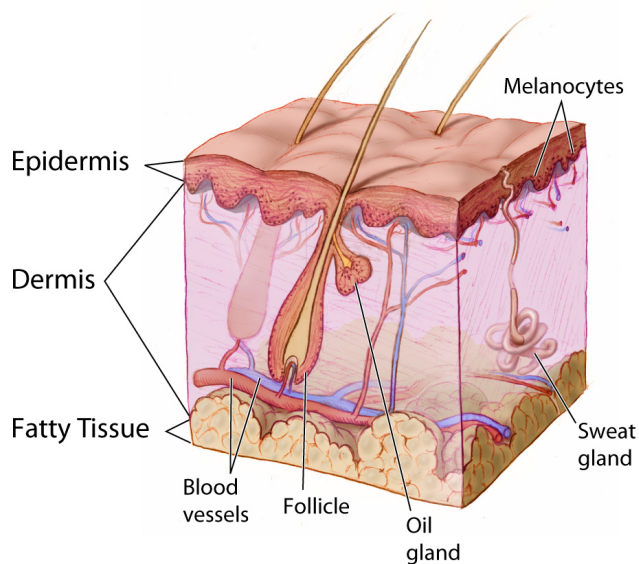


432 Teams

# Dermatology



## Papulosquamous disease

Color Code: Original, Team's note, Important, Doctor's note, Not important, Old teamwork



Done by: *May H. Alorainy*

Reviewer: *Lama Al Tawil*

Team Leader: *Basil Al Suwaine & Lama Al Tawil*

Dr. Alrasheed did not provide us with his PPT this year so we used last year's as a reference. It did not contain any pictures so we compiled pictures from the book, male 432 team and 431 team.

# **PAPULOSQUAMOUS DISEASES**

**Dr. Saleh Al rasheed  
Consultant in Dermatology &  
Laser Surgery  
Assistant Professor - Dermatology Department  
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# **Papulosquamous diseases**

**are those in which the primary lesions typically consist of papules with scale**

Primary lesion is papule with scale on top of it

**The category of papulosquamous disease classically includes :**

**-Psoriasis**

**-Lichen planus**

**-Pityriasis rosea**

**-Seborrheic dermatitis**

**-Pityriasis rubra pilaris**

**-Secondary syphilis**

**-discoid lupus erythematosus,**

**-Ichthyosis-**

**-Miscellaneous (mycosis fungoides,) -**

# Psoriasis

الصدفية

# Prevalence

- Psoriasis occurs in 2%(1-3%) of the world's population
- Equal frequency in males and females
- May occur at any age from infancy to the 10<sup>th</sup> decade of life
- First signs of psoriasis
  - Females mean age of 27 years
  - Males mean age of 29 years

# Prevalence

- Two-thirds of patients have mild disease
- One-third have moderate to severe disease
- Early onset (prior to age 15)
  - Associated with more severe disease
  - More likely to have a positive family history
- Life-long disease
  - Remitting and relapsing unpredictably
  - Spontaneous remissions of up to 5 years have been reported in approximately 5% of patients



# Etiology

- The cause of Ps. is still unknown
- The course of Ps. is inconstant → Does not have a clear pattern. It can be mild, moderate or severe. It can occur in winter or summer.
- Tendency to recur and to persist
- Koeber reaction (phenomenon)
- Auspitz sign: is pin point bleeding when a psoriatic scale is removed. (Severe thinning of the epidermis over the tips of dermal papillae)  
Auspitz: a German word  
Au = out  
pitz = pinpoint
- The psoriatic basal-cell is shed in about 4 days where as normal cell in 28 days Cells grow and proliferate then die very rapidly forming scale. So scale = dead cells.
- The erythema is due to the dilatation & proliferation of the capillaries in the papillary dermis

# Genetics and Pathogenesis

- Psoriasis and the Immune System
  - The major histocompatibility complex (MHC)
    - Short arm of chromosome 6
  - Histocompatibility Antigens (HLA)
    - HLA-Cw6
    - HLA-B13, -B17, -B37, -Bw16
  - T-lymphocyte-mediated mechanism

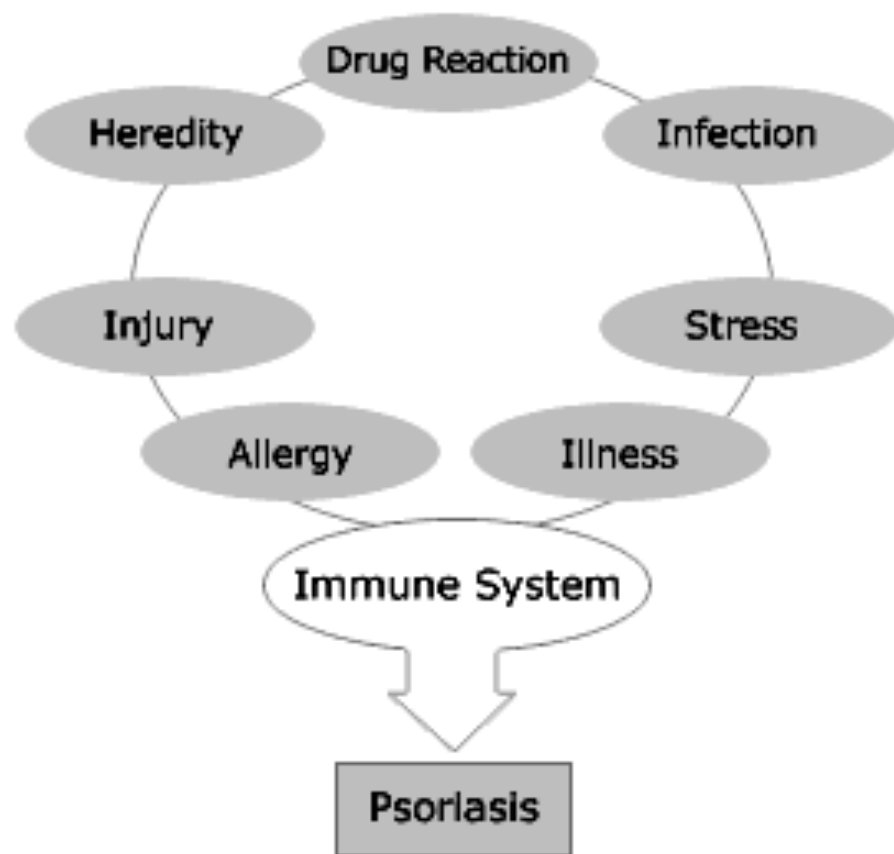
- Pathogenesis has a genetic component.
- High concordance rate in twins.

## Triggering factors > Make psoriasis appear but do not actually cause it

- Infections- streptococcal pharyngitis/tonsillitis
- Drugs- NSAID, beta blockers, lithium, antimalarials, corticosteroids
- Trauma- Koebner phenomenon
- Pregnancy
- Stress
- Alcohol
- Sunlight- worsening in ~10% of patients although majority beneficial to sun exposure

If a psoriasis patient is in the remission period and develops an URTI, the disease may be triggered and reappears.

## Psoriasis Triggers



# Psoriasis : clinical features

- Well defined & circumscribed plaque
- Erythematous base
- Silvery scaling
- Symmetrical
- Extensors of limbs, scalp, sacral area
- Auspitz's sign: elbows & knees
  - light scraping of the scale with a wooden spatula produces multiple bleeding points
  - extreme thinning of the epidermis over the capillary laden dermal papillae

# Psoriasis as a Systemic Disease

- Koebner Phenomenon
- Elevated ESR
- Increased uric acid levels → gout
- Mild anemia
- Elevated  $\alpha_2$ -macroglobulin
- Elevated IgA levels
- Increased quantities of Immune Complexes

- In recent studies, obesity, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and hypertension (metabolic syndrome) were found to be associated with psoriasis.

- In some conditions, psoriasis remits with weight loss (especially waist area).

# Clinical Variants of Psoriasis

# Clinical Types of Psoriasis

## A. Non-pustular Psoriasis

## B. Pustular Psoriasis With puss

- Localized
- Generalized

## C. Erythrodermic Psoriasis

## D. Psoriatic arthritis



## A. Non-pustular Psoriasis starts as erythema then papule then scale appears

- Chronic Plaque Psoriasis
- Regional Psoriasis
- Scalp Psoriasis
- Palmo-plantar Psoriasis
- Inverse Psoriasis (Flexural)
- Nail Psoriasis
- Guttate Psoriasis

# Chronic Plaque Psoriasis

- AKA psoriasis vulgaris.

