

Short Communication

Allergic contact dermatitis from local anaesthetic on peristomal skin

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Allergic contact dermatitis in stoma patients is rare, and irritation from urine or faeces much commoner (1). Borglund et al. (2) divided the common skin lesions in patients with ileal conduit urinary diversion into erythematous-erosive and pseudo-verrucous.

Case Report

A 58-year-old retired man presented with a 2-month history of dermatitis in the supraumbilical area. Having had a stoma since urological surgery (Mitrofanoff's technique) 2 years ago, he had to drain urine through the stoma 3 to 5× per day, using a Nelaton™ catheter (Izasa, Barcelona) lubricated with a urological ointment. He reported severe pruritus, erythema and scaly, exudative plaques in peristomal skin after the use of the Braum Monodose™ ointment (Braum Medical, Barcelona, Spain), which contains tetracaine hydrochloride 0.045 g and glycerin 5.955 g. Patch testing with the GEIDC standard series, the lubricant ointment as is, additional series of fragrances and rubber chemicals (Chemotechnique™) and samples of collecting devices and adhesives showed positive reactions at D4 to the ointment, caine mix (+++) and fragrance mix (++). Further such tests confirmed positive reactions to tetracaine (amethocaine) (++), cinchocaine (++) and lavender oil absolute 2% pet. The dermatitis improved when the ointment was stopped.

Comment

Peristomal skin disorders in the patients with urinary diversions (1–5) relate mainly to irritation from collecting devices, adhesive materials and leakage of urine, allergic contact dermatitis in urostomy patients being rarely reported (1, 6, 7). Lubricant ointments are commonly used in urology, though allergic contact derma-

titis remains infrequent (8). Our results extend those of other authors (9).

Lazarov & Trattner (7) describe a urostomized woman allergic to d-limonene in an adhesive-remover wipe. In our patient, the positive reaction to lavender oil might be explained by the repeated application of deodorizing napkins directly above the stoma, with no relevance to the current problem.

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