-5 stimulates eosinophil differentiation, growth, and release from bone marrow	Oldhoff et al ³³	Randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group
			Oldhoff et al ³⁴	Double-blind, placebo-controlled
Rituximab	Antibody against CD20 on B cells acts to destroy the B cells	Loss of the antigen-presenting and immunomodulatory functions of B cells	Simon et al ³⁵	Open-label

AD, atopic dermatitis; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor alpha; EASI, Eczema Area and Severity Index; IgE, immunoglobulin E; IGA, investigator's global assessment; SCORAD, SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; CD11a, cluster of differentiation 11a; LFA3/CD2, lymphocyte function-associated antigen 3/cluster of differentiation 2; IM, intramuscular; IL-5, interleukin 5; PGA, Physician's Global Assessment; CD20, cluster of differentiation 20.

Table 1 (Cont'd)

No. Subjects	Dose/Timing	Primary End Point Measure
9	5 mg/kg given at weeks 0, 2, 6 and then every 8 wks for 4 additional doses	Reduction of EASI score at week 10 by >50% (excellent), 30%-49% (moderate), <29% (nonsignificant)
21	150 mg or 300 mg dosed every 2 wks based on pretreatment IgE levels and body weight	IGA based on modified SCORAD
Intervention: 13 Control: 7	0.016 mg/kg IgE IU/mL per 4 wks for 16 wks	Immunological disease parameters: flow cytometry, immunohistology, and serum IgE levels
10	0.7 mg/kg conditioning dose, followed by 1.0 mg/kg weekly for 11 additional weeks	Change in EASI at week 12 from baseline
9	30-mg IM injection weekly \times 8 wks; at week (9) (a) those with \geq 50% reduction in EASI received 15 mg IM weekly \times 8 additional weeks (b) those without EASI 50% reduction received 30 mg IM weekly \times 8 additional weeks	50% reduction in EASI at week 18
10	15-mg IM injection weekly for 12 wks	EASI, pruritus score, differential white blood cell analysis, skin histology, immunofluorescence, and cytokine expression analysis
Intervention: 18 Control: 22	2 single 750-mg doses given 1 wk apart ³⁶	Percentage of patients with at least "marked improvement" in PGA of improvement after 2 wks
Intervention: 20 Control: 23	2 single 750-mg doses given 1 wk apart	Clinical evaluation of atopy patch test and number of eosinophils in skin biopsy
6	Two 1000-mg infusions given 2 wks apart	EASI score, pruritus score

Chase et al. Advances in Management of Atopic Dermatitis: New Therapies and Novel Uses of Existing Treatments. Semin Cutan Med Surg 2012

Long-term Efficacy of Intravenous Immunoglobulin Therapy for Moderate to Severe Childhood Atopic Dermatitis

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Table 2. Comparison of SCORAD index, serum IgE, and eosinophil count between children with IVIg treatment and the controls

Visit	SCORAD index		Serum IgE (U/mL)		Eosinophil count (/mm ³)	
	IVIg	Control	IVIg	Control	IVIg	Control
V1	61.5 ± 13.0*	42.1 ± 9.9	571.2 ± 753.4	615.2 ± 1023.2	529.4 ± 822.6	290 ± 179.3
V4	49.9 ± 17.3*	40.4 ± 6.3	394.9 ± 519.5	598.6 ± 858.4	397.6 ± 342.9	247.1 ± 153.1
V5	32.1 ± 19.4*	35.7 ± 9.9	433.9 ± 620.3	622.0 ± 932.5	470.8 ± 411.7	330 ± 150.5
V6	39.3 ± 18.4	35.9 ± 9.6	548.9 ± 677.2	633.9 ± 946.7	547.6 ± 393.3	270.0 ± 71.3

*There shows significantly differences of SCORAD between IVIg and control at V1 vs. V4 (P=0.005) and V1 vs. V5 (P=0.17).
IVIg, intravenous immunoglobulin; V1, before therapy; V4, during therapy; V5, 3-month follow-up visit; V6, 6-month follow-up visit.

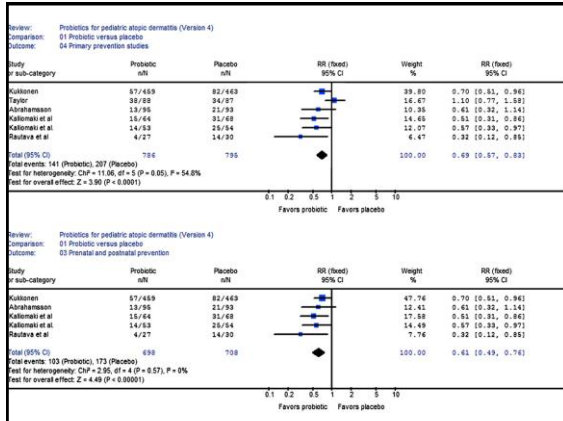
Allergy Asthma Immunol Res. 2011

Treatment of pruritus with topically applied opiate receptor antagonist

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Meta-analysis of clinical trials of probiotics for prevention and treatment of pediatric atopic dermatitis

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Conclusions

- Multidisciplinary management are needed in AD
- Management
 - Pruritus
 - Infections
 - Co-morbidity
- Many therapy in research
- Value Risk/benefits
- Personalized Medicine

Gracias!!!