

Atopic dermatitis

- strongly pruritic chronic or chronically relapsing non-infectious dermatitis with variable morphology and clinical course, usually starting during early childhood
- often associated with positive personal or family history of allergic rhinitis, conjunctivitis and bronchial asthma.
- genetic predisposition
- In about 80% associated with ■ IgE levels

Atopic dermatitis - epidemiology

Incidence in population: 0,5 - 5%
(higher incidence – scandinavian countries)

infants	20%
children under 2 y	15%
children under 14 y	12%
adults	2-5%

Atopic dermatitis

two forms, same clinical picture

extrinsic 80%

elevated IgE

sensitization to airborne
and/or food allergens (sIgE)

- **association with allergic
rhinoconjunctivitis and/or
allergic asthma**

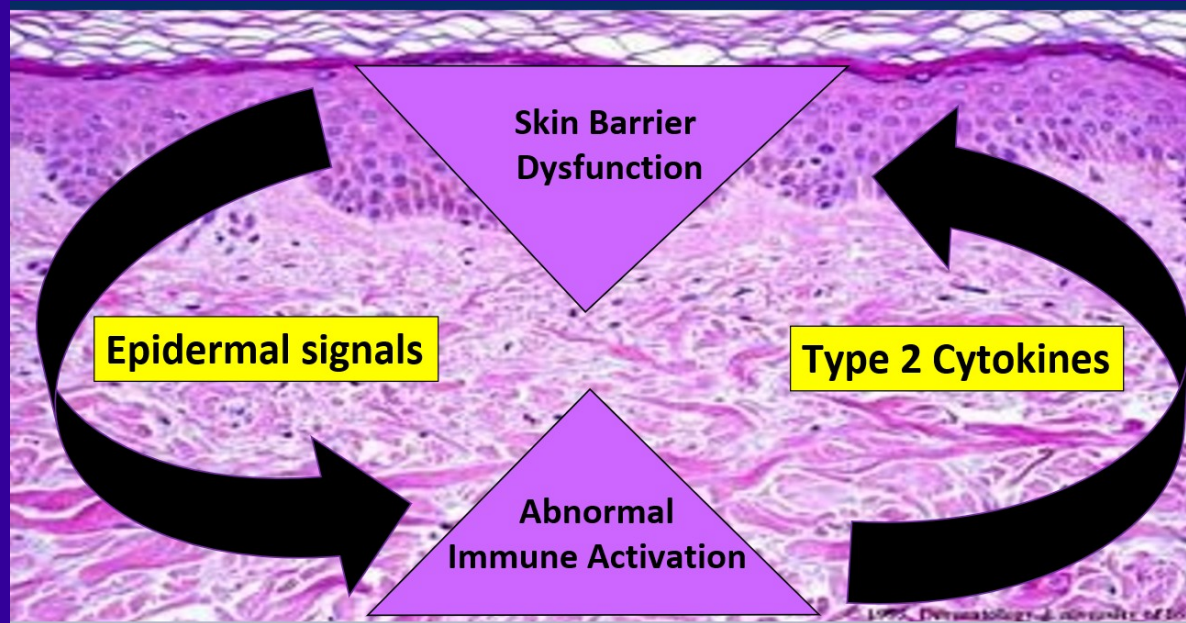
intrinsic 20%

normal levels of IgE

skin barrier disturbance

Etiopathogenesis of AD: unknown genetic predisposition

- 1) skin barrier disturbance
- 2) hyperreactivity of the skin



environmental triggers:

- 1) irritant substances, allergens
- 2) stress
- 3) many others

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I. skin barrier disturbance

Genetically conditioned:

