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April 21, 8:30-10:30am

# Things that go bump! Diagnosis and treatment of acneiform eruptions

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## Disclosures



Eli Lilly



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## Objectives

1. Attendees will review key morphology to for acneiform eruptions.
2. Discuss distinguishing characteristic for differential diagnoses of acneiform skin eruptions.
3. Discuss important concepts in selecting appropriate pharmacotherapy for acneiform dermatoses.



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## Acneiform eruptions

- Acne (and beyond)
- Rosacea
- Seborrheic dermatitis
- Folliculitis
- Perioral dermatitis

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## Acne

- THE most common skin condition (50M people yearly)
- Impact
- Primary care and dermatology
- Treatment options
- Referral
- Mimickers

JAD <http://www.jad.org/medialibrary/conditions>  
Blair K, Williams HC. Epidemiology of acne vulgaris. The British journal of dermatology 2012;168:474-85. © Elsevier 2014

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## Pathogenesis

- Abnormal keratinization (comedones)
- *Propionibacterium acnes* (P. acnes)
- Inflammation
- Sebum production



CONSIDER Therapeutics targeting each cause !

Hairf, Thomas P., MD. (2009). Acne, Rosacea, and Related Disorders. Clinical dermatology: A color guide to diagnosis and therapy, p. 217-263

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## Acne vulgaris

- Age**
  - Onset and duration
- Lesions**
  - Comedones, pustules, cysts, nodules
  - Scars
- Severity**
  - Based on presence of inflammation, cysts, scarring and body involvement
- Types**
  - Vulgaris, mechanica, excoriee, chloracne, cosmetic, drug-related, conglobata & fulminans




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## Treatment goals

- Resolve without scarring
- Individualized care plan: type and severity
- Clinician AND patient understand medications
- Adolescent and parental approaches
- Referral in timely manner
- Exacerbating factors (Iodides/bromides, steroids, lithium, phenytoin)
- Psychosocial assessment & realistic expectations




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### Therapeutic approach to acne

Level of severity	First Line	Alternatives	No or little response
<i>Treatment &amp; Maintenance: topical retinoids</i>			
<b>Mild</b> Open & closed comedones	Topical retinoids Mild cleanser	Change topical retinoid or to azelaic acid Consider: topical antimicrobial, and/or salicylic acid	Check for adherence Increase to moderate level therapy <b>Refer Dermatology for:</b> Acne surgery PDT Chemical peels
<i>Treatment &amp; Maintenance: topical retinoids and BPO</i>			
<b>Moderate</b> Comedones plus inflammatory papules & pustules Involving face, chest +/- back <i>Scarring on face, chest or back escalates level of treatment</i>	Topical retinoids, BPO <b>and</b> Topical antibiotics (monotherapy or combination) and/or Oral antibiotics	Consider: Alt. oral antibiotic, Culture of pustule, In females: Endocrine assessment, oral contraceptives, spironolactone	Assess in 8-12 weeks Check for adherence If persistent inflammation, or evidence of scarring, <b>REFER to Dermatology for:</b> intralesional steroids, microdermabrasion, PDT, chemical peels, and oral isotretinoin
<b>Severe</b> Comedones, inflammatory papules, pustules, nodules, cysts, and/or scarring	PCP should initiate treatment including topical retinoids, BPO, oral antibiotics, +/- oral contraceptives <b>AND</b> refer to Dermatology.		

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### Classes of topicals

<b>Cleasers</b>	Mild Cleasers Salicylic Acid Oil control cleansers/astringents	• Use mild cleansers if skin is dry/sensitive or becomes dry with treatment
<b>Antimicrobials</b>	Sulfacetamide sulfur	• Keratolytic, anti-bacterial and anti-yeast • QD or BID, available as wash and leave-on
	Azaleic Acid 15%	• Antimicrobial & comedolytic, good for skin of color, lightening properties for post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation
	★ Benzoyl peroxide 2.5-10% (OTC and Rx)	• Once daily, decreases bacterial resistance, bleaches clothes, available as wash or leave-on
	Clindamycin 1%	• <b>Always</b> use with BPO to decrease development of bacterial resistance
	Erythromycin 2%	• Great for inflammatory lesions
<b>Retinoids</b>	Dapsone (Aczone)	• Do not use with BPO at same time
	Tretinoin, retin A, adapalene (now OTC)	• Antiinflammatory, minimizes dyskeratosis
	Tazarotene	• Category X, consider pregnancy testing

NUMEROUS combination products available | ©Babcock & Brown (2015)

