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池田 志 孝*

Homeostasis in the Formation and Maintenance of the Stratum Corneum

Shigaku IKEDA, MD, PhD*

Abstract

Keratinization of epidermal keratinocytes could be defined as structural and functional changes of the cells from basal cells to corneocytes, forming firm horny layer of the epidermis. During this process, several molecules such as structural proteins and enzymes are involved. In this study, we summarize how precisely the formation and maintenance of the stratum corneum is regulated by these molecules, by referring the mutated genes that have recently been identified in various keratinizing disorders. This also will provide us with new insights into the development of novel therapeutic options for skin barrier dysfunction.

Key words: stratum corneum, keratinization, molecules, enzymes, mutation.