

Dermatology Vancouver

Dermatology Vancouver - A skin rash is defined as a change of the skin which affects its color, appearance or texture. Rashes can be localized in one part of the body or they can affect the entire skin. Usually, rashes can cause the skin to itch, become bumpy, dry, cracked, painful, blistered, swollen or warm. Normally, rashes could cause the skin to change color. The causes and treatments for rashes vary considerably depending on the diagnosis. The diagnosis is formed by considering a variety of factors such as the rashes' overall appearance, what the individual's occupation is, what the person may have been exposed to, other indications and the family history. The diagnosis can in fact confirm any number of health issues.

The rash may help to indicate certain associated symptoms and signs that are common to particular diseases. Measles for example, could give a rash which is referred to as an erythematous, morbilliform, maculopapular rash. This normally presents itself a few days after the fever begins and naturally it presents at the head and after that works its way downwards.

There are many common causes of rashes such as: food allergies, anxiety, medicines, dyes and insect bites and stings. The metals nickel and zinc are usually found in jewelry and are usually known allergens as well. Skin contact with an irritant normally leads to hives. These raised portions of skin can become inflamed, itchy, red, painful and swollen. Rashes could even result from a reaction to vaccination, from a fungal infection like for example ringworm, from sunburn or heat exposure, from friction due to chafing of the skin, and from skin diseases like for example eczema or acne.

Bacterial and viral infections can cause 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 like for instance: pregnancy, lead poisoning, Lyme disease, autoimmune disorders like psoriasis and of course repeated and frequent scratching on a particular area.

There are a lot of possible causes of a rash, making the evaluation harder. In order to acquire an accurate evaluation, a health provider may have to do a completely thorough history. For example, what is the individual's job? Are they taking any type of medication on a regular basis? Has the individual recently traveled to any exotic locations? Normally, a complete physical examination would help to determine the origin and cause of the rash.

Specific Elements to Include in the Examination Are:

The appearance of the rash, like for example, is it fine and sandpaper as found with scarlet fever, is it purpuric, that is normal for vasculitis and meningococcal disease? Does the rash consist of circular lesions with a central depression, which is typical of molluscum contagiosum and small pox? Or is the rash consisting of plaques with silver scales that is commonly seen with psoriasis?

What is the distribution of the rash? Like for instance with chicken pox, the vesicles normally follow the hollows of the body; hence, they are most prominent in the hollows of both shoulder blades as well as along the depression of the spine on the back. The rash presented with scarlet fever becomes confluent and forms bright red lines in the skin creases of the armpits, groins and neck. These lines are called Pastia's lines. There are not many rashes which affect the palms of the hands or the soles of the feet, however this can be seen in spotted fevers or rickettsia, secondary syphilis, hand, foot and mouth disease as well as guttate psoriasis and likewise in keratoderma blennorrhagica. The symmetry of the rash is one more feature to consider. Like for instance, herpes zoster usually only affects one side of the body through an outbreak and does not cross the midline.

Normally, it is good advice not to scratch the rash. This is due to the scratching causing a spread of the rash. It could be tempting to softly rub the affected area in order to provide temporary relief but it is better to avoid contact with the affected parts completely.

Symptom Overview:

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

After ingesting or being exposed to some foods, drugs or medicines, allergic reactions could visibly appear on the skin. They appear as raised, flat or irregular red sores. Hives may appear anywhere on the body. These are bumps which form all of a sudden and are often initially noticed on the face. Seborrheic Dermatitis is the definition of swelling and bumps which appear near glands. Cradle Cap is a condition on the scalp of recently new born babies that looks like scaly, dry skin. Irritant Contact Dermatitis is one more condition which becomes a red, oily or scaly or itchy rash. It can be found on the edge of the scalp, nose, eyebrows or where the body is in contact with perfume, jewelry or clothing.

Allergic Contact Dermatitis is the allergic response to bushes and trees, like sumac, poison ivy and oak. On the patient, these may show as scaly, red, itchy or oily rash which can be weeping or leathery. Allergic Purpura could take place anywhere on the body and looks like tiny red dots on the skin or even bigger, bruise-like spots that appeared after taking medicine. Pityriasis Rosea could initially start with one scaly, red, slightly itchy spot. In a few days, there could be large numbers of smaller patches of tan or red rash. This is found on the abdomen and chest area. Dermatitis Herpetiformis is a condition that consists of an extremely itchy rash together with red bumps and blisters, found on the elbows, buttocks, back or knees.

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

Treatment

Depending upon the kind of rash the person has, there are different treatment options offered. A lot of skin rashes could be cured utilizing non-steroidal treatments like for instance salves made with sage, aloe vera, comfrey or tea tree oil. Other topical steroid creams such as hydrocortisone are prescribed. Various medications can be found over the counter and others could be specifically blended from a Naturopathic doctor or Herbalist.