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### Oral Antibiotics *Antibacterial and anti-inflammatory*

- Tetracycline**
  - No longer available
- Doxycycline**
  - Sub-antimicrobial dose
  - Extended release formulation
  - Has greatest anti-inflammatory property
  - Esophagitis, photosensitivity, dietary restrictions
- Minocycline**
  - Extended release formulation
  - Dietary restrictions
  - Dizziness, drug induced pigmentation, lupus

Zaenglein, A.G. et al. (2016). Guidelines of care for the management of acne vulgaris. JAAD. 74(5):945-73. ©Babcock 2016

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### Other systemic agents

- Other antimicrobials**
  - Amoxicillin, Bactrim DS, Azithromycin, Erythromycin
  - Dapsone
- Nicotinamide**
- Steroids**
  - Prednisone, dexamethasone (dermatology, endocrinology)
- Hormonal agents**
  - OCPs
  - Spironolactone

Zaenglein, A.G. et al. (2016). Guidelines of care for the management of acne vulgaris. JAAD. 74(5):945-73. ©Babcock 2016

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## Hormonal Treatment

### Hormonal pattern

- lower 1/3 face, pre-menstrual flaring
- Look for signs hypertestosteronemia (hirsutism, PCOS)

### Birth-control pills (risk assessment & counseling)

- Esp. drospirenone (risk hyperkalemia) vs. norgestimate

### Spirolactone

- Blocks androgen receptors
- Side effect: metrorrhagia, breast tenderness, hypotension
- Hyperkalemia (monitoring not necessary in healthy women<sup>1</sup>)
- Pregnancy prevention

Wang W, Chang MC, Manning Thomas J, et al. *BMJ* January 2012;344:22. *Diabet* 2011. *BMJ* January 2012;344:22.

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## Isotretinoin

- Approved for severe cystic acne
- The "CURE" for acne ?
- Misconception/phobia of patients & parents
- Concerns:
  - Depression/suicide, inflammatory bowel disease, teratogenic
- SE:
  - dry skin/eyes/lips, muscle aches, GI, psuedotumor cerebri, etc

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## Isotretinoin

- ipledge Program-Federally regulated
  - No change pregnancy rate since inception
  - Not all dermatology providers
- Laboratory and pregnancy test monitoring
- Monthly visits for 6-7months (usu 5 months of drug)
- Females- 2 forms of birth control method
- May need concomitant prednisone taper for severe cases to prevent initial flare

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### Other therapeutic options

- Intralesional steroids
- Laser
- PDT
- Chemical peels
- SSRIs for excoriation

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### General Tx Considerations

- Discuss long term approach/expectations
- Adherence & education
- Mild cleansers vs medicated ones
- “Work Up” to higher potency of topicals
- Combination of medications
- Vehicle very important
- Weather may play role in tolerance
- Moisturize & sunscreen
- Assess for pregnancy

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**“The eyes only see what the mind knows”**

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## Beyond acne....

- Solar elastosis (Favre-Racouchot)
- Acne keloidalis nuchae
- Dissecting cellulitis
- Hidradenitis
- Acne conglobate
- Chloracne

**Don't forget .....  
Consider differential diagnoses**

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## Rosacea

- Unknown etiology (multifactorial)
- "Flushing" disorder
- Middle age, F>M
- Types
  - Erythematotelangiectatic
  - Papulopustular
  - Phymatous
  - Ocular

**Control not Cure**

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Stoll, L.L. (2015). Treatment of Rosacea: Expert Insight on Trends and Best Practice. *Journal of drugs in dermatology*, 14(8): 546-547. DeRocco, J.Q, et al. (2014). Recommendations From the American Acne & Rosacea Society on the Management of Rosacea, Part 5: A Guide on the Management of Rosacea. *Clin*. 2014 March 9(3): 134-136.

