

Emerging Science and Management of Atopic Dermatitis

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Models are for illustrative purposes only and not actual patients.

Faculty

Lawrence F. Eichenfield, MD

Professor of Dermatology and Pediatrics
Vice Chair, Department of Dermatology
Chief, Pediatric and Adolescent Dermatology
University of California
San Diego School of Medicine and
Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego
University of California
San Diego, California

Linda F. Stein Gold, MD

Director of Dermatology Research
Henry Ford Health System
Detroit, Michigan

Wynnis L. Tom, MD

Associate Clinical Professor of Dermatology and Pediatrics
University of California San Diego School of Medicine
Rady Children's Hospital
San Diego, CA

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Target Audience

This journal supplement is intended for dermatologists, pediatricians, family practitioners, internists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other clinicians who treat patients with atopic dermatitis.

Educational Needs

Recent research into the pathophysiology of atopic dermatitis has yielded two new treatments—the first ones to receive US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for management of this condition in more than a decade. Both new therapies offer novel mechanisms of action. Crisaborole, a topical medication that inhibits the phosphodiesterase-4 (PDE-4) enzyme, is approved for the treatment of mild to moderate disease in adults and children as young as 2 years old. Dupilumab, the first biologic therapy approved for use in atopic dermatitis, inhibits interleukin (IL)-4 and IL-13. It is indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe disease in adults whose disease is inadequately controlled with topical prescription therapies, or when those therapies are inadvisable.

Awareness of the substantial impact atopic dermatitis can have on quality of life can facilitate patient-clinician conversations about treatment goals. Such discussions may influence shared decision-making about therapeutic choices.

Therapeutic patient education has been applied to a variety of conditions and is now being studied in atopic dermatitis.

Food allergy and infection represent common comorbidities in patients with atopic dermatitis. New information about the benefit of the early introduction of peanuts to the diet has surfaced in recent years. Alterations in the

skin microbiome may underlie the association of colonization and infection in atopic dermatitis. Preliminary research attempts to deploy the atopic patient's "good" bacteria to reduce *Staphylococcus aureus* colonization.

Brief, expert reviews of the literature in these areas can help busy providers stay current in a rapidly evolving field, and can facilitate the translation of research into clinical practice to improve outcomes.

Learning Objectives

By reading and studying this supplement, participants should be better able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of how atopic dermatitis can affect patient sleep, quality of life, daily activities, risk of comorbidities, and health care utilization/cost
- Explain the mechanism of action and clinical trials data supporting recently approved treatments for atopic dermatitis
- Discuss investigation therapies for atopic dermatitis
- Apply recent recommendations for evaluation of candidates for systemic treatment of atopic dermatitis
- Explain the benefit of providing patients with a written action plan
- Analyze the relationships of food allergy and infection to atopic dermatitis.

Disclosure Declarations

Individuals in a position to control the content of this educational activity are required to disclose: 1) the existence of any relevant financial relationship with any entity producing, marketing, re-selling, or distributing health care goods or services consumed by, or used on, patients with the exemption of non-profit or government organizations and non-health care related companies, within the past 12 months; and 2) the identification of a commercial product/device that is unlabeled for use or an investigational use of a product/device not yet approved.

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Off-Label/Investigational Use Disclosure

This CME/CE activity discusses the off-label use of certain approved medications as well as data from clinical trials on investigational agents. Any such material is identified within the text of the articles.