

Top Dermatologic Issues in Primary Care

Jeffrey D. McBride, MD, PhD

Dermatologist, Dermatopathologist, OU Dermatology
Director, OU Dermatopathology, Department of Dermatology

Dermatologist, Dermatopathologist
Oklahoma City VA Medical Center

Associate Member, OU Stephenson Cancer Center
Cancer Biology Research Program, Biology of Melanoma



Disclosure

- I have served as a consultant for Castle Biosciences
- I have served as a consultant for Aegle Therapeutics

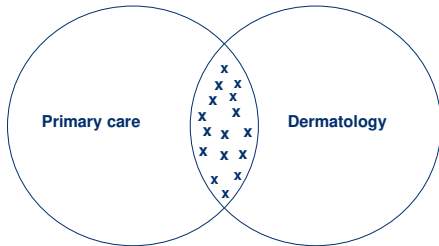
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Goals of today's talk

- Review the morphologic range of dermatologic disease
- Emphasize dermatologic diagnoses in primary care setting
- NOT to review the entirety of relevant dermatology
- Emphasize the essential role of a biopsy in making a diagnosis

⌘ 3

Scope of this talk



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Our why:

• “Skin conditions are the most common reason for a new presentation to a primary care physician”^{*}



^{*} Raux E Le, Edwards PJ, Sanderson E, Barnes RK, Ridd MJ. The content and conduct of GP consultations for dermatology problems: A cross-sectional study. *Br J Gen Pract.* 2020;70(699):e723–30.

✘ Grada et al. *J Clin Aesthet Dermatol.* 2022 May; 15(5): E82–E86. 5

A quick tour through the world of dermatologic morphology

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Describing Lesions

- Size
- Color
- Primary Lesion Type
- Secondary Lesion Type (if present)
- Configuration
- Location

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Lesion Types**Primary**

Changes in the skin directly caused by the disease process.

Secondary

Changes in the skin caused by external forces (scratching, trauma, infection, or the healing process).

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Primary Lesions

| | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| Macule | Bulla |
| Patch | Pustule |
| Papule | Wheal |
| Plaque | Telangiectasia |
| Nodule | Cyst |
| Tumor | Comedones (open & closed) |
| Vesicle | |

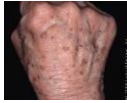
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Macule < 1cm flat, non-palpable, change of skin color.

Examples



Freckles (Ephelides)



Solar Lentigines



Junctional Nevus

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Patch > 1cm flat, non-palpable, change of skin color.



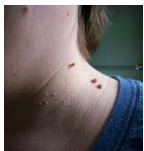
Vitiligo



Port Wine Stain

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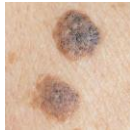
Papule < 1cm superficial, raised, palpable lesion with distinct borders



Skin Tags (Acrochordons)



Molluscum Contagiosum



Seborrheic keratoses



Intradermal nevus



Lichen Planus

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Plaque >1 cm raised, flat-topped, palpable lesion greater than 1 cm in diameter.



Psoriasis

Atopic Dermatitis

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Nodule – Firm lesion less than 1 cm in diameter. It can be located in epidermis, dermis, or subcutaneous tissue. Increased depth differentiates nodules from papules.



Rheumatoid Nodules

Nodular Acne

Lipoma

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Tumor – Solid mass in skin or subcutaneous tissue > 2 cm.



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Fluid filled sacs:

< 1 cm → Vesicle
> 1 cm → Bulla



Herpes Simplex (vesicle)



Bullous Pemphigoid (Bulla)



Contact Dermatitis

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Pustule – vesicle containing “puss” which is neutrophil-rich.
Can be sterile or infectious.



Folliculitis



Acne



Pustular psoriasis

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Wheal – Edema in upper dermis.



Urticaria

Telangiectasia - Dilated superficial blood vessel.



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Cyst – Cavity containing fluid, solid or semi-solid material



Epidermal Inclusion Cyst

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Comedones – A plug of keratin or sebum within the dilated orifice of a hair follicle (non-inflammatory)



Closed "whitehead" Open "blackhead"

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Secondary Lesions

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Scale | Crust |
| Excoriation | Atrophy |
| Lichenification | Purpura |
| Fissure | Hyper/Hypo-pigmentation |
| Erosion | |
| Ulcer | |

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Scale – Flakes or plates of desquamated stratum corneum

Seborrheic Dermatitis



Xerosis

Crust - Dried plasma or exudates.