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### Rosacea

Erythrotelangiectatic	Papular/pustular	Phymatous	Ocular
Red facial skin Telangiectasias Flushing & blushing	Papules & pustules Central facial erythema	Papular Cobblestone appearance	Red rimmed eyes Gritty, burning, itchy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camouflage green based makeup.</li> <li>• Topical alpha-2 agonist brimonidine (Mirvaso) QD</li> <li>• Avoid vasodilators</li> <li>• Laser or impulsive light therapy (IPL)</li> <li>• Beta blockers- reduce flushing</li> <li>• Doxycycline</li> </ul>	<p><i>Topicals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• metronidazole cream/lotion/gel. (MetroGel or Noritate)</li> <li>• Azelaic acid (Finacea or Azelex 20%)</li> <li>• Sulfacetamide/sulfur wash or lotion</li> <li>• Permethrin</li> </ul> <p><i>Systemic</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doxycycline 20, 40, 50, 100mg QD or BID</li> <li>• Minocycline 100 mgbid</li> <li>• Optional- Erythromycin 500mg BID</li> <li>• OCPs</li> </ul> <p>Refer to dermatology if no improvement</p>	<p>Refer to dermatology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isotretinoin (early)</li> <li>• Ablative laser</li> <li>• Loop cautery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eyelid hygiene essential</li> <li>• Eyewash</li> <li>• Eye moisturizer</li> </ul> <p>Oral antibiotics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doxycycline</li> </ul> <p>Refer to ophthalmology if no improvement</p>

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## Erythematotelangiectatic

- Avoid triggers
- Beta-blockers (propranolol 10mg BID)
- Alpha-2 agonist (clonidine)
  - Brimonidine (Mirvaso)
  - Oxymetazoline (Afrin)
- Laser (Vbeam) or impulsive light therapy (IPL)
- Make-up for camouflage (green-tinted)
- Sensitive skin care
- Topical anti-inflammatories
- Herbals



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## Papulopustular

- Topicals
- Metronidazole
  - Azelaic acid
  - Sulfacetamide sulfur wash or lotion
  - Clindamycin
  - Permetherin (Soolantra)

- Oral
- Doxycycline
  - Off-label- oral retinoids

Assess for STERIOD ACNE



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## Other subtypes

### Phymatous (rhinophyma)

- Refer to dermatology
- Mild- antibiotics and retinoids
- Severe- CO2 laser vs surgical excision

### Ocular

- Moisturizers & eye care
- Oral antibiotics
- Refer to ophthalmology

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## Seborrheic dermatitis

- Unknown etiology (*pityrosporum* or *malassezia* -normal flora)
- Inflammatory response
- Common, chronic and relapsing
- Flares worse in winter and spring
- Clinical presentation varies with age
- Hair bearing or sebum rich areas (seborrheic distribution)
- Risk factors: neurologic disorders, psychiatric disorders, immunocompromised, etc

Desmouli C, et al. Seborrheic dermatitis: Etiology, risk factors and treatments: Facts and controversies. *Clinics in Dermatology*. 2013;31:843. © Elsevier 2014

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## Microscopy

KOH shows yeast +  
"spaghetti & meatballs"



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## Seborrheic dermatitis (Seb derm)



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## Seb Derm Control not Cure



### Alternating therapies<sup>1</sup>

- Anti-yeast shampoos (selenium sulfide, ketoconazole, ciclopirox)
- Antifungal topicals available as rx or OTC
- TCS- low potency desonide, mometasone fuoate
- Calcineurin inhibitor-pimecrolimus

### Cochran Review (2014)<sup>2</sup>

Only minor differences in treatment outcomes with different agents

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1. Gupta, A.K., & Verberg, S.C. (2015). Topical Treatment of Facial Seborrheic Dermatitis: A Systematic Review. *Acta / Clin Dermatol*.  
 2. Nishikawa, H., Okamoto, T., Okamoto, S.D. et al. (2014). Topical anti-inflammatory agents for seborrheic dermatitis of the face or scalp. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 5:CD010444. © 2015 Blackwell

Indications and Effectiveness of Topical Antifungals

Class & Indications	Generic name	Dermatophyte	Yeast	Gram +	Gram -	Anti-inflammatory
<b>Polyenes (fungistatic)</b>						
Candidiasis	Nystatin	0	++++			
<b>Azoles (fungistatic)</b>						
Tinea	Miconazole	+	+++			
Pityriasis/tinea versicolor	Clotrimazole	+	+++			
Candidiasis	Ketoconazole	+	+++	++		++
Seborrheic dermatitis	Oxiconazole	+	+++			
	Econazole	+	+++	+	+	+
	Sertaconazole	+	+++	++		
<b>Allylamines/ Benzylamine (fungicidal)</b>						
Tinea	Naftifine	+	+			+++
Pityriasis/tinea versicolor	Terbinafine	+++	+			+++
	Butenafine	+++	++			+++
<b>Other Agents</b>						
Tinea; Onychomycosis; Candidiasis	Ciclopirox	++	++++	+++	+++	+++
Pityriasis/tinea versicolor; Seborrheic dermatitis			C. Albicans			
Pityriasis/tinea versicolor Seborrheic dermatitis	Selenium sulfide (RX & OTC)		+++			
			Pityrosporum			Babonic& Nelen (2015)

