

Dermatology Lloydminster

Dermatology Lloydminster - A rash on the skin is usually defined as a change to the skin in its color, appearance or texture. A skin rash could affect the whole skin or may be localized on one specific part of the body. Rashes can often cause the skin to itch, become dry, bumpy, painful, blistered, cracked, swollen or warm. Normally, rashes could cause the skin to change color. The treatments and causes for rashes differ considerably depending on the diagnosis. The diagnosis is formed by considering various factors like the rashes' overall appearance, what the patient's job is, other symptoms, family history and what the person may have been exposed to. The diagnosis can in fact confirm any number of health issues.

The rash can help to indicate certain related symptoms and signs that are common to specific diseases. Measles for example, can give a rash which is called an erythematous, morbilliform, maculopapular rash. This usually presents itself a few days after the fever begins and classically it presents at the head and after that works its way downwards.

The most common causes of a skin rash include anxieties, food allergies, medicines, dyes and insect stings and bites. Jewelry made of nickels and zincs have been found to be allergens. Skin contact with an irritant often results in hives. These raised portions of skin could become itchy, red, inflamed, swollen and painful. Rashes could even result from a reaction to vaccination, from a fungal infection like ringworm, from sunburn or heat exposure, from friction due to chafing of the skin, and from skin diseases like for instance acne or eczema.

Bacterial and viral infections could lead to a rash on the skin. The chickenpox, smallpox, measles and cold sore viruses can lead to distinct and uncomfortable rashes. There are some uncommon causes of rashes including: lead poisoning, Lyme disease, pregnancy, autoimmune disorders like for instance psoriasis and of course repeated and frequent scratching on a particular spot.

There are lots of potential causes of a rash, making the evaluation more difficult. In order to acquire an accurate evaluation, a health provider may have to do a completely thorough history. For example, what is the person's job? Are they taking any kind of medication regularly? Has the person recently traveled to whichever exotic locations? Normally, a complete physical examination would help in order to determine the origin and cause of the rash.

Particular Factors to Include in the Examination Are:

When referring to the appearance of the rash, is it like for instance purpuric, which is typical for vasculitis and meningococcal disease, or is it sandpaper and fine as found with scarlet fever? Is the rash consisting of plaques with silver scales that is usually seen with psoriasis? Or does the rash consist of circular lesions with a central depression, which is normal of molluscum contagiosum or small pox?

How is the rash distributed on the body? With chickenpox, like for example, the vesicles will follow the hollows of the body. They are therefore more prominent on the depression of the spine on the back as well as in the hollows of both shoulder blades. The rash presented with scarlet fever becomes confluent and forms bright red lines in the skin creases of the neck, armpits and groins. These lines are called Pastia's lines. There are not many rashes that affect the soles of the feet or the palms of the hands, however this can be seen in spotted fevers or rickettsia, secondary syphilis, foot, mouth and hand disease as well as guttate psoriasis and even in keratoderma blennorrhagica. The symmetry of the rash is another feature to think about. Like for example, herpes zoster often just affects one side of the body during an outbreak and does not cross the midline.

It is normally good advice never to scratch a rash, since any scratching could cause it to spread. It can be tempting to softly rub the affected area to be able to provide temporary relief but it is better to avoid contact with the affected areas completely.

Symptom Overview:

Different skin diseases could show their signs on the body. These symptoms may come in the form of Acne Vulgaris which consists of papules, nodules, comedones and pustules. Typically, this condition is found on the face, back and the chest. Acne Rosacea is defined as an area of redness or flushed appearance, typically found on the chin, nose, cheeks or forehead. Boils are a skin condition which can take place anywhere as a painful red bump or a cluster or series of red painful bumps. Cellulitis can be found all-around a skin breach such as in a cut or scrape. It presents as a red, swollen and tender area of skin. Insect bites can occur anywhere on the body and are found as itchy and red, normally swollen bumps on the skin.

Allergic reactions could visibly appear as raised, irregular or flat red sores that appear on the skin after ingesting or being exposed to some foods or taking medicine or drugs. Hives could occur anywhere. These are bumps which form suddenly and are often initially noticed on the face. Seborrheic Dermatitis is the definition of bumps and swelling which appear near glands. Cradle Cap is a condition on the scalp of newly born babies which looks like scaly, dry skin. Irritant Contact Dermatitis is another condition which becomes a red, oily or scaly or itchy rash. It could be found on the eyebrows, edge of the scalp, nose or where the body is in contact with perfume, jewelry or clothing.

Some trees and bushes like poison ivy, oak and sumac can elicit an allergic response known as Allergic Contact Dermatitis. It presents on the patient as scaly, red, oily or itchy rash which can be leathery or weeping. Allergic Purpura could happen anywhere on the body and looks like tiny red dots on the skin or even larger, bruise-like spots that appeared after taking medicine. Pityriasis Rosea could initially start with a single red, scaly, slightly itchy spot. In a few days, there may be large numbers of smaller patches of red or tan rash. This is found on the chest and abdomen part. Dermatitis Herpetiformis is a condition that comprises an extremely itchy rash with blisters and red bumps, found on the elbows, buttocks, knees or back.

These are amongst the common skin rashes: warts, Erythema nodosum, Psoriasis, Chickenpox, Shingles, Fifth Disease, Ringworm, diaper rash, Jock itch, yeast infection, Impetigo, Tinea versicolor, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Scabies, Lupus erythematosus, and many others.

Treatment

There are a variety of treatment options depending on what type of rash the individual has been diagnosed with. Some rashes are easily fixed with non-steroidal treatments like for example salves made with aloe vera, sage, comfrey or tea tree oil. Other topical steroid creams like for example hydrocortisone are prescribed. Various medications can be found over the counter and some could be specifically blended from a Naturopathic doctor or Herbalist.