Impetigo

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Atrophy – Thinning or absence of epidermis, dermis, or subcutaneous fat.



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Lichenification – Thickening of epidermis with exaggerated skin lines. Usually from chronic scratching/rubbing.



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Erosion – Loss of part or all of the epidermis.



(Pemphigus Vulgaris)

Ulcer – Loss of epidermis and dermis due to necrosis.



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Excoriation – Loss of superficial epidermis due to trauma.
(ie: scratching, picking)



Fissure – Crack in skin due to dryness.



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Petechiae, Purpura, & Ecchymosis -
Non-blanchable bleeding in skin.

Size: petechiae < 3 mm
purpura 3 mm – 1 cm
ecchymosis > 1 cm



Petechiae



Palpable Purpura



Ecchymosis

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Hypo/ Hyper-pigmentation

Secondary lightening or darkening of the skin.



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Skin Configurations

- Annular
- Linear
- Grouped
- Serpiginous
- Arcuate
- Disseminated/Generalized
- Confluent
- Reticulated

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Annular: Ring shaped



Tinea
Corporis

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Linear: In a line.



Koebner's Phenomenon

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Grouped: Lesions that are clustered together.



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Serpiginous: wavy or “snake-like” in appearance.



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Arcuate: crescent or “half-moon” shaped



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Reticular: lesions with a “net-like” arrangement.



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Disseminated/Generalized: Describes a lesion that is usually localized that has spread



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Confluent: running together



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Location

- Intertriginous
- Photodistributed
- Palmar/Plantar
- Dermatomal
- Symmetrical
- Blaschko's Lines

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Intertriginous: Area where two skin surfaces touch or rub together.



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Photodistributed: in areas exposed to sunlight.



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Palmar/Plantar: relating to the palm of the hand or sole of the foot.



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Dermatomal: corresponding to a dermatome of the body.



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Symmetrical: Made up of exactly similar parts facing each other or around an axis



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Blaschko's Lines: skin lines that trace the migration of embryonic cells.



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What are the most common derm diagnoses in primary care?

Study in 2022: on the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) between 2007 and 2016, the most recent years available:

- The NAMCS is an ongoing survey which provides objective information about the use of ambulatory medical services in the United States.
- The survey is conducted annually by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- The NAMCS surveys a large, generalizable sample of physicians and non-physician providers and has achieved high response rates of up to 77%.

Ahn CS, Allen MM, Davis SA, Huang KE, Fleischer AB, Feldman SR. The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey: A resource for understanding the outpatient dermatology treatment. *J Dermatolog Treat.* 2014;25(6):453-458.

Arata AE, Anzangruber F, Mostafa AM, Navarini AA. Perspectives of online surveys in dermatology. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol.* 2019;33:511-520.

✘ Grada et al. *J Clin Aesthet Dermatol.* 2022 May; 15(5): E82-E86.

45

The top most common

Horizontal lines for notes.

Acne vulgaris vs rosacea – diagnosis



Horizontal lines for notes.

Acne vs Rosacea

| OTHER FEATURES: Acne Vulgaris | OTHER FEATURES: Rosacea |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most prevalent in adolescents and young adults • Variable distribution on face • Frequent shoulder, chest, and/or back involvement • Sequelae of postinflammatory hyperpigmentation, postinflammatory erythema, and scarring • Association with hyperandrogenic disorders (eg, polycystic ovarian syndrome) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most prevalent in adults >30 years old • Centrofacial distribution (cheeks, nose, chin) • Ocular involvement (eg, symptoms of eye irritation, eyelid erythema, conjunctival injection, crusting, recurrent hordeolum or chalazion) • Sensitive skin • Flushing |
| <p>KEY CONCEPTS</p> <p>Acne vulgaris and rosacea are common causes of inflamed papules or pustules on the face. Recognition of other characteristic features is helpful for distinguishing these conditions. Patients may exhibit some or all of the displayed features.</p> <p>Distinguishing between acne vulgaris and rosacea is important because of differences in the approach to patient evaluation and treatment. For example, an assessment for signs of associated hyperandrogenism (eg, menstrual irregularity, hirsutism, and/or alopecia) is an important component of the initial evaluation of female patients with acne vulgaris, particularly in the presence of severe, sudden-onset, or recalcitrant acne. In patients with rosacea, an assessment for signs or symptoms of ocular involvement is important for identifying patients who may benefit from ophthalmologic examination.</p> | |

Horizontal lines for notes.