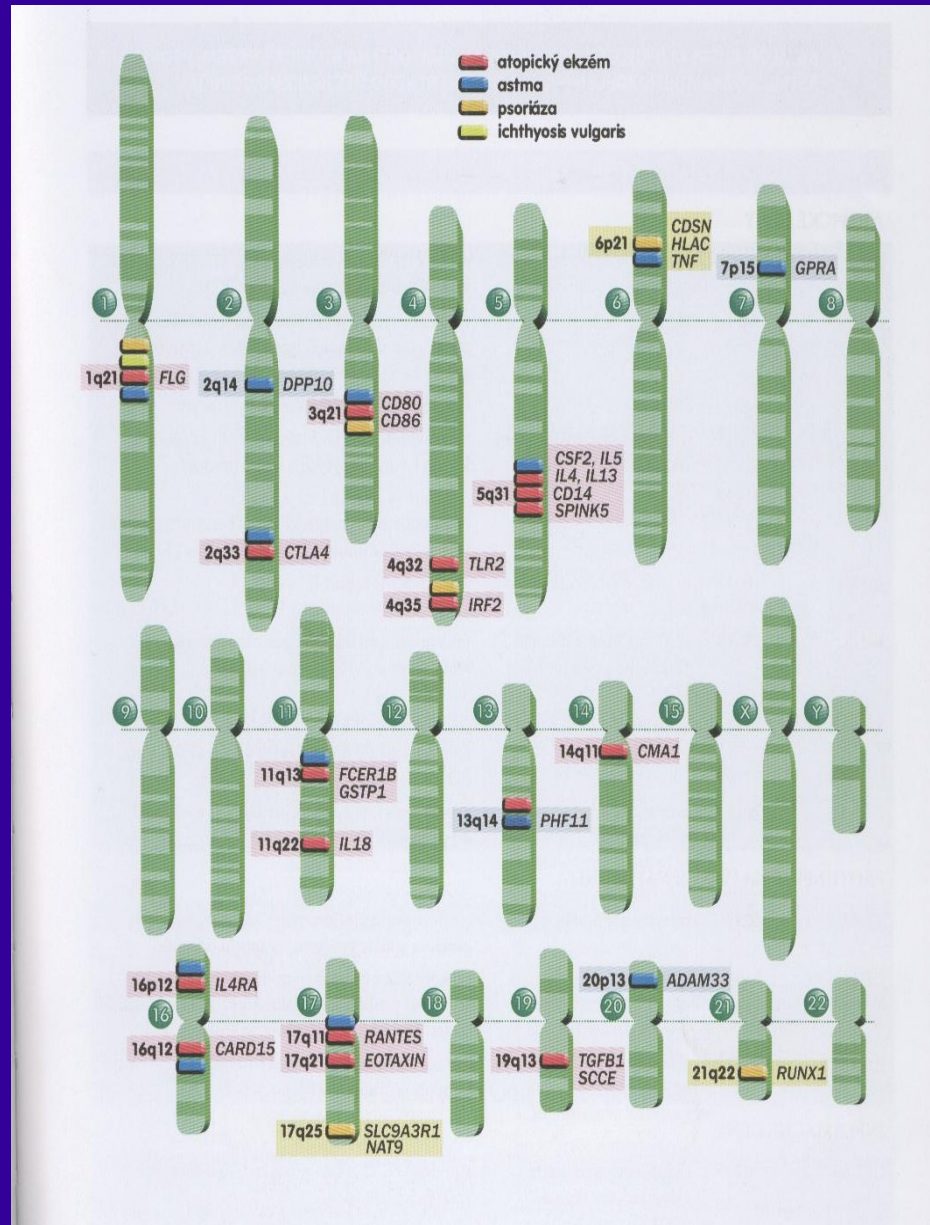
Filaggrin: null mutation of FLG R501X and 2282del4 alleles lead to increased permeability of skin barrier and they are associated with AD (in about 50% cases), as well as with ichthyosis vulgaris

