



Psoriasis

Psoriasis may be divided into psoriasis vulgaris, generalized pustular psoriasis, and localized pustular psoriasis.

Psoriasis Vulgaris Clinical Features

Psoriasis vulgaris is a common chronic inflammatory skin disorder that affects approximately 1.5% to 2%

associated with acute group A ~-hemolytic streptococcal infections . Involvement of the nails is common

Psoriatic arthritis characteristically involves the terminal interphalangeal joints, but frequently the large joints

Generalized Pustular Psoriasis

Clinical Features

Generalized pustular psoriasis includes (a) acute generalized pustular psoriasis (von Zumbusch type and

There are three types of localized pustular psoriasis: (a) "psoriasis with pustules" , in which only one or a

Acrodermatitis continua of

Hallopeau

is the term used when the pustules

Pustulosis palmaris et plantaris is a chronic, relapsing disorder occurring on the palms, soles, deep-seated pustules

The histologic picture of psoriasis vulgaris varies considerably with the stage of the lesion and usually is

The earliest pinhead-sized macules or smooth-surfaced papules show subtle histologic changes with a p

exocytosis of neutrophils, they may aggregate in the uppermost portion of the spinous layer to form sma

In the fully developed lesions of psoriasis, as best seen at the margin of enlarging plaques, the histologic

show thickening ("clubbing") in their lower portion. Not infrequently, adjacent rete ridges seem to coalesce

The suprapapillary epidermis appears relatively thin in comparison with the markedly elongated rete ridges

In some instances the cornified layer consists entirely of confluent parakeratosis forming a platelike scale

Munro microabscesses are located within the parakeratotic areas of the cornified layer . They consist of

The dermal papillae, in accordance with the elongation and basal thickening of the rete ridges, are elongated.

An entirely typical histologic picture as described earlier is not always found, even if the biopsy specimen

indicates a fluctuation in the activity of the psoriasis.

The bleeding points that may be produced by gentle scraping of the skin (Au spitz sign) correspond to the

Guttate or eruptive psoriasis shows the histologic features of an early or active lesion of psoriasis, where there

The histologic picture of *erythrodermic psoriasis* in some instances shows enough of the characteristics of

Generalized Pustular Psoriasis

Whereas in ordinary psoriasis the spongiform pustule of Kogoj is a very small micropustule and is seen

In addition to the large spongiform pustules, the epidermal changes in generalized pustular psoriasis are

In the healing stage, the lesions of all types of generalized pustular psoriasis may present the same hist

Localized Pustular Psoriasis

Histopathology

In the variants of localized pustular psoriasis "psoriasis with pustules" and localized annular pustular psoriasis

In localized acrodermatitis continua of Hallopeau, the nail bed is mainly affected, showing marked epithelial

In pustulosis palmaris et plantaris there is a fully developed large intraepidermal unilocular pustule. It is c

the pustule, most commonly at the junction of the lateral walls and the overlying epidermis . These spong

Very early lesions may show spongiosis and exocytosis of lymphocytes in the lower epidermis overlying

Psoriasis and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

Ultrastructural studies of the spongiform pustule of Kogoj, one of the most characteristic histologic structures

The ultrastructure of the capillary loops in the dermal papillae shows them to be different from normal capillaries

The rate of epidermal cell replication is markedly accelerated in active lesions of psoriasis, as shown by

Keratinocytes undergo the process of differentiation as they migrate upward through the epidermis from

Immunologic factors play a very important role in the pathogenesis of psoriasis. Psoriasis is now regarded

CD4+ T cells produce a variety of cytokines, including interleukin-2 (IL-2), tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α)

Keratinocytes stimulated by TNF α may produce IL-8, which is a potent T-lymphocyte and neutrophil chemoattractant

γ IFN induces the expression of the ICAM-1 in keratinocytes and endothelial cells. This molecule mediates

not to be responsive to the growth inhibition effects of γ IFN, leading to their hyperproliferative state in the

Pathogenesis of Psoriasis and AIDS

There is evidence of the role of both CD8^+ and CD4^+ T lymphocytes and γIFN in the pathogenesis of psoriasis

The immunodysregulation resulting from HIV infection may trigger psoriasis in those genetically predisposed

Because of the clinical and, particularly, the histologic resemblance of the tongue lesions in pustular psoriasis