Cysts? Unfortunately not.



✘ Pajaziti, L., Hapçiu, S.R., Dobruna, S. et al. Skin metastases from lung cancer: a case report. BMC Res Notes 8, 139 (2015). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13104-015-1105-0> 55

Benign neoplasms of the skin (examples)



✘ 56

"Pyogenic granuloma" (lobular capillary hemangioma) vs other?



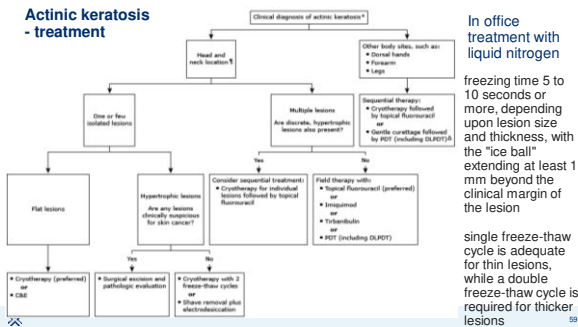
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Actinic keratoses



58

Actinic keratosis - treatment



In office treatment with liquid nitrogen freezing time 5 to 10 seconds or more, depending upon lesion size and thickness, with the "ice ball" extending at least 1 mm beyond the clinical margin of the lesion

single freeze-thaw cycle is adequate for thin lesions, while a double freeze-thaw cycle is required for thicker lesions



59

Contact dermatitis - diagnosis



- Common contact allergens include plant allergens, metals, fragrances, acrylates, medicaments, and preservatives.

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History and geometric distribution are important

Useful resource: Contact Dermatitis Institute (www.contactdermatitisinstitute.com)



60

Contact dermatitis – treatment/ avoidance



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The other “Top” issues

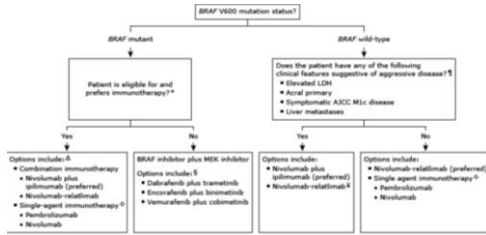
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Skin cancer – The “big 3” – diagnosis - clinical



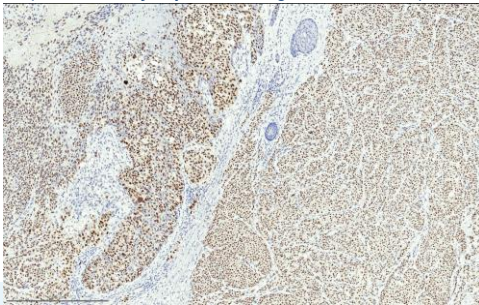
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Melanoma- treatment



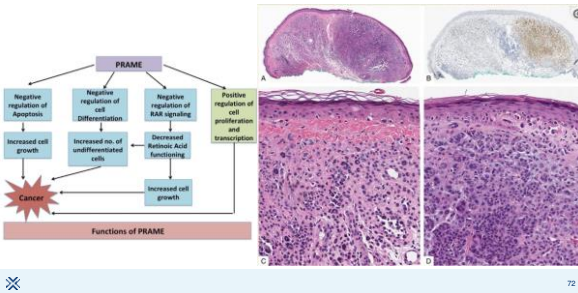
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PRAME (Preferentially-expressed Antigen in Melanoma)



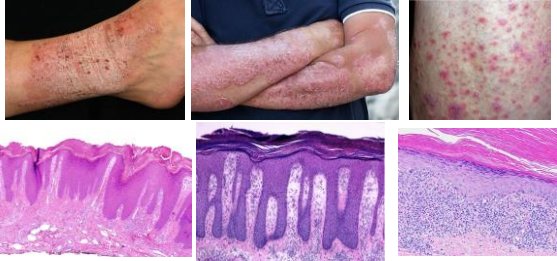
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PRAME in melanoma