Claudin- 1, corneodesmosin

Increased activity of serin proteases

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Genes involved in AD





skin barrier disturbance

- Defective synthesis of ceramides

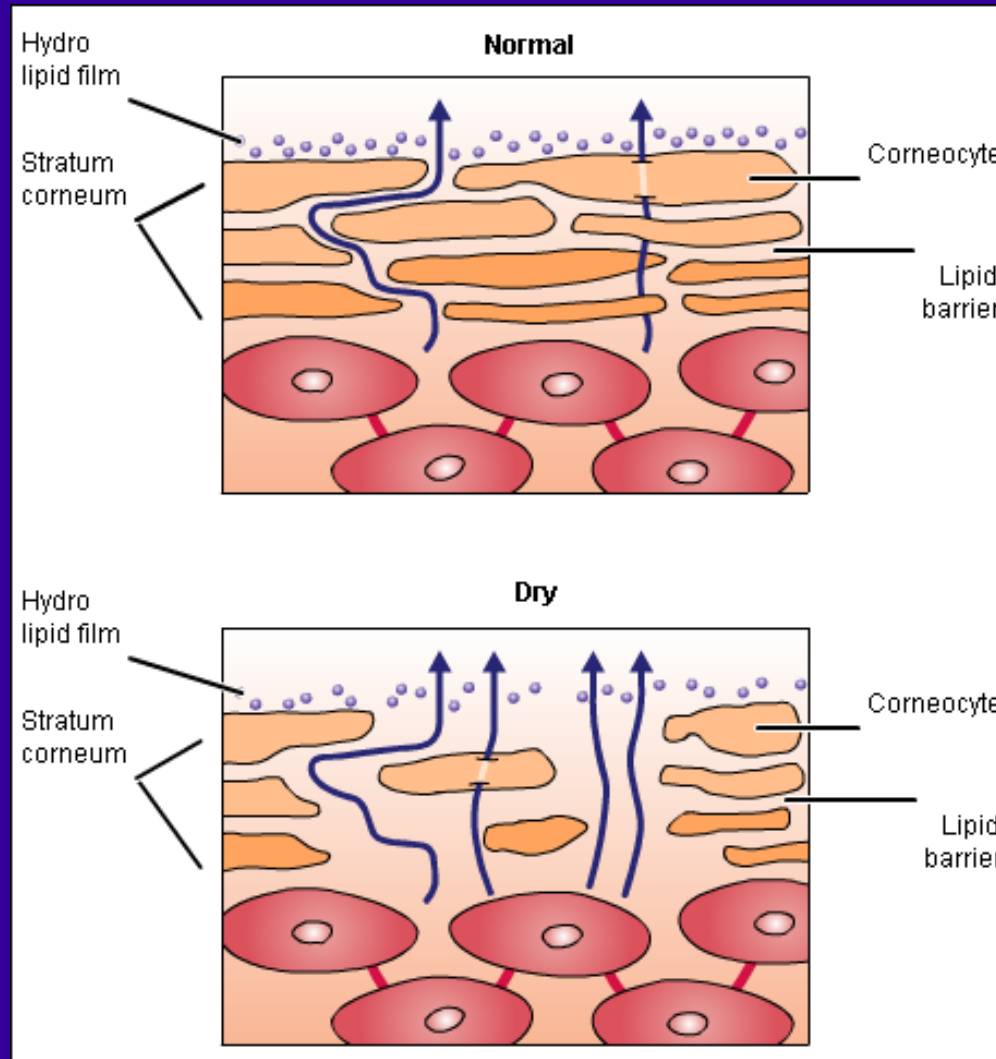
(takes place in lamellar bodies in granular layer of epidermis)