- "Valguris" is a greek word which means "common".

- ~80% of psoriasis
- Characteristic erythematous well defined circumscribed silvery scaly patches/ plaques
- Koebner phenomenon

Acutely starts as an annular lesion

Scenario:  
Patient with a positive family history develops the disease after getting a tattoo or piercing at the same site.

- Appearance of psoriasis in sites of skin trauma or pressure e.g. scratch marks, operation sites .

Psoriasis patient develops new psoriatic lesion at the site of trauma (mechanical, physical or chemical).

- Present in lichen planus, vitiligo, viral wart
- "Atypical" with no scaling in moist flexural intertriginous area

Only erythema

# Chronic Plaque Psoriasis

- Most Common Variant
- Plaques may be as large as 20 cm
- Symmetrical disease **and bilateral**
- Sites of Predilection
  - Elbows
  - Knees
  - Presacrum
  - Scalp
  - Hands and Feet

# Chronic Plaque Psoriasis

- May be widespread – up to 80% BSA
- Genitalia involved in up to 30% of patients
- Most patients have nail changes
  - Nail pitting
  - “Oil Spots”
  - Involvement of the entire nail bed
    - Onychodystrophy
    - Loss of nail plate

□ **Auspitz's sign:** Elicit it in the knee

- light scraping of the scale with a wooden spatula produces multiple bleeding points
- extreme thinning of the epidermis over the capillary laden dermal papillae

## Koebner phenomenon

- Appearance of psoriasis in sites of skin trauma or pressure e.g. scratch marks, operation sites .
- Present in : lichen planus, vitiligo, viral wart

# Scalp Psoriasis

- Common
- Well demarcated erythematous silvery scaly plaque with normal skin intervening
- Post-auricular area commonly involved
- Non scarring alopecia when severe, regrow when condition improve
- DDx with seborrhoeic dermatitis by presence of typical plaque elsewhere +/- psoriatic nail changes
  - Psoriasis: scale or plaque exceed the hairline
  - Seborrhoeic dermatitis, dandruff: confined to hairline

# Palmoplantar Psoriasis

- Common
- Indurated heavily scaled plaque +/-  
**fissuring** If the patient wears shoes all day long, scale may not show.
- Well-demarcated
- DDx with foot/ hand eczema
  - Fungal infection
  - Secondary syphilis



# Nail Psoriasis

- ~50% of psoriasis have nail changes
- Pitting Due to shedding of cells from the nail plate
- Onycholysis (separation of nail plate from nail bed)
- Oil drop sign (a yellow brown, subungual spot surrounded by erythema)
- Subungual hyperkeratosis (between nail plate and nail bed)
- Secondary onychomycosis is common

Psoriatic lesion affecting the nail bed  
—> scale accumulates and lifts off the nail plate  
—> air easily gets underneath giving oil drop sign.

Onychomycosis involves the proximal part of the nail while psoriasis involves the distal

# Guttate Psoriasis

Lesion looks as if I splashed water on skin

صدفية نثرية او قطرية

- Latin “gutta” means a drop
- Mainly affects **children** and young adults
- Characterized by numerous 0.5 to 1.5 cm papules /plaques
- Very small plaques generalized with centripetal distribution
- May coalescent into larger plaques
- **Preceded by streptococcal tonsillitis or pharyngitis 2 weeks before onset**
- Spontaneous remissions in children
- Often chronic in adults

Patient goes back to normal after tonsillectomy

The lesion appears red in light skinned people (e.g. europeans) whereas in dark-skinned people (e.g. middle easterns) the lesion appears white due to scale

# Flexural Psoriasis

- Psoriasis affecting axillae, perineum and umbilicus *Below the breast is a common site*
- Atypical psoriasis as friction & humidity removes the scale (diagnostic confusion)
- Irritating when sweating
  - *in wet psoriasis the woods lamp will appear florescent , but if itching was associated with it think of fungal intertrigo*

# Life–Threatening Forms of Psoriasis

- Generalized Pustular Psoriasis = Papule + puss + scale
- Erythrodermic Psoriasis

# Palmoplantar Pustular Psoriasis

- Relatively uncommon variant
- Painful, sterile pustules develop within plaque at palms and soles
- Pustules resolve to leave post inflammatory hyperpigmentation
- Female predominance
- 20% associated with psoriasis elsewhere
- Almost exclusively associated with **smoking**
- Resistant to topical treatment

# Generalized Pustular Psoriasis

- Von Zumbusch's disease
- Erythematous edematous plaques studded with monomorphic sterile pustules. often after short episodes of fever of 39° to 40° C Pus turns brown in color when it dries
- Weight loss , Muscle Weakness, Hypocalcemia  
Leukocytosis , Elevated ESR
- Precipitated by :
  - withdrawal of oral steroid or widespread use of ultra potent topical steroid
  - pregnancy
  - Can be life-threatening due to fluid loss, sepsis

# Erythrodermic Ps. AKA Red Man Syndrome

- **Universal redness & scaling** Very severe basal shedding that you find scale in the area where the patient was sitting.
- **Often nail & hair growth disturbance**
- **May be an end-result of acute Ps.**
- **Exfoliative Ps.** It is a serious condition that must be managed effectively in the ER

- Unwell, fever, leucocytosis
- Excessive of body heat & hypothermia
- Inc. cut. blood flow ⇒ high card. output ⇒ heart failure
- Inc. percutaneous loss of water ⇒ Inc. loss of protein & iron (through scales) ⇒ hypoproteinaemia & iron deficiency anaemia.

- **Increase epidermal permeability ?? topical steroids**
  - There is very high cutaneous blood flow that if you put water on the skin, it will be absorbed immediately.
  - Topical steroids will be absorbed in a lot higher concentrations than in normal skin. This may result in amplified side effects similar to those of systemic steroids.

# Erythrodermic Psoriasis

- >90% of BSA affected
- Life threatening with transcutaneous fluid loss, temperature dysregulation, sepsis, high output, cardiac failure
- Other DDX of erythroderma-  
atopic eczema, drug eruption  
, cutaneous T cell lymphoma, pityriasis rubra pilaris



# Erythrodermic Psoriasis

- Triggering Factors
  - Systemic Infection
  - Withdrawal of high potency topical or oral steroids
  - Withdrawal of Methotrexate
  - Phototoxicity
  - Irritant contact dermatitis

# Drug-provoked (Induced)psoriasis: Reported agent

Mostly in older individuals

## MOST COMMONLY ASSOCIATED AGENTS

**Beta blockers**

**Lithium**

**Antimalarial**

**Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs**

Scenario:

Normal person was prescribed beta blockers to control their hypertension develops psoriasis after 3 weeks of use.

# Psoriatic Arthritis

- ~10% of chronic plaque psoriasis
- Only ~15% of cases with skin and joint disease begin simultaneously
- ~60% of skin disease precedes arthritis
- ~25% of arthritis precedes skin disease
- Probably a positive correlation between severity of skin disease and arthritis developing
- Association: **HLA B27**: sacro-ileitis;
- B38 and DR7: peripheral arthritis;
- B39: all types;
- DR4: symmetrical arthritis

## 5 Types of Psoriatic Arthropathy

- Classical distal arthropathy-distal IP joint
- Seronegative RA-like polyarthritits
- Oligoarticular asymmetrical arthritis
- Spondyloarthropathy- Ankylosing spondylitis-like
- Arthritis mutilans