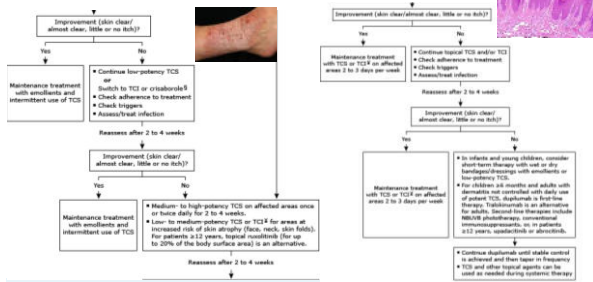
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Eczematous vs psoriasiform vs lichenoid - diagnosis

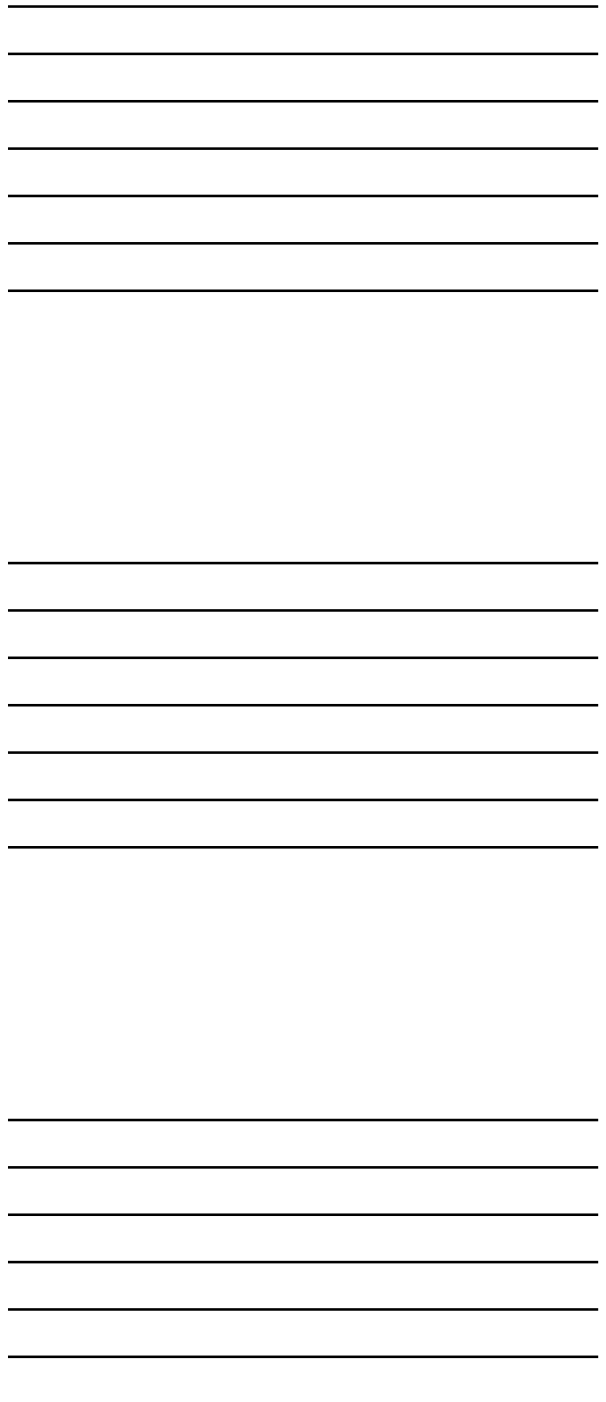


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Eczema / atopic dermatitis - treatment