decreased ability to bind water in the skin



skin barrier disturbance



AD and skin barrier

Defective structure and function of skin barrier

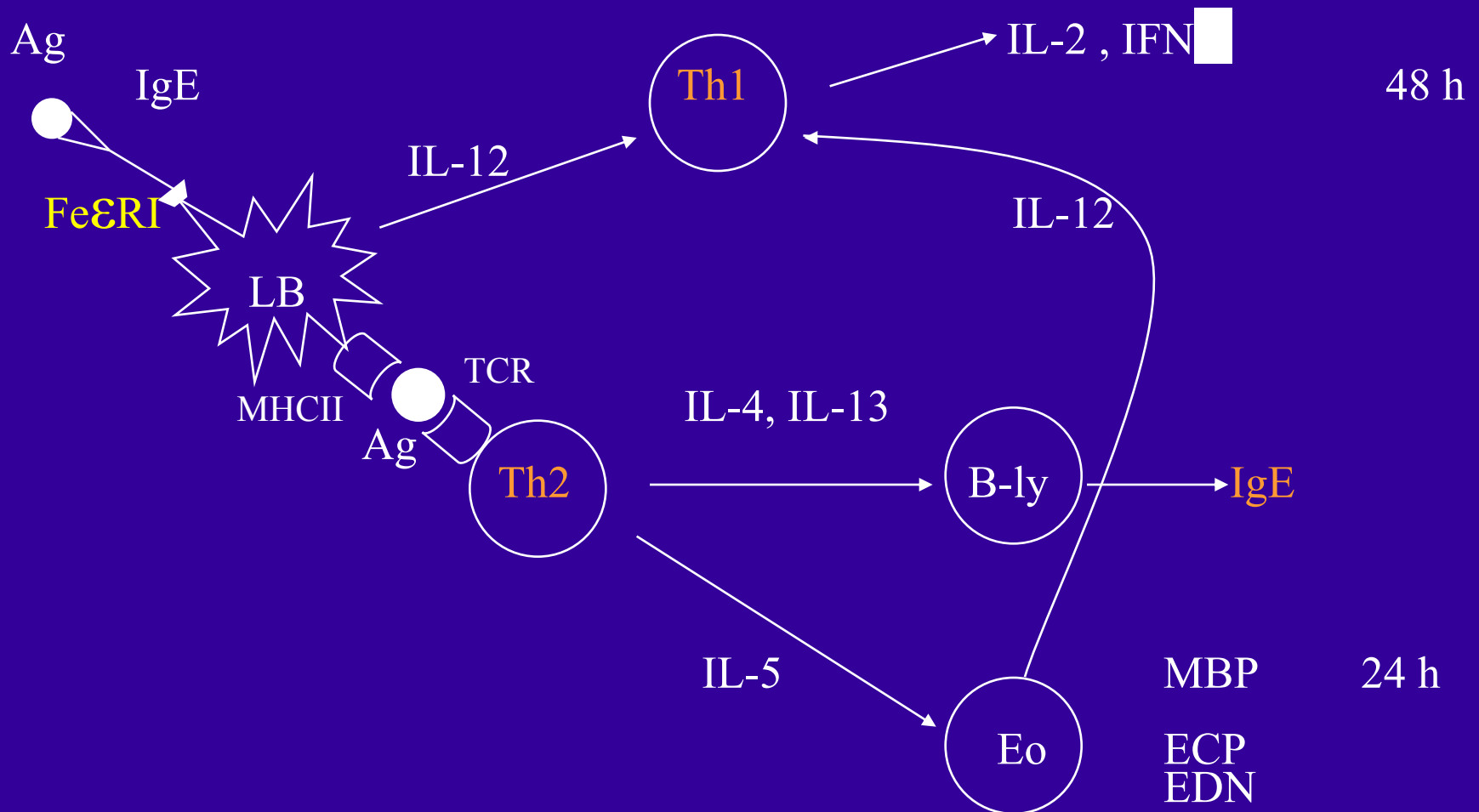
insufficient hydration (TEWL ↑)

dryness - xerosis

increased irritability of the skin
possibility of contact sensitization

II: Immunological abnormalities in AD

biphasic model of AD (Th2 → Th1 shift)



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III. Staphylococcus aureus and AD

