

DERMATITIS, CHRONIC
(Atopic, Eczematous, Psoriasis, Seborrheic)

Level I

Skill Level: RN

Definition: Inflammatory process involving the epithelium - a chronic recurrent condition usually characterized by pruritus.

<p>Subjective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Itchy rash. • Has had this before (or always). • May already have a diagnosis of psoriasis, seborrhea, eczema, atopic (allergic) dermatitis. • Patient denies infection. • Describes body area involved. 	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altered skin integrity/chronic dermatitis.
<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough, raised, dry, scaly rash with possible excoriations, plaques, lichenification and fissuring. Describe distribution. • Often on erythematous base with sharp borders. • Non-tender. • Minor facial involvement may be present. • No pustules or evidence of bacterial infection. • Not severe or diffuse. • Explore with the patient the history of what makes it better or worse, past treatments, both prescription and over the counter. 	<p>Plan:</p> <p>Patient educations and self-care items for this protocol include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dandruff shampoo • Hydrocortisone cream applied directly to affected area BID x one month. <p>At nursing discretion may use any of the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many rashes are minor and do not require treatment. Inform the patient. • If the patient has a prior diagnosis of this condition by practitioner, schedule a chart review with the medical practitioner for possible ongoing treatment plan. • If scalp or skin involvement is severe, or diffuse, refer to practitioner for evaluation and treatment plan.

Dermatitis, Chronic - Level I

Nursing Education:

Consider: Contact Dermatitis
 Scabies
 Bacterial Skin Infection

APPROVED:

Medical Services Manager

Date

Chief Medical Officer

Date

Steve Sherman MD

Medical Director

8/27/09

Date

Effective Date: 8/09
Revised: August 2009