74



Psoriasis – treatment - biologics



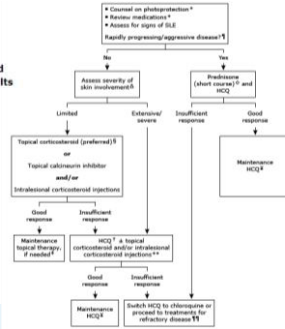
| Biologic | Other Compatible Conditions | Contraindications | Dosing | Approved Cost (First Year) | Common Adverse Reactions (>10%) | Efficity - Primary Outcomes and Long Term Outcomes* |
|-------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Alectinib (Immunomodulator) | Psoriasis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Psoriasis, Psoriasis, Psoriasis | Active TB or other serious infection, Hepatitis B, Decompensated liver disease, Bone marrow | Every 2-4 weeks (SC) | \$2,500* | Infection, skin rash, Headache, Stomach pain, Muscle/joint pain, Fatigue, Nausea, Diarrhea, Constipation, Urinary tract infection, Sore throat, Allergic reactions, Blood test abnormalities | PSO27g Week 56: 75.2% Low of relapse response at Week 102: 80% |
| Canakinumab (IL-1 inhibitor) | Psoriasis, Psoriasis, Psoriasis | Active TB or other serious infection, Heart failure | Every 2-4 weeks (SC) | \$16,271* | Infection, Tissue, Infection, development, Sepsis, Hematocrit decrease | PSO27g Week 56: 75.2% No PSO27g response maintained until Week 102: 80% |
| Secukinumab (IL-17 inhibitor) | Psoriasis, Psoriasis, Psoriasis | Significant liver disease, Active TB or other serious infection | Every 2-4 weeks (SC) | \$2,500* | Infection, skin rash, Headache, Stomach pain, Muscle/joint pain, Fatigue, Nausea, Diarrhea, Constipation, Urinary tract infection, Sore throat, Allergic reactions, Blood test abnormalities | PSO27g Week 56: 75.2% No PSO27g response maintained until Week 102: 80% |
| Infliximab (TNF inhibitor) | Psoriasis, Psoriasis, Psoriasis | Active TB or other serious infection, Heart failure | Every 2-4 weeks (SC) | \$16,271* | Infection, skin rash, Headache, Stomach pain, Muscle/joint pain, Fatigue, Nausea, Diarrhea, Constipation, Urinary tract infection, Sore throat, Allergic reactions, Blood test abnormalities | PSO27g Week 56: 75.2% No PSO27g response maintained until Week 102: 80% |
| Brodalumab (IL-22 inhibitor) | Psoriasis, Psoriasis, Psoriasis | Active TB or other serious infection, Heart failure | Every 2-4 weeks (SC) | \$2,500* | Infection, skin rash, Headache, Stomach pain, Muscle/joint pain, Fatigue, Nausea, Diarrhea, Constipation, Urinary tract infection, Sore throat, Allergic reactions, Blood test abnormalities | No response (index to index) at Week 56 |

75

<https://www.skintherapyletter.com/psoriasis/education-tool-biologics/>

Autoimmune connective tissue disease - treatment

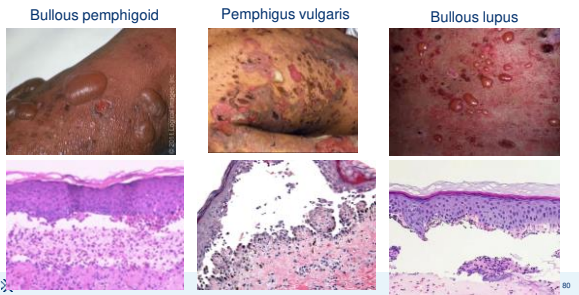
Management of discoid lupus erythematosus and subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus in adults



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79

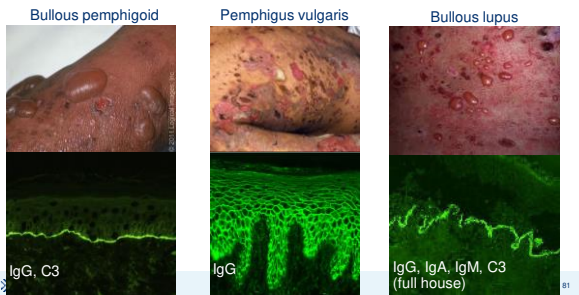
Autoimmune bullous dermatoses, examples - diagnosis