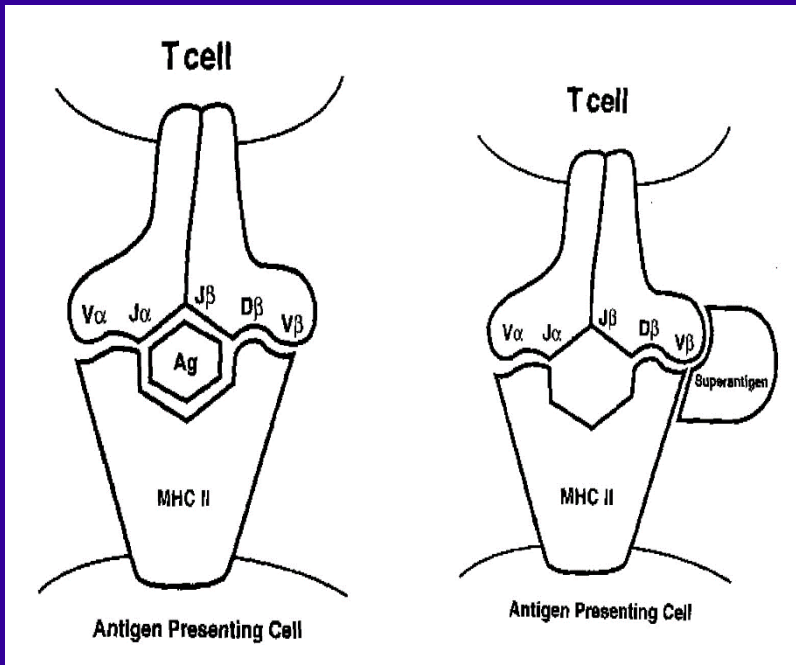
- colonization of AD lesions in 74 - 96% atopic patients, 30 - 56% even on „healthy“ skin

Mechanisms:

- Defective skin barrier with „naked“ laminin and fibronectin enables SA binding the skin
- Decreased defensive mechanisms: defective signalling via TLR 2
 - defensins and cathelicidins
 - production of IFN γ

Staphylococcus aureus and AD

- 1) Toxic effect: staphylococcal exfoliatine
- 2) Stimulation of sIgE production (sIgE → stimulation of basophils → histamine)
- 3) **superantigens**: SEA- SEE a TSST-1



- without previous processing by LC
- able to bridge V chain of TC Receptor,
- not necessary exact conformity of all 5 subunits of the receptor
- 1000x stimulation
- non-specific but huge stimulation of Tly (1 SA even 20% of circulating lymph.)

Triggering and mainaining factors of AD

Allergy (house dust mites, pollen, pets, molds, foods — milk, eggs, wheat, soya, nutts, fish)

Microbes — Staphylococcus aureus

Irritant substances (water,detergents etc.)

- climatic (temperature, wind, low humidity ..)