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## Demodex Folliculitis

- Clinically looks like rosacea
- Responds to ivermectin
- Permetherin
- Dapsone
- Skin care
- Prevention of spread & contamination




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## Folliculitis

- Bacterial, fungal, demodex, mechanical, drug-induced
- Inflammation of the hair follicle (perifollicular)
- *S. aureus* most common
- Gram negative less common
- High risk groups

### CLINICAL PEARLS

- Look for open comedones: + favor acne
- Hair follicles (perifollicular): + favor folliculitis
- Pustules ?- think infectious

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## Treatment for bacterial

### Topicals

- Antibacterial washes (Benzoyl peroxide, chlorhexidine, Lever 2000)
- FDA findings on triclosan and triclocarban<sup>1</sup>
- Localized- mupirocin 2% x 7-10 days for localized lesions.
- Also topical clindamycin
- Recurrence- consider bleach baths (¼ C full tub, once-twice weekly)

### Oral

- Based on pathogen

1 [www.fda.gov/forconsumers/consumerupdates/ucm205999.htm](http://www.fda.gov/forconsumers/consumerupdates/ucm205999.htm)

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## Hot tub folliculitis

- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- Contaminated pool, whirlpool, hot tub, water slide, or loofah sponge.
- 1 to 5 days after exposure
- Urticarial red plaques w/central pustules
- VERY PRURITIC
- Bathing suit distribution



<http://www.mskah.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/skin-Folliculitis.jpg>

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/swimmers/rw/rashes.html>

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## Treatment

- Infection is self-limited
- 5% acetic acid (white vinegar) wet compresses
- Cleansers like benzoyl peroxide or chlorine baths
- Topical clindamycin
- Resistant or severe cases- oral antibiotic  
     ciprofloxacin 500mg BID x 5-7 d




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## EGFR inhibitor induced eruptions

Erlotinib, Gefitinib, Cetuximab, Panitumumab

- Cutaneous toxicities:
  - Acneiform rash
  - Xerosis
  - Paronychia
- Severity eruption correlates with effectiveness of tx
- Consider prophylactic tetracyclines and topical steroids
- Isotretinoin for refractory cases




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## Pityrosporum Folliculitis

- Small monomorphic papules and pustules
- Shawl pattern and forehead (pomade)
- Worse with sweating or humidity
- Iatrogenic in many cases
- Topical azoles (ketoconazole shampoo), selenium sulfide, ciclopirox, sulfacetamide sulfur
- Oral antifungals if severe
  - Diflucan
  - Ketoconazole- NOW BLACK BOX WARNING




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## Perioral Dermatitis/Steroid Acne

- Sparing vermilion border
- Similar features or concomitant seb derm
- Stop topical steroids TAPER or will flare
- Topical erythromycin, metronidazole
- Sulfa washes HELPFUL!
- Non-steroidal topicals (immunomodulators)
- Avoid ointments
- Oral antibiotic (doxy) usually min. 8 weeks

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### Therapeutic approach perioral dermatitis

<p><b>Oral therapies</b></p> <p>Minocycline 100 mg BID                  Doxycycline 100mg BID                  Erythromycin 250mg BID</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suggested minimum of 8 weeks of oral therapy then taper off</li> </ul>
<p><b>Topical therapies</b></p> <p>Metronidazole 1% cream or gel BID                  Erythromycin 2% gel or ointment BID                  Clindamycin 1% gel BID                  Pimecrolimus 1% (Elidel) cream BID</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop use of topical steroids to facial skin;</li> </ul>
<p><b>Skin Care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid moderate, potent or fluorinated topical corticosteroids</li> <li>• Avoid toothpaste containing fluoride</li> <li>• Stop use of: foundation, moisturizer or night cream until problem has resolved.</li> </ul>

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## Take home points

- Most acne conditions can be treated by primary care
- Address the different components of acne
- Individualize the treatment plan
- Now many OTC products available
- Topical benzoyl peroxide and retinoids are fundamental to acne treatment
- ALWAYS consider differential diagnoses for acne conditions
- LOOK for open comedones
- If acne diagnosis not responsive to therapy, assess adherence and reconsider diagnosis

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## Resources

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Wolverton, S.E. (2012). *Comprehensive Dermatologic Drug Therapy*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. London: Elsevier.



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Thank you!



Questions ?



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