## **Psoriatic Arthritis treatment** *Managed by rheumatology*

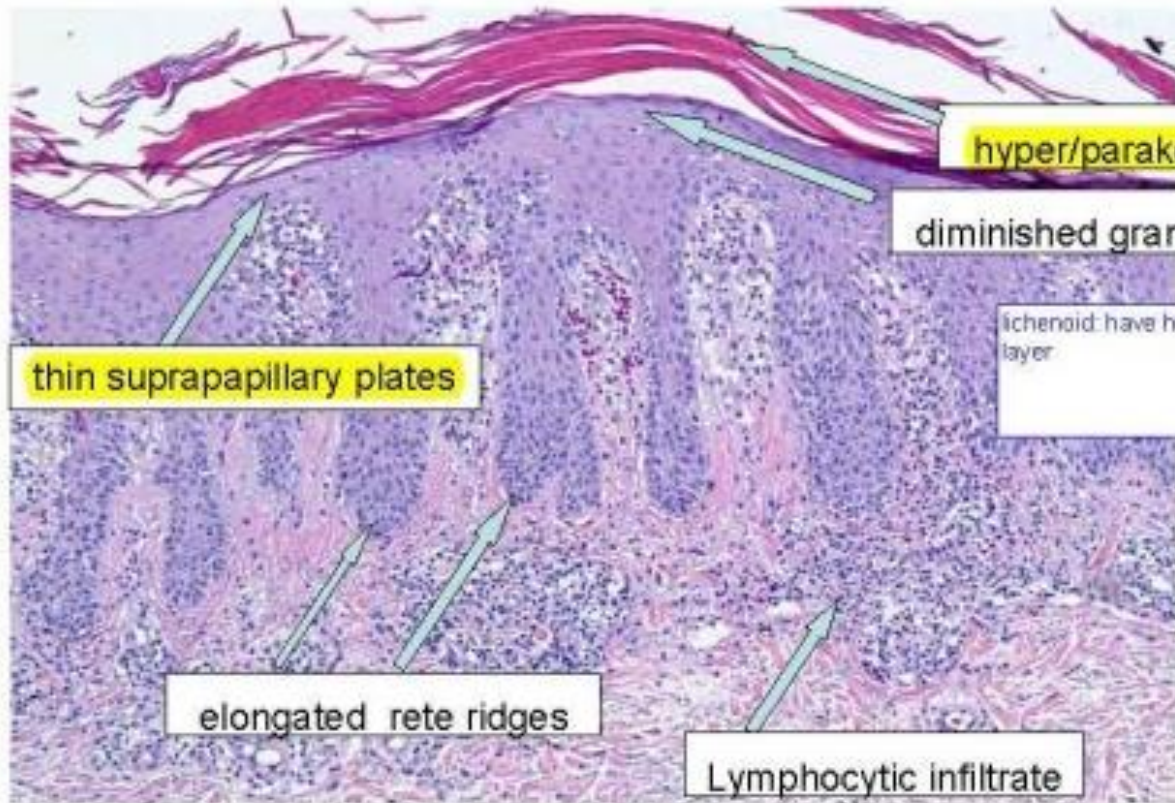
- NASIDs- may exacerbate psoriasis
- Methotrexate
- Sulphasalazine
- Cyclosporine
- Systemic steroid- may make the skin lesions more difficult to control
- Biologics

# Histopathological changes

If you are asked to enumerate histopathological findings of psoriasis you could say:

- 1) Parakeratosis.
- 2) Acanthosis
- 3) Munro abscess

- Inflammation
- Epidermal keratinocyte hyperproliferation
- (**parakeratosis**) incomplete cornification of keratinocytes with retention of nuclei
- (**acanthosis**), irregular thickening of the epidermis over the rete ridges but thinning over dermal papillae
- (**munro abscesses**) epidermal polymorphonuclear leucocyte infiltrates
- Vascular proliferation :dilated capillary loops in the dermal papillae



hyper/parakeratosis

diminished granular layer

thin suprapapillary plates

lichenoid: have huge granular layer

elongated rete ridges

Lymphocytic infiltrate

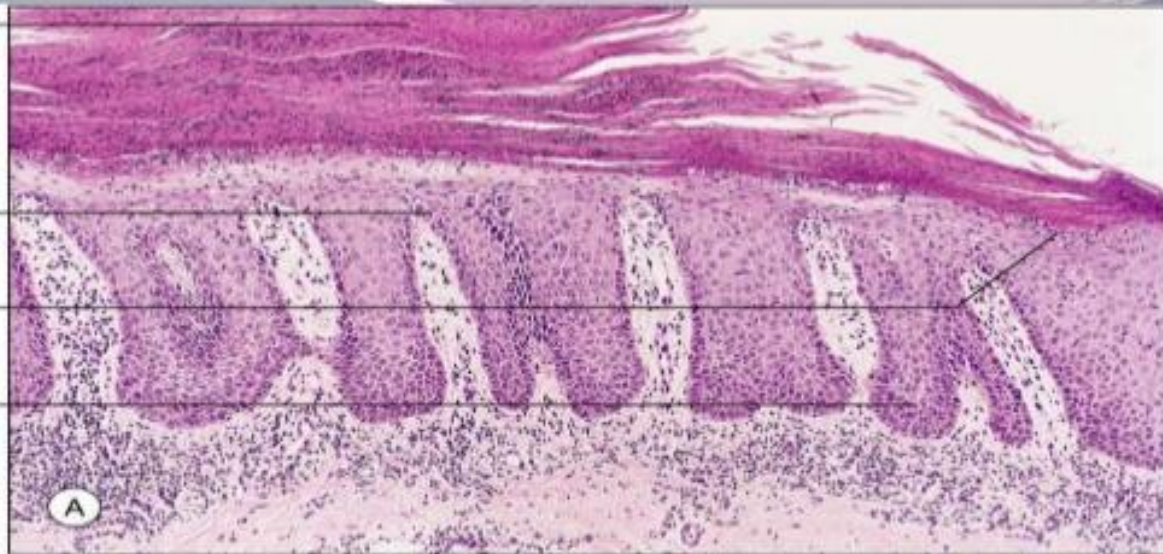
Confluent parakeratosis

Suprapapillary thinning

Spongiform pustule

Clubbed rete ridge

(A)



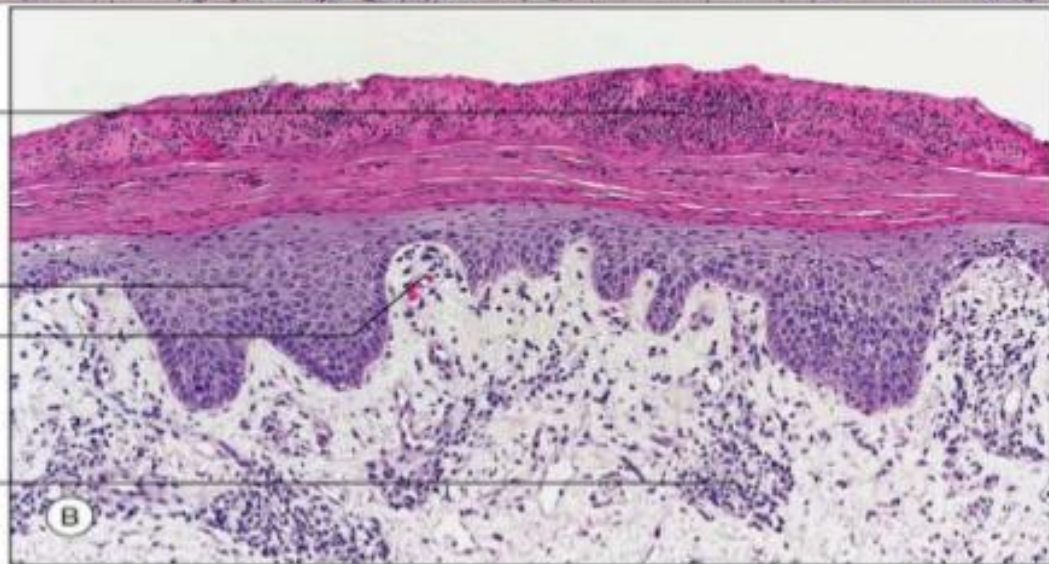
Munro microabscess

Acanthosis

Dilated capillary

Perivascular lymphocytes

(B)





# Laboratory findings

- Elevated uric acid
- Mild anemia
- Negative nitrogen balance
- Increase sedimentation rate
- Increase alpha-2-microglobulin
- Increase IgA and IgA immune complex

# Differential diagnosis

## Erythroderma

- Atopic dermatitis
- Sezary syndrome
- Drug eruption
- Generalized contact dermatitis

## Intertriginous psoriasis

- Candidiasis
- Contact dermatitis
- Darier's disease

# Differential diagnosis

## Psoriasis vulgaris

- Nummular eczema
- Mycosis fungoides, plaque stage
- Tinea corporis

## Guttate psoriasis

- Pityriasis rosea
- Pityriasis lichenoides et varioliformis
- Syphilis
- Tinea corporis