Psychological stress

Clinical picture of AD

AD in infants

**Exudative form – acute eczema
(oozing, crusting)**

■ Location - periorally
 - periorbitally

■ Possibility of spreading - erythroderma



**Atopic dermatitis –
Infant AD**



Infant AD

Clinical picture of AD

AD in children and adolescents

Decrease of exudation - lichenification

■ most often – flexural eczema

- facial eczema

■ less often - erythroderma



**Atopic dermatitis – flexural
eczema**



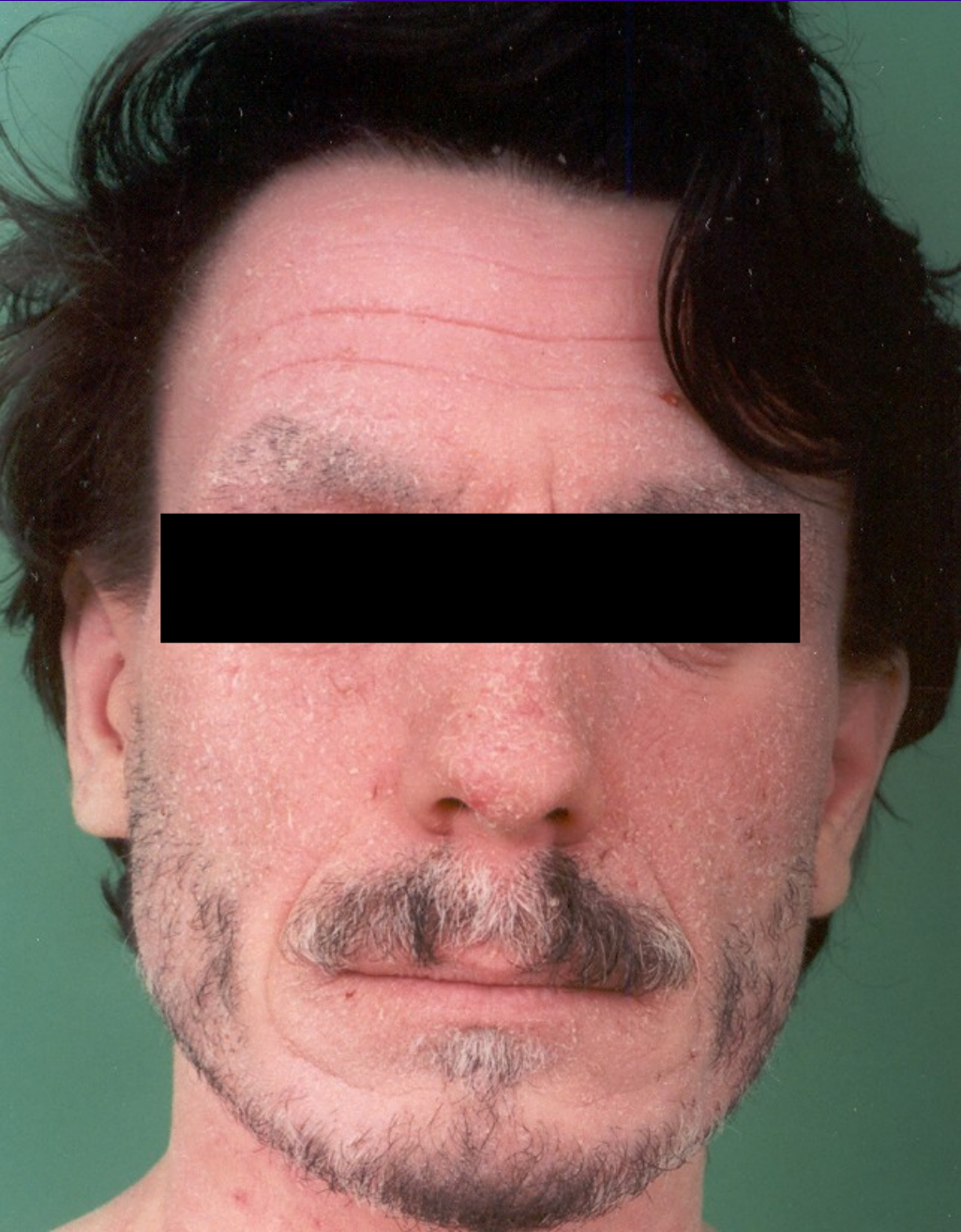
**Atopic dermatitis –
erythrodermic form**

Clinical picture of AD

AD in adults

(about 15% of cases appear after puberty)

- **head& neck**
 - **flexural**
 - **prurigininous**
 - **neurodermitic**
 - **erythrodermic**
- chronic course
- acute flares possible





Adult AD – pruriginous form



Adult AD – neurodermitic form



**Adult AD – erythrodermic
form**

AD in adults

atypical forms - nummular, dyshidrotic,
hyperkeratotic forms

minimal forms - cheilitis sicca, stomatitis
angularis, pulpitis sicca,
intertrigo retroauricularis, aj.



Adult AD - dyshidrotic form



Eczema atopicum hyperkeratoticum



AD eyelid dermatitis, lip dermatitis





AD retroauricular dermatitis

Complications of AD

bacterial - impetiginization (St. aureus)

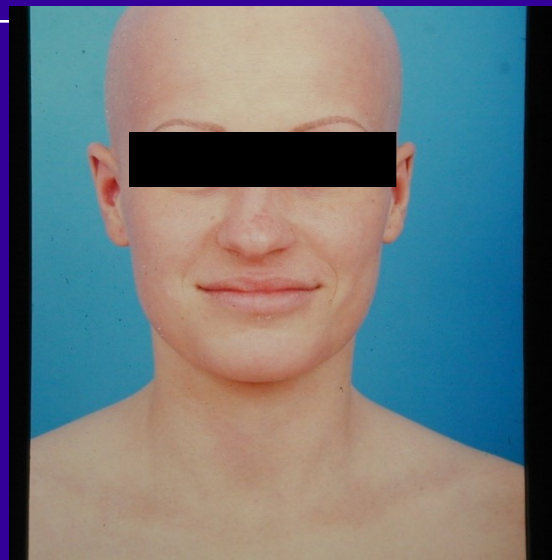
viral – herpetication-HSV, warts, mollusca

fungal (Tr. rubrum, Pityrosporum ovale)

contact sensitization (nickel, fragrances, KS...)