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80


Autoimmune bullous dermatoses, examples - diagnosis



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81

Types of Biopsies and Indications

| | | |
|---|---|--|
|  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Podunculated lesions (skin tags) - Dome-shaped nevi - NMSC (BCC/SCC) - Pigmented lesions (ruling out melanoma) |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connective tissue diseases (Lupus/ Dermatomyositis) - Papulosquamous disorders (psoriasis) - Blistering disorders (pemphigus) - Granulomatous diseases (cat-scratch) - Vasculitis (HSP) - NMSC (infiltrating tumors) |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subcutaneous or deep dermal tumors (can do a "punch-within-a-punch") - Panniculitis (also "punch-within-a-punch") - Melanoma - Atypical pigmented lesions |
|---|---|--|





Biopsy Site Selection

| BIOPSY SITE SELECTION | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Lesion/disorder | Appropriate site |
| Tumor | Thickest portion; avoid necrotic tissue |
| Blister | Edge of lesion, including perilesional skin (see Fig. 0.11) |
| Ulcerated/necrotic lesion | Edge of ulcer or necrosis plus adjacent skin |
| Generalized polymorphous eruption | Characteristic lesion of recent onset (± more developed lesion) |
| Small vessel vasculitis | Characteristic lesion of recent onset |



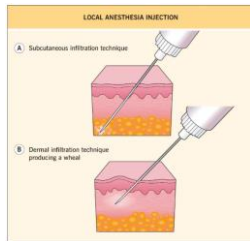
Patient Preparation

- Determine the type of biopsy
- Informed consent: bleeding, discomfort, infection, and scarring
- Site preparation:
 - Identification and marking
 - Time Out
 - Photograph
 - Close up for lesional details
 - Distant for identification of landmarks



Anesthesia Techniques

- Lidocaine 1% with or with out epinephrine
- Small lesions: direct infiltration of anesthetic into lesion
- Larger lesions: a field block by placing a ring of anesthesia around surgical site
- Bevel up
- Use small gauge needle (30), insert quickly at a 45° angle
- Slow injection to create an intradermal wheal, then may proceed to subcutaneous injection depending on shave vs. punch
- Additional sticks should be done through areas that are already numb
- Use smaller syringes – require lower pressure for injection
- Warm anesthetic to body temperature
- Slow injection
- Verbal and tactile distraction



Bolognia et al. Dermatology

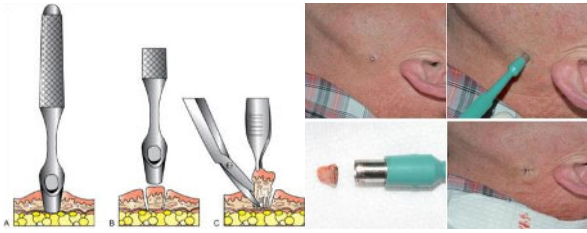


Patient Preparation Continued

- Prep
 - ETOH swab
 - Iodine
 - Chlorhexidine
- Anesthesia
 - Plane of injection
- Procedure
 - Hemostasis: Aluminum chloride, hemostatic sponge, compression, cautery, suture, ferric subsulfate
 - Label specimen bottle with formalin



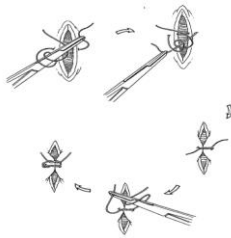
Punch Biopsy



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Instrument tie

- Needle holder is held parallel to the wound incision
- Needle end of suture is looped twice around the holder before grasping the free end of suture
- The free and needle end of the suture exchange sides across the wound
- Additional throws are done in a similar manner, except with one loop



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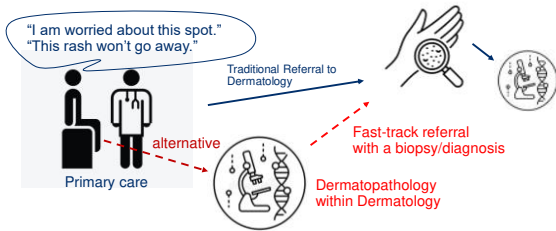
Biopsy for direct immunofluorescence



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Dermatology in the Primary Care Setting

Primary care providers are in a **prime position** to take care of dermatologic issues.



Jeffrey D. McBride, OU Dermatology, OU Dermatopathology

97

Thank you for your attention.

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Jeffrey.McBride@ouhsc.edu
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