# Differential diagnosis

## Nail psoriasis

- Tinea unguium
- Dyskeratosis : secondary to injury

## Scalp and face

- Seborrheic dermatitis

## Genitalia

- In situ squamous cell CA

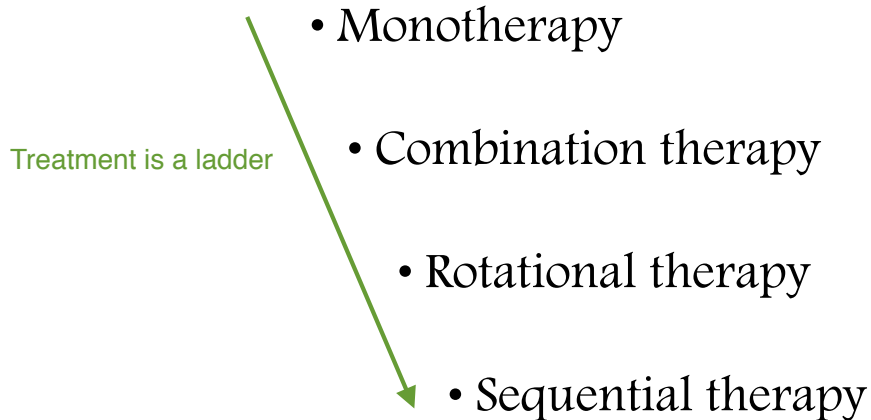
remember psoriasis usually involves skin , nails, and joints  
but lichen planus involves the skin , nails , and mucus membranes

# Current Treatment Approaches

Keep in mind that psoriasis is not a curable disease. Once you stop treatment, it will return

## Treatment Options

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## Treatment of Psoriasis

- What influences therapy choice?
  - Clinical type and severity of psoriasis (eg, mild vs moderate-to-severe), assessed by Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI)
  - Response to previous treatment
  - Therapeutic options
  - Patient preference
- The "1-2-3" step approach is no longer generally accepted for disease more than mild in severity
  - Level 1: Topical agents—do not work
  - Level 2: "Phototherapy"—difficult; not always available
  - Level 3: Systemic therapy
- Risk in relation to benefit must be evaluated

# Topical Agents

- Initial therapeutic choice for mild-to-moderate psoriasis (Not more than 5-10 lesions)
  - **Emollients** Moisturiser like vaseline to remove the scale
  - **Keratolytics** (salicylic acid, lactic acid, urea)
  - **Coal tar** Safe option but has an unpleasant odor
  - **Anthralin**
  - **Vitamin D<sub>3</sub> analogues** (calcipotriene)
  - **Corticosteroids**
  - **Retinoids** (tazarotene, acitretin)
- Compliance can be difficult due to amount of time required to apply topicals 2 to 4 times/day

# Systemic Therapy

- **Systemic therapy should be reserved for patients with disabling psoriasis despite topical therapy**
    - Psoralen + UVA light
    - Oral retinoids: acitretin (+/- phototherapy)
    - Methotrexate
    - Cyclosporine
- 

UV light types:

- A = 280-315 wavelength
- B = 315-400 wavelength
- C = causes cancer and burns

- UV light (broad band) was used previously in phototherapy. The treatment session used to take hours.
- Nowadays we have UVB (narrow band): it is UVB but limited to a single wavelength (ranges from 308-313). Session takes less than a minute.
- Excimer laser: narrow band but tubal in shape. Used for small or sensitive areas like genitalia, beaks, eyelid or nails.



# Phototherapy

- Used to treat moderate-to-severe psoriasis
- Phototherapy causes death of T cells in the skin
  - Natural sunlight
  - Ultraviolet (UV) B light
  - UVB light + coal tar (Goeckerman treatment)
    - **Best therapeutic index for moderate-to-severe disease** Patient is immersed in a bathtub filled with coal tar for 20-60 minutes then is washed then is taken for phototherapy
  - UVB light + anthralin + coal tar (Ingram regimen)
  - Usually 3 treatments/week for 2 to 3 months is needed
  - Accessibility to a light box facility and compliance necessary

# UVA Light With Psoralen (PUVA)

- Psoralen is a drug that causes a toxic reaction to skin lymphocytes when it is activated by UVA light
- Psoralen can be given systemically or topically
- Effective treatment—longest remissions of any treatment available
- Adverse effects
  - Nausea, burning, pruritus , hepatotoxic
  - Risk of cancer with cumulative use—both squamous cell carcinoma and melanoma
    - >160 cumulative treatments

Psoralen is given as a tablet then the patient is taken for UVA after one hour of ingestion

# Methotrexate

- Folic acid metabolite
  - Blocks deoxyribonucleic acid synthesis, inhibits cell proliferation
- Dose *Memorize the dose*
  - Start at about 15 mg/week; maximum 30 mg/week
  - Can also be given intramuscularly
- Adverse effects
  - Headache, nausea, bone marrow suppression
  - Cumulative dose predictive of liver toxicity
    - Prospectively identify risk factors for liver disease
    - Guidelines recommend liver biopsy after 1.5 g
    - Teratogenic in men and women

# Acitretin: Oral Retinoid

Trade name: tegison and neotegison

- Frequently used in combination with topical agents, systemic therapies, and UV light
- Less effective as monotherapy for plaque psoriasis
- Plaque psoriasis dose
  - Start at 10 to 25 mg/day
- Adverse effects (fewest dose-related adverse effects)
  - Peeling/dry skin, alopecia, muscle pain
  - Lipid abnormalities -Hepatotoxicity
- **Teratogenic: avoid pregnancy** for 1-2 years after discontinuation

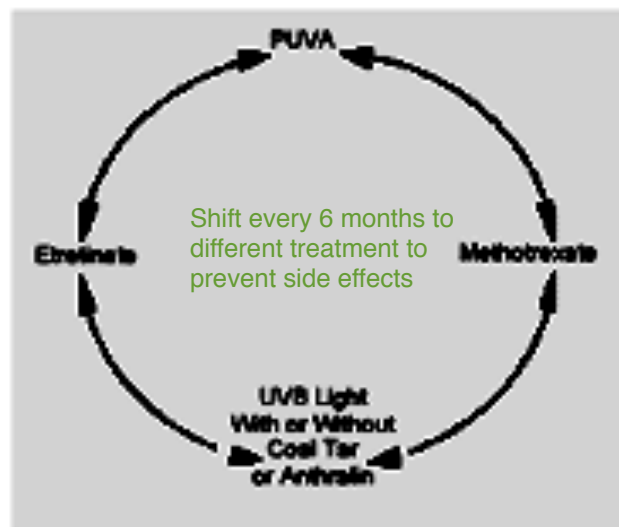
For this reason, acitretin is better not to be given to females in child bearing age

# Cyclosporine

- Reserved for severe, recalcitrant disease
- Inhibits the proliferation of activated T cells
- Dose: 4 mg/kg/day, not to exceed 5 mg/kg/day
  - Tapering slowly may improve remission
- Use not recommended for >1 year
  - Renal toxicity so kept for a young fit patient with severe psoriasis
- Patients relapse 2 to 4 months after discontinuing
- Adverse effects
  - Immunosuppression: infections, possible malignancy
  - Hirsutism, gingival hyperplasia, muscle pain, infection
  - Serious: hypertension, renal failure

## Rotational/Sequential Treatment

- Therapeutic strategy for moderate-to-severe disease
  - Switch to alternative therapy before early evidence of toxicity



# New Treatments

Mechanism of action of biological treatment:

- Block cytokines.
- Inhibit T cells.
- Promote immunity

---

Advantages:

- Self injection every two weeks

Disadvantages:

- Expensive (one injection costs about 3000 riyals)
- Adverse effects.

# Biologic Therapies Currently Approved for the Treatment of Psoriasis

Alefacept

Efalizumab

Etanercept

- These drugs are category C for pregnancy.
- Young female patient getting married in 6-12 months → start her on biologic treatment.
- Once she starts considering pregnancy → stop medication!
  
- Young fit patients with severe psoriasis are a good candidate for biological treatment.



\*You don't need to know the dose of biologic treatment.

\*You should know the target of each drug and side effects.

## Systemic Treatment of Psoriasis

### Currently licensed biologics for psoriasis

<u>Type Drug</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Dosing</u>	<u>Freq PlasmaHalf-life</u>
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#### **Adalimumab**

TNF- $\alpha$  inhibitor

Subcutaneous

80mg 1st week, then 40mg 2nd wk , Then Every 2 wk

2 weeks

## **Etanercept**

Subcutaneous

50mg (0.8mg/kg, max 50mg)

First 12 week: twice a wk Then once aweek

70 hours

# **Infliximab**

**IL-12/23Antibody**

**Intravenous**

**5mg/kg**

**0,2,6 wk, then every 8 wk8-9.**

**5days**

# Ustekinumab

Subcutaneous

45mg for <100 kg 90mg for >100kg 0,4 wk, then every 12 wk  
15-32days

## **Absolute Contraindications:**

**Pregnancy/breastfeeding**

**Active (chronic) infections (including tuberculosis and active chronic hepatitis B)**

**Congestive heart failure (NYHA grade III or IV)**

-Biologic treatment is not usually given to patients with coexisting medical problems.  
-It is important to do blood tests and BCG prior to starting medication because they suppress immunity.  
-Look out for reactivation of latent TB.

