

FAQs about dermatitis

1. Causes of the most common types of dermatitis include:

Atopic dermatitis (eczema), which is likely to be related to dry skin, a gene variation, an immune system dysfunction, a skin infection, exposure to certain food types, airborne or contact allergens, or a combination of these.

2. What does contact dermatitis look like?

A red rash, which may be accompanied by severe itching. Skin may be dry, cracked and scaly, and bumps and blisters may occur – sometimes with oozing and crusting.

3. What is the most effective treatment for dermatitis?

To heal inflammation and reduce the irritation caused by most types of dermatitis, a doctor would usually prescribe a corticosteroid cream and might prescribe an oral antihistamine to relieve severe itching. An antibiotic may be needed if a secondary infection develops.

4. Will dermatitis go away if left untreated?

Most cases of contact dermatitis go away on their own once the irritant is no longer in contact with the skin. Note that scratching could aggravate the irritation or even cause a skin infection that might require treatment with antibiotics.

5. What is the best cream for the treatment of dermatitis?

Mild skin inflammations usually respond to over-the-counter hydrocortisone cream. To heal inflammation and reduce the irritation caused by most types of dermatitis, doctors usually prescribe a corticosteroid cream and might also prescribe an oral antihistamine to relieve severe itching.

6. Is Vaseline good for dermatitis?

Petroleum jelly can be used on eczema-prone areas to help combat dry skin symptoms. Its triple-purified, fragrance-free and hypoallergenic formula makes Vaseline® Jelly Original the ideal moisturiser for people with dry skin conditions as it locks in moisture and is suitable for use on sensitive skin.

7. What is the best soap for use by people with dermatitis?

Dermatologists recommend the following cleansers for people with eczema:

Dove unscented sensitive skin bar

Dove sensitive skin body wash

Cetaphil gentle skin cleanser