

“Hand-borne” allergic contact dermatitis of the face to slime, possibly photoaggravated

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Homemade slime is a popular children's toy, created by mixing several household products.¹ Several cases of contact dermatitis from homemade slime were reported recently.² We describe a case of “hand-borne” contact dermatitis of the face due to homemade slime, which was possibly photoaggravated.

CASE REPORT

A 13-year-old girl presented with pruriginous lesions on the face which appeared 2 days before consultation. Dermatological examination revealed papules and vesicles involving the cheeks (Figure 1A) and very mild hand dermatitis (Figure 1B). The patient reported a simi-



FIGURE 1 (A) Papules and vesicles on the cheek; (B) discrete hand dermatitis; (C) laundry detergent ingredients (Nadhif)

lar episode 3 years ago after using cleansing wipes. Patch testing had already been performed, with a positive reaction to methylchloroisothiazolinone/methylisothiazolinone (MI) and MI alone. Since this initial episode, she strictly avoided these allergens. Her parents reported that 2 days before the current lesions appeared, she played for the first time with a slime made by herself and then went into the sun. For preparing slime, she had used laundry detergent (Nadhif), a glue, and food coloring. The girl denied direct application of the slime on her face. Upon review of her slime ingredients, the laundry detergent contained MI (Figure 1C). Therefore, we diagnosed "hand-borne" slime allergic contact dermatitis. After avoiding contact with slime and treatment with topical steroids (Desonide), hand and face dermatitis disappeared.

DISCUSSION

We report a case of "hand-borne" slime contact dermatitis of the face. Several cases of slime contact dermatitis of the hands have been reported recently.² Our observation is interesting insofar as our patient had only mild lesions on her hands and the face was mostly affected.

The ingredients of slime are household items such as laundry detergent, shampoos, shaving cream, food coloring, and glue.³ In our case, MI was found in laundry detergent; the exact composition of glue could not be retrieved.

Recently, it has been demonstrated that MI can cause photoaggravated allergic contact dermatitis.⁴ This could explain the predominance of lesions on the face of our patient, although we have not

performed a photopatch test to support the diagnosis of a possibly photoaggravated contact dermatitis.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None to declare.

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