## **Relative contraindications**

**History of recurrent infections**

**PUVA >200 treatments (especially if followed by cyclosporin use)**

**HIV or AIDS**

**Hepatitis C**

**Congestive heart failure (NYHA grade I or II)**

**SLE, Demyelinating disease**

**Malignancies or lymphoproliferative disorders**

**Live vaccines**

## Treatment Modalities:

- Combination therapy
  - –contraindicated in additive increase risk/ S/E, e.g.
  - Phototherapy +CsA increase risk of cutaneous cancer
  - Acitretin +MTX increase risk of hepatotoxicity

## Treatment Modalities:

- Rotational therapy

- use of therapies for a specified period (e.g. 1–2 year) then rotate to an alternative therapy to minimize long-term toxicity in any given therapy and decrease therapy resistance/ tachyphylaxis

## Treatment Modalities:

- Sequential therapy–
  - Induction phase: use stronger potentially more toxic agents to clear psoriasis initially
    - e.g. Ultrapotent topical steroid or CsA
  - Transitional phase
    - e.g. OM steroid+ Nocte calcipotriol or acitretin
  - Maintenance phase: use of a “weaker”, less toxic agent for maintenance
    - e.g. weekday calcipotriol +weekend steroid or acitretin +/-UVB/ PUVA



# PITYRIASIS ROSEA

النخالية الوردية

# Pityriasis Rosea

Acute, self-limiting, mild inflammatory exanthem of unknown origin.

## Etiology:

- Unknown
- **A virus infection** is most frequently suggested?
  - The formation of herald patch
  - The self-limited course
  - The seasonal preponderance & rare recurrence
- **The Pit. rosea-like may occur as a reaction to:**
  - Captopril
  - Gold
  - Clonidine
  - Barbiturates
  - Arsenicals
  - Bismuth
  - Methoxypromazine

## **Epidemiology:**

**In children and young adult**

**-Increased incidence in spring and autumn**

**-PR has been estimated to account for 2% of dermatologic outpatient visits**

**-PR is more common in women than in men**

-Common in young females.

-Although it is a self-limiting disease, most patients present early.

## Pathophysiology:

- PR considered to be a viral exanthem
- Immunologic data suggest a viral etiology
- Families and close contacts
- A single outbreak tends to elicit lifelong immunity
- Human herpesvirus (HHV)-7 and HHV-6**
- PR-like drug eruptions may be difficult to distinguish from non-drug-induced cases
- Captopril, metronidazole, isotretinoin, penicillamine, bismuth, gold, barbiturates, and omeprazole

- Begins with a solitary macule that heralds the eruption(herald spot/patch )
- Usually a salmon-colored macule In light skinned people.
- Over a few days it become a patch with a collarette of **fine scale just inside the well-demarcated border**
- Within the next 1-2 weeks, a generalized exanthem usually appears
- Bilateral and symmetric macules with a collarette scale oriented with their long axes **along cleavage lines**
- Tends to resolve over the next 6 weeks important sign for Dx
- Pruritus is common, usually of mild-to-moderate severity
- Over trunk and proximal limbs

-Herald (mother) patch precedes exanthem by ~10 days.

-The patient tells you “I got this patch initially then it spread all over my body”.

# Pityriasis Rosea

## Clinical features

- Salmon-colored papular & macular lesions
- **oval** ~~oval~~ patches or circinate covered with finely crinkled, dry epidermis ⇒ often desquamates
- Usually begins with a single - herald or mother patch
- The new lesions spread rapidly
- Arranged - **runs parallel to the lines of cleavage**
- Generalized, affecting the trunk & sparing the sun-exposed surfaces May still affect face, lips, eyelids.
- **Moderate** pruritus may be present
- Variations in the mode of onset, course and clinical manifestations are common (papular Pit. Rosea)

-Anteriorly: the lesion runs from shoulder area towards the chest (midline).  
-Posteriorly: Runs from the upper back towards periphery.

## **Atypical form of PR :**

**Occurs in 20% of patients**

**Inverse PR**

**Unilateral variant**

**Papular PR**

**Erythema multiforme-like**

**Purpuric PR**

If it appears in palms and soles → DDX: secondary syphilis.

# Differential Diagnosis :

## Viral exantheme

Drug Eruption

Lichen Planus

Psoriasis, Guttate

Syphilis

Tine Corporis →

Seborrheic Dermatitis

Nummular Dermatitis

Pityriasis Lichenoides

Scenario:

Patient presents in early stage (only herald patch) is misdiagnosed to have a fungal infection. The physician prescribes an anti-fungal agent. After a few days the patient returns upset with full exanthem and is assuming that the prescribed medication worsened their condition.



# Pityriasis Rosea

## Treatment

- Prevent irritable hot baths & soaps and woolen clothes

Ask the patient to be gentle with their skin and not to use a loofah.

- Symptomatic

- Emollients as first line

If severe:

- Corticosteroid (Topical, Oral, IM)
- UVB

# Lichen planus (LP)

الحزاز الجلدي

## Background:

- Lichen planus (LP) is a pruritic, papular eruption characterized by its **violaceous color**; polygonal shape; and, sometimes, fine scale
- It is most commonly found on the flexor surfaces of the upper extremities, on the genitalia, and on the mucous membranes.

-Whenever you read “violaceous color”, it is most probably LP.

## Lichen Planus & Lichenoid Eruption

- Inflammatory pruritic disease of the skin and mucous membranes
- Rare in children
- Etiology:
  - The cause of LP remains unknown
  - ?? an alteration of epidermal cell antigens induce a cell mediated immune response
  - ?? may be familial (early age & chronic)
  - **Drugs ⇒ may induce lichenoid reactions** (e.g. antimalarials, thiazide derivatives, propranolol..)
  - Viral infection? Symmetrically associated with viral hepatitis
  - A psychogenic origin? Severe psychic trauma
  - An auto-immune phenomenon?

## **Epidemiology :**

- Approximately 1% of all new patients seen at health care clinics**
- Rare in children**
- F=M**
- No racial predispositions have been noted**
- LP can occur at any age but two thirds of patients are aged 30-60 years**

# Pathophysiology :

The cause of LP is unknown

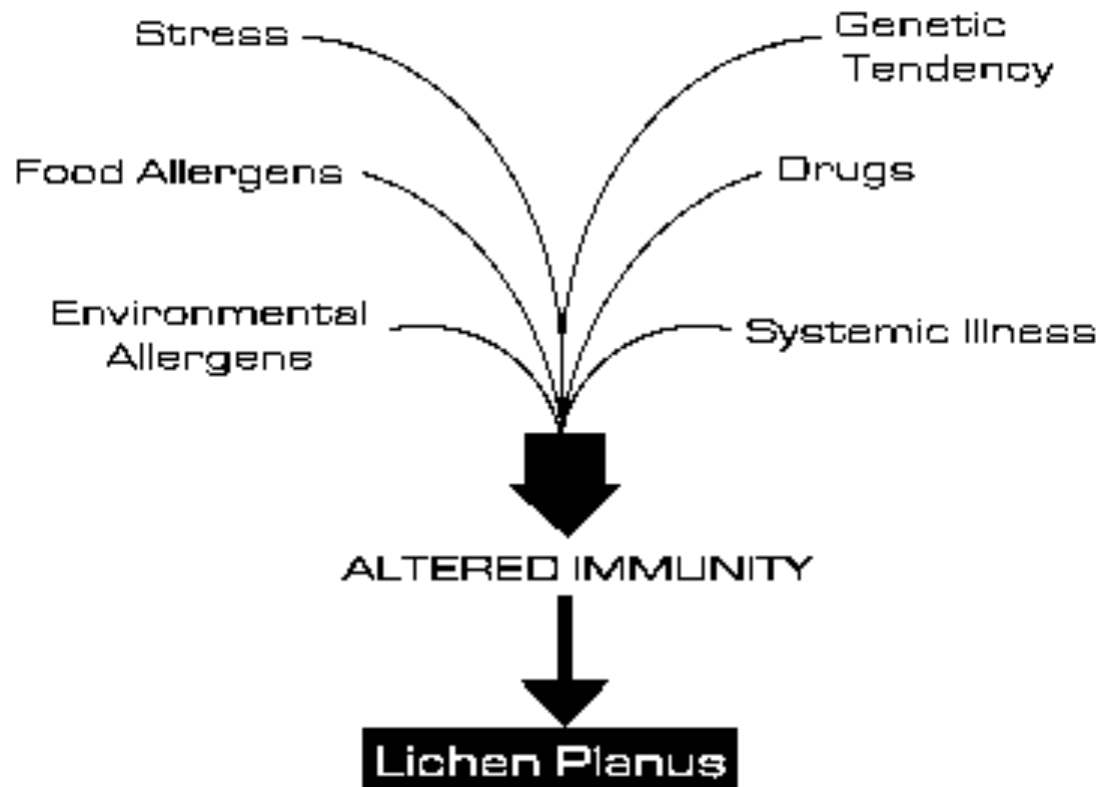
-LP may be a cell-mediated immune response of unknown origin

