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日光性湿疹

堀尾 武*

Eczematous Type of Photosensitivity

Takeshi Horio, M.D.*

Abstract

Photosensitivity skin diseases include various types of disorders which develop by variety of dissimilar mechanisms and etiologies. Among them, photosensitivity with eczematous condition is most commonly observed in dermatological clinic. The pathomechanism of photoallergic contact dermatitis has been well understood, and animal models have been established by various investigators. Systemically administered drugs can also develop eczematous type of photoallergic reaction. The action spectrum is in UVA range in both types of photoallergy. Although these chemical substances induce eczematous reaction through a closely similar mechanism to that of contact allergy, they may develop a persistent light reaction long after the cessation of contact with causative agents. Persistent light reactors are extremely sensitive not only to UVA but also to UVB or even to visible light. In polymorphous light eruption, clinical manifestations vary, including eczema, papules, vesicle, erythema, plaques, to lichenified lesions. Among them, eczematous lesions are the most common. The action spectrum of polymorphous light eruption varies also among cases. In these patients, photoproducts which are produced in the skin by exposure to ultraviolet light may act as antigens to stimulate a cell-mediated photosensitivity reaction. For diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of lesions, photobiological examinations should be done carefully in individual cases.