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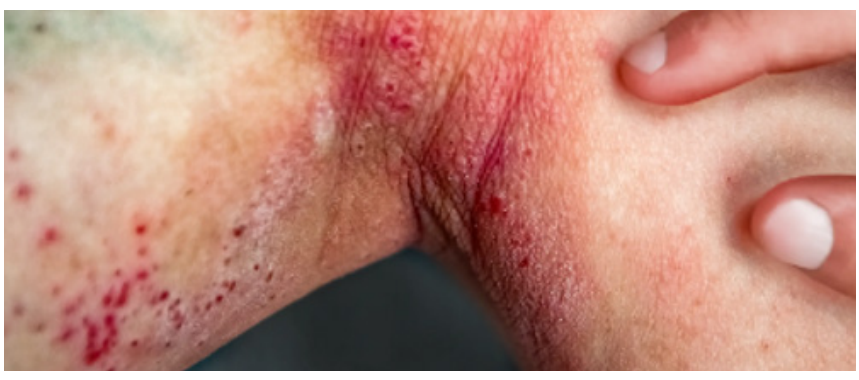
Atopic Dermatitis Media Factsheet

About atopic dermatitis

Atopic dermatitis is a common, chronic, and flaring inflammatory skin disease, characterized by persistent itch and recurrent skin lesions.[1-3]

It affects more than 230 million people worldwide and is the most common inflammatory skin disease, impacting almost four times more people than psoriasis.[2,4]

Approximately 7% of adults in the United States have atopic dermatitis.[5]



Burden of disease

Atopic dermatitis has a **significant negative impact** on quality of life; studies of adults living with the disease have shown that:[6-10]

87%

say they are seeking freedom from itch, with **speed of itch relief** also prioritized by both patients & physicians

A majority report experiencing **sleep disturbance** – considered one of the major factors leading to impaired quality of life

Patients had a **higher risk of developing mental health disorders**, including anxiety, depression, cognitive dysfunction, and suicidal ideation

39%

reported that the disease caused them to avoid social interaction

Atopic dermatitis is also a highly heterogenous disease and can be associated with several comorbid conditions, such as other autoimmune- or immune-mediated diseases as well as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and speech disorders.[2,9,12,13]

"Patients with atopic dermatitis will certainly complain about the lesions on their skin, but itch is their most burdensome symptom. The constant urge to scratch impacts their ability to sleep and really disrupts their daily life."

Prof. Jonathan Silverberg
M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Dermatology
George Washington University
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The role of IL-31 in atopic dermatitis

Interleukin-31 (IL-31) is a neuroimmune cytokine known to drive multiple symptoms of atopic dermatitis – including itch.[14-16]

In people with atopic dermatitis, IL-31 acts as a bridge between the immune and nervous systems. It drives itch and is involved in inflammation and epidermal dysregulation by:[2,14,16]

Directly stimulating sensory nerves related to itch, triggering their growth[16]

Activating immune cells and amplifying circuits between skin, nerve, and immune cells, resulting in inflammation[16]

Inhibiting the expression of filaggrin leading to **epidermal dysregulation** (skin barrier dysfunction)[16]

Inhibition of IL-31 signaling has been shown to improve itch, inflammation, and epidermal dysregulation in atopic dermatitis.[11,13]

The unmet need

While currently available treatments for atopic dermatitis may improve some signs and symptoms, **many patients do not respond optimally to approved therapies** and **do not experience itch relief and clear skin** to the same degree.[17] For this reason, **there remains a need for novel, effective treatment options that directly address the underlying disease mechanisms.**[17]

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