-LP may be found with other diseases of altered immunity like ulcerative colitis, alopecia areata, vitiligo, dermatomyositis

-An association is noted between LP and hepatitis C virus infection ,chronic active hepatitis, and primary biliary cirrhosis

-Familial cases

-Drug may induce lichenoid reaction like thiazide,antimalarials,propranolol



Lichen Planus: Multifactorial Cause

# Clinical Features :

Most cases are insidious

-The initial lesion is usually located on the flexor surface of the limbs

-After a week or more, a generalized eruption develops with maximal spreading within 2-16 weeks-

-Pruritus is common but varies in severity

-Deep pigmentations may persist for long time.

-Oral lesions may be asymptomatic or have a burning sensation

-In more than 50% of patients with cutaneous disease, the lesions resolve within 6 months, and 85% of cases subside within 18 months

Most important features of LP: pruritus + pigmentation



5 P's to describe LP: Plentiful, Purple, Pruritic, Polygonal, Papules.

- **The papules are violaceous, shiny, and polygonal; varying in size from 1 mm to greater than 1 cm in diameter**
- **They can be discrete or arranged in groups of lines or Circles**
- **Characteristic fine, white lines, called Wickham stria, are often found on the papules**
- **Oral lesions are classified as reticular, plaquelike, atrophic, papular, erosive, and bullous**
- **Ulcerated oral lesions may have a higher incidence of malignant transformation (the development of squamous cell carcinoma)**
- **Genital involvement is common in men with cutaneous disease**
- **Vulvar involvement can range from reticulate papules to severe erosions**

- Wickham's striae: Adherent scale which forms a network on the surface of the papule  
Grayish puncta or streaks which form a network on the surface of the papules (focal increase in thickness of granular layer & infiltrate)
- Koebner's isomorphic phenomenon:  
As in psoriasis by physical trauma (scratching) skin lesions are produced in the scratch marks identical to those already on the pat. skin.
- Pruritus: Main symptom
  - It is intolerable in acute cases
  - Most pat. react by rubbing rather than scratching

# Clinical types: Identifying the type of LP requires experience

## ✓ Hypertrophic LP

-These extremely pruritic lesions are most often found on the extensor surfaces of the lower extremities, especially around the ankles

## ✓ Atrophic LP

-is characterized by a few lesions, which are often the resolution of annular or hypertrophic lesions

## ✓ Erosive LP Pre-cancerous

## ✓ Follicular LP

-keratotic papules that may coalesce into plaques  
-A scarring alopecia may result

## ✓ Annular LP

Annular lesions with an atrophic center can be found on the buccal mucosa and the male genitalia

## ✓ Vesicular and bullous LP

-develop on the lower limbs or in the mouth from preexisting LP lesions

## ✓ Actinic LP

-Africa, the Middle East, and India

-mildly pruritic eruption

-characterized by nummular patches with a hypopigmented zone surrounding a hyperpigmented center

## ✓ LP pigmentosus AKA tropical LP: seen in people from southern part of Saudi

-common in persons with darker-pigmented skin (Hyperpigmented macule)

-usually appears on face and neck

# LP and Nails

In 10% of patients  
nail plate thinning causes **longitudinal grooving** and  
ridging

subungual hyperkeratosis, onycholysis

Rarely, the matrix can be permanently destroyed with  
prominent pterygium formation

twenty-nail dystrophy

# Differential diagnosis

- Papular syphilis
- Guttate psoriasis
- Lichenoid forms of (eczema, scabies)
- Pityriasis rosea
- Leukoplakia (mucous m.) Pre-cancerous

DDx of oral LP:

-Candida → can be sloughed off.

-Leukoplakia → Bleeds if you try to slough it

# Management :

**self-limited disease that usually resolves within 8-12 months** but leaves hyperpigmentation.

**-Anti-histamine**

**-topical steroids, particularly class I or II ointments**

**-systemic steroids for symptom control and possibly more rapid resolution**

**-Oral acitretin**

**-Photo-therapy**

**-Others**





# Summery

## Psoriasis

- May occur at any age from infancy to the 10<sup>th</sup> decade.
- Most patients have a mild disease with a remitting and relapsing course.
- T-lymphocyte mediated mechanism.
- **Triggering factors:** infection, drugs (Beta blockers), trauma (Koebner's phenomenon), pregnancy, stress, alcohol, sunlight.
- **Clinical features:** Well defined plaque with an erythematous base + silvery scaling + mostly affecting limbs, scalp and sacral area + Auspitz sign (pinpoint bleeding upon removal of scale)
- **Clinical types:** 1) Non-pustular 2) Pustular 3) Erythrodermic 4) Psoriatic arthritis.
- Chronic plaque psoriasis (non-pustular) is the most common type.
- **Nail changes:** Nail pitting, oil spots, onychodystrophy, loss of nail plate.
- Scalp psoriasis produces a non-scarring alopecia and exceeds hairline.
- Palmoplantar psoriasis is associated with fissuring.
- Guttate psoriasis mainly affects children and young adults often following a streptococcal throat infection.
- **Generalized pustular psoriasis:** erythematous edematous plaques studded with sterile pustules + weight loss + muscle weakness + hypocalcemia + leukocytosis + elevated ESR. Often precipitated by withdrawal of oral steroids.
- **Erythrodermic psoriasis:** Universal redness and scaling (>90% of BSA) + fever + leukocytosis + sepsis + transcutaneous fluid loss. Triggered by systemic infection, steroid withdrawal, methotrexate withdrawal, phototoxicity or irritant dermatitis.
- **Histopathological features:** Parakeratosis + acanthosis + Munro abscess.
- **Treatment:** Topical agents (mild to moderate) > phototherapy (moderate to severe) > systemic therapy
- **Adverse effects of systemic medications:**
  - Methotrexate: liver toxicity
  - Acitretin: teratogenicity & liver toxicity
  - Cyclosporine: Renal toxicity

## Pityriasis Rosea

- Acute, self-limiting, mild inflammatory exanthema of unknown origin. May be precipitated by a viral infection or drug reaction.
- **Clinical features:** Begins with a herald patch followed by generalized exanthema after 1-2 weeks. Oval well demarcated patch with fine scale running along cleavage lines.

## Lichen Palnus

- Pruritic papular eruption characterized by its violaceous color, polygonal scale, sometimes fine scale. Involves skin, nails and mucous membranes.
- Rare in children. Two thirds of patients are aged 30-60 years.
- Pruritus and deep pigmentations are the most important complaints.
- **Clinical features:** Violaceous, shiny, and polygonal papules of varying size. They can be discrete or arranged in groups of lines or circles + Characteristic fine white lines (Wickham stria).
- **Nail changes:** longitudinal grooving and ridging + subungual hyperkeratosis + onycholysis + pterygium.
- **Management:** self-limited resolves in 8-12 months but leave hyperpigmentation.



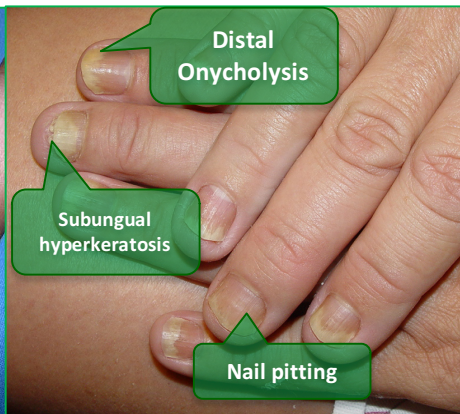
Bilateral, symmetrical, well-defined, regular, erythematous, scaly, plaques on elbows and knees.



