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Allergy to Clobetasol-17-Propionate (Dermovate®)

B.		Bachmann-Bufflé
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Clinique universitaire de **dermato-vénéréologie** (Directeur: Prof. J. Delacrétaz), CHUV, Lausanne, Suisse

Key Words

Contact sensitivity
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B. Bachmann-Bufflé, Clinique universitaire de dermato-vénéréologie, CHUV, Lausanne (Switzerland)

A 50-year-old Italian woman, suffering in 1979 from a non-specific pruriginous dermatitis applied with success Dermovate® cream. At the beginning of 1982, treating an irritation of the right axilla with the same topic, she developed a weeping eczema of that area. By testing her with a series of European standard patch tests, and Dermovate® cream, a positive reaction was ob-

48 h/72 h

Dermovate® cream and unguent +++

Clobetasol-17-propionate 0.05% ++

0.5 and 1% +++

Propylene glycol 10% Chlorocresol 1% White vaseline Diprosalic unguent

(betamethasone dipropionate) Temetex, Nerisona, Travocort creams

(difluocortolone valerate) Betnovate cream

(betamethasone-17-valerate) Locacorten cream -

(flumethasone pivalate) Vaspite unguent

(fluocortin butyl ester) Topsymin unguent

(flucocinocide) Locoid cream

(HC-17-butyrate)

served only with the latter. Additional patch tests with the components of Dermovate® and with other corticosteroids (table) revealed that the reaction was due to a sensi-tization to clobetasol-17-propionate.

Clobetasol-17-propionate is of highest clinical potency and is therefore not so extensively used as other less potent corticosteroids. In spite of its less frequent prescription, 3 other cases of contact sensitivity have already been described [1, 2]. It appears therefore that clobetasol-17-propionate may have a somewhat higher sensitizing potential than other halogenated corticosteroids.

References

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