Well-defined, generalized, dull red, scaly, papules and plaques on the back.



Fissure

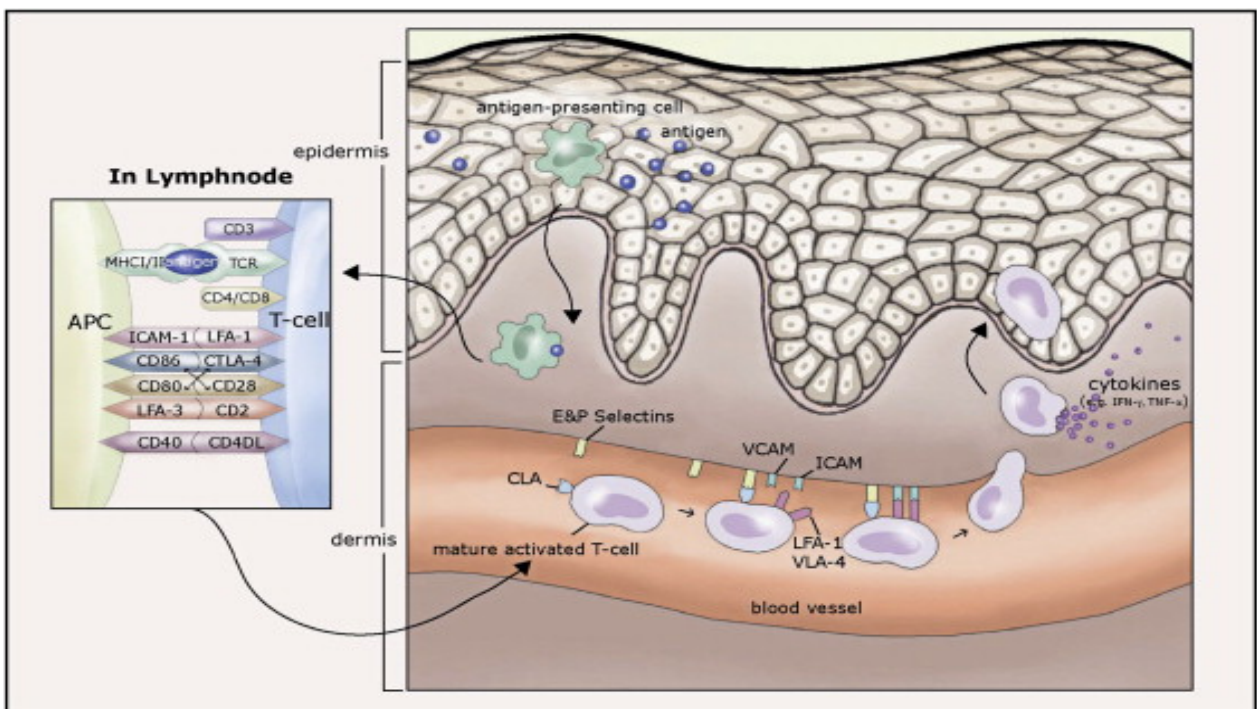


Distal Onycholysis

Subungual hyperkeratosis

Nail pitting

Fissures are an additional feature of the Psoriasis in the Palms & Soles. It develops because the palms and soles already have a thick skin, when Psoriasis occurs in it (in a thick skin) the scales accumulate; and with recurrent mechanical movements of the hands or soles the fissures develop!



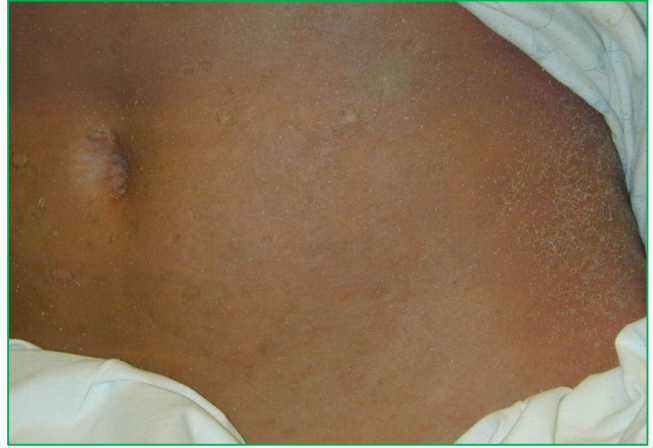
## Plaque psoriasis (Psoriasis Vulgaris):



## Guttate Psoriasis:



## Erythrodermic Psoriasis:



## Pustular Psoriasis:



**Psoriasis inversus (*Sebopsoriasis*) or flexural psoriasis:**



**Lichen Planus**





# Pityriasis Rosea



**Pictures from textbook (Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 7th Edition):**



**Figure 3-1. Psoriasis vulgaris** Primary lesions are well-defined, reddish or salmon-pink papules, droplike, with a loosely adherent silvery-white lamellar scale.



**Figure 3-2. Psoriasis vulgaris: buttocks (guttate type)** Small, discrete, erythematous, scaling, papules that tend to coalesce, appearing after a group A streptococcal pharyngitis. There was a family history of psoriasis.





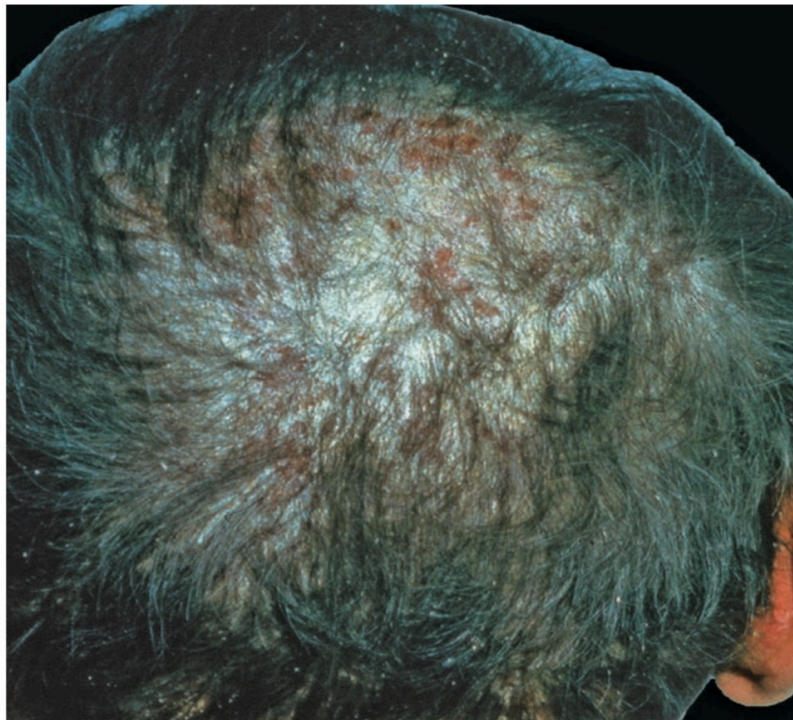
**Figure 3-3. Psoriasis vulgaris: elbow** Chronic stable plaque psoriasis on the elbow. In this location, scales can either accumulate to oyster shell-like hyperkeratosis, or are shed in large sheets revealing a beefy-red base. This plaque has arisen from the coalescence of smaller, papular lesions that can still be seen on lower arm.



**Figure 3-4. Psoriasis vulgaris: chronic stable type** Multiple large scaling plaques on the trunk, buttock, and legs. Lesions are round or polycyclic and confluent forming geographic patterns. Although this is the classical manifestation of chronic stable plaque psoriasis, the eruption is still ongoing, as evidenced by the small guttate lesions in the lumbar and lower back area. This patient was cleared by acitretin/PUVA combination treatment within 4 weeks.



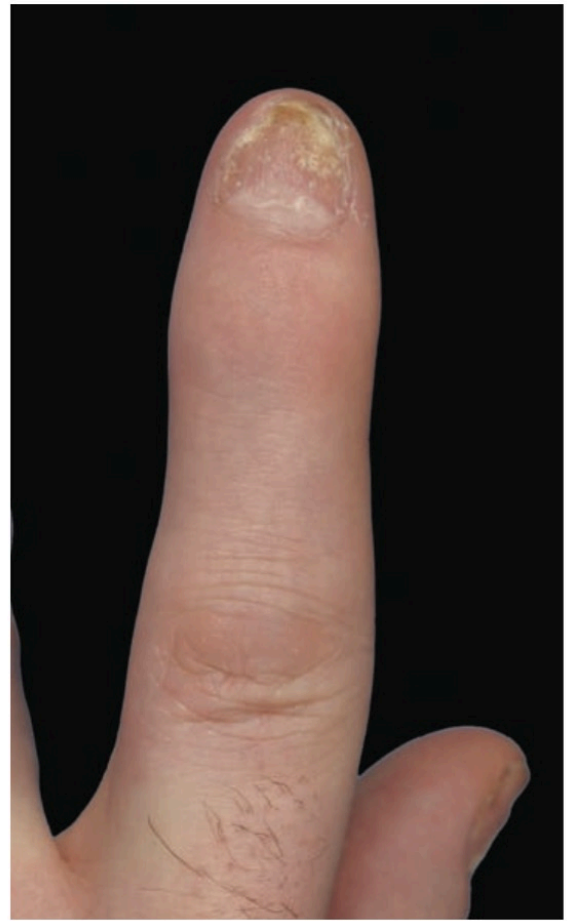
**Figure 3-7. (A). Psoriasis, palmar involvement** The entire palm is involved by large adherent scales with fissures. The base is erythematous and there is a sharp margin on the wrist. **(B) Psoriasis vulgaris: soles** Erythematous plaques with thick, yellowish, lamellar scale and desquamation on sites of pressure arising on the plantar feet. Note sharp demarcation of the inflammatory lesion on the arch of the foot. Similar lesions were present on the palms.



**Figure 3-8. Psoriasis of the scalp** There is massive compaction of horny material on the entire scalp. In some areas, the thick asbestos-like scales have been shed revealing a red infiltrated base. Alopecia is not due to psoriasis but is androgenetic alopecia.



**Figure 3-9. Psoriasis, facial involvement** Classic psoriatic plaque on the forehead of a 21-year-old male who also had massive scalp involvement.



**Figure 3-15. Psoriatic arthritis** Dactylitis of index finger. Note sausage-like thickening over interphalangeal joints. There is psoriasis of the nail.



**Figure 3-10. Psoriasis vulgaris: inverse pattern** Because of the moist and warm environment in the submammary region, scales have been macerated and shed revealing a brightly erythematous and glistening base.



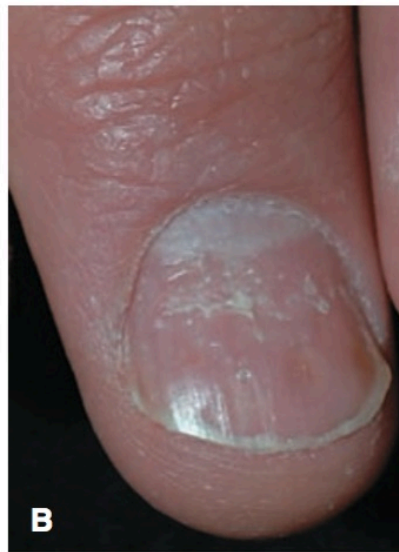
**Figure 34-11. Psoriasis vulgaris: intertriginous** An erythematous plaque, present for decades and unresponsive to topical antifungal agents, is seen in the left inguinal area. Biopsy excluded extramammary Paget disease.



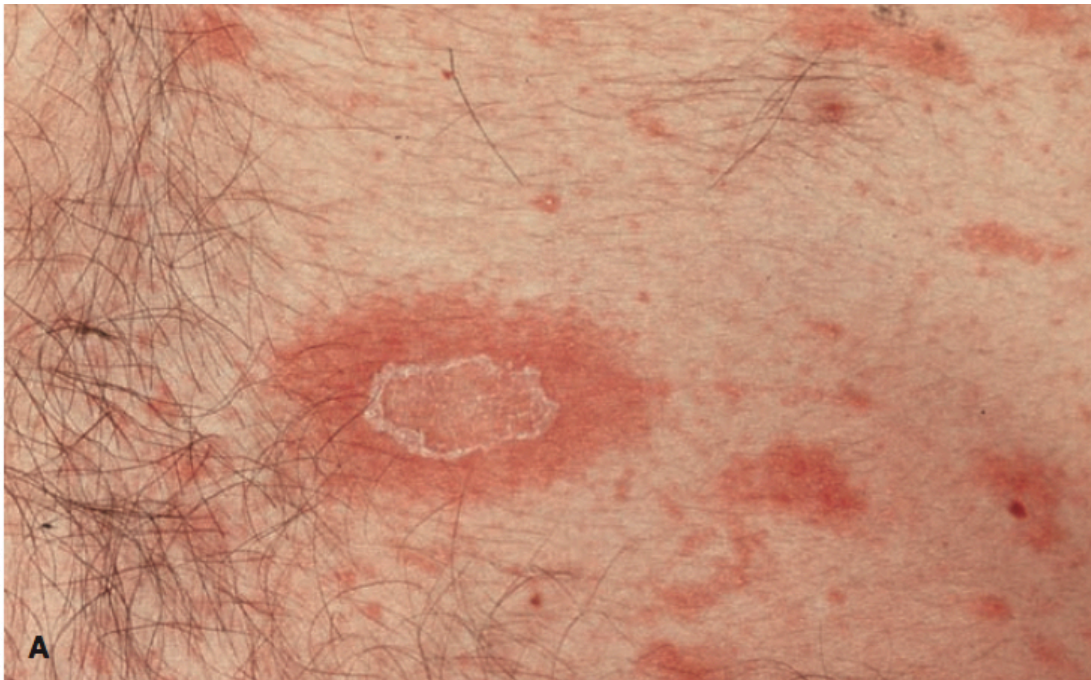
**Figure 3-13. Generalized acute pustular psoriasis (von Zumbusch)** This female patient was toxic and had fever and peripheral leukocytosis. The entire body was covered with showers of creamy-white coalescing pustules on a fiery-red base. Since these pustules are very superficial, they can be literally wiped off, which results in red oozing erosions.



**Figure 3-11. Psoriasis of the fingernails** Pits have progressed to onycholysis (holes in the nail plates), and there is transverse and longitudinal ridging. This patient also has paronychia and psoriatic arthritis (for further images of nail involvement, see Section 34).



**Figure 32-8. Psoriasis vulgaris** (A) Multiple nail pits on the dorsal nail plate, “oil staining” of the nail bed, and distal onycholysis. (B) Trachonychia (rough surface) with oil staining and distal onycholysis. (C) Punctate leukonychia is pathognomonic for psoriasis and may be seen in only one finger. As can be seen in the nail below with traumatic subungual hemorrhage, punctate leukonychia did not occur at this site of trauma. (D) Oil staining, distal onycholysis, longitudinal ridging, adherence of the cuticle to the distal nail plate.



**Figure 3-20. Pityriasis rosea (A).** Herald patch. An erythematous (salmon-red) plaque with a collarette scale on the trailing edge of the advancing border. Collarette means that scale is attached at periphery and loose toward the center of the lesion. **(B)** Overview of exanthem of pityriasis rosea with the herald patch shown in part **(A)**. There are papules and small plaques with oval configurations that follow the lines of cleavage. The fine scaling of the salmon-red papules cannot be seen at this magnification, while the collarette of the herald patch is obvious.



**Figure 14-20. Lichen planus (A)** Flat-topped, polygonal, sharply defined papules of violaceous color, grouped and confluent. Surface is shiny and, upon close inspection with a hand lens, fine white lines are revealed (Wickham striae, row). **(B)** Close up of flat-topped shiny violaceous papules that are polygonal.



**Figure 14-23. Lichen planus (A)** Silvery-white, confluent, flat-topped papules on the lips. Note: Wickham stria (arrow). **(B)** Lichen planus, Koebner phenomenon. Linear arrangement of flat-topped, shiny papules that erupted at scratching.



**Figure 14-22. Disseminated lichen planus** A shower of disseminated papules on the trunk and the extremities (not



**Figure 32-9. Lichen planus (A)** Middle finger: involvement of the proximal fold and matrix has caused trachonychia, longitudinal ridging, and pterygium formation. Index finger: destruction of the matrix and nail plate is complete with anonychia. Seven of ten fingernails are involved; the others are normal. **(B)** Involvement of the nail matrix with scarring or pterygium formation proximally dividing the nail plate in two. **(C)** Early involvement of the matrix with thinning of the thumbnail plates. **(D)** Same patient as Fig. 32-8C 2 years later, the nail plate is completely destroyed, i.e., anonychia.