association:

- alopecia areata
- ichthyosis vulgaris
- vitiligo





Eczema atopicum impetiginisatum



Eczema atopicum herpeticatum



**Eczema atopicum –
verrucae vulgares –
warts**





Treatment of AD

mild form of AD (30-40% of patients):

education of patient (or parents)

identification of triggering factor

and their elimination

emollients and baths

topical corticosteroids

pimecrolimus

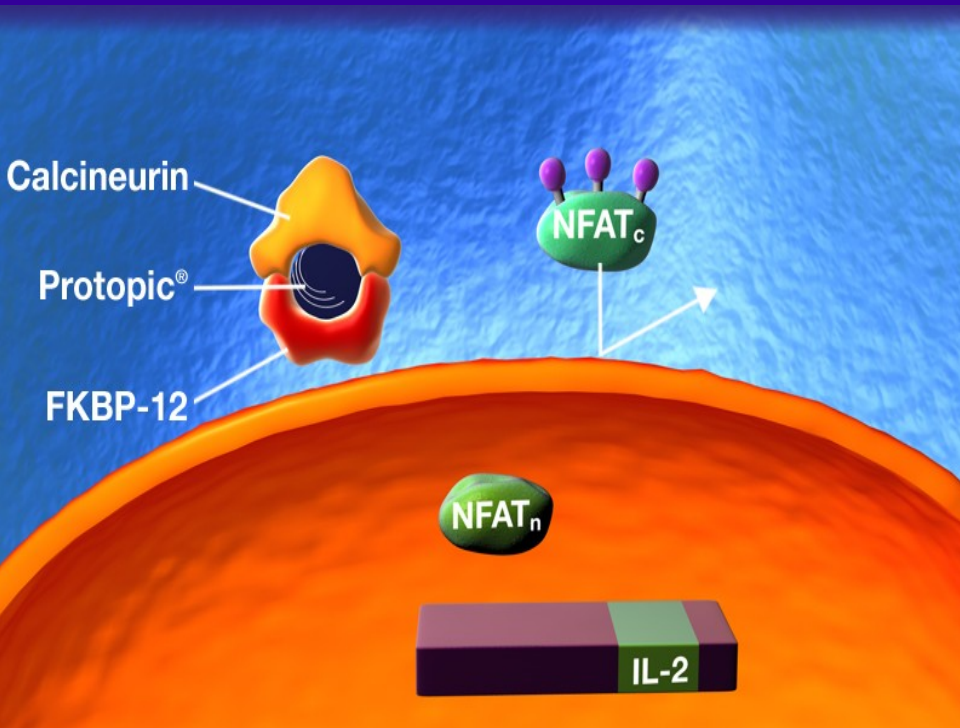
antihistamines during flares



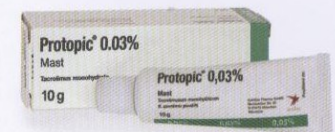
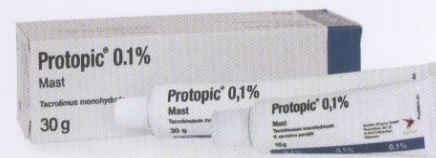
Treatment of AD

- mid-severe form of AD (40-50% of patients):
 - treatment similar as in mild form
 - + tacrolimus
 - or
 - hospitalization – lab. and clinical tests (triggers)
 - traditional topical treatment /tar/
 - or
 - phototherapy (UVB 311nm, UVA-1)

Tacrolimus (PROTOPIC oinment)



- Topical Immunomodulator
- Blocks calcineurin
- antiinflammatory
- antipruritic
- Long - term treatment
- No skin atrophy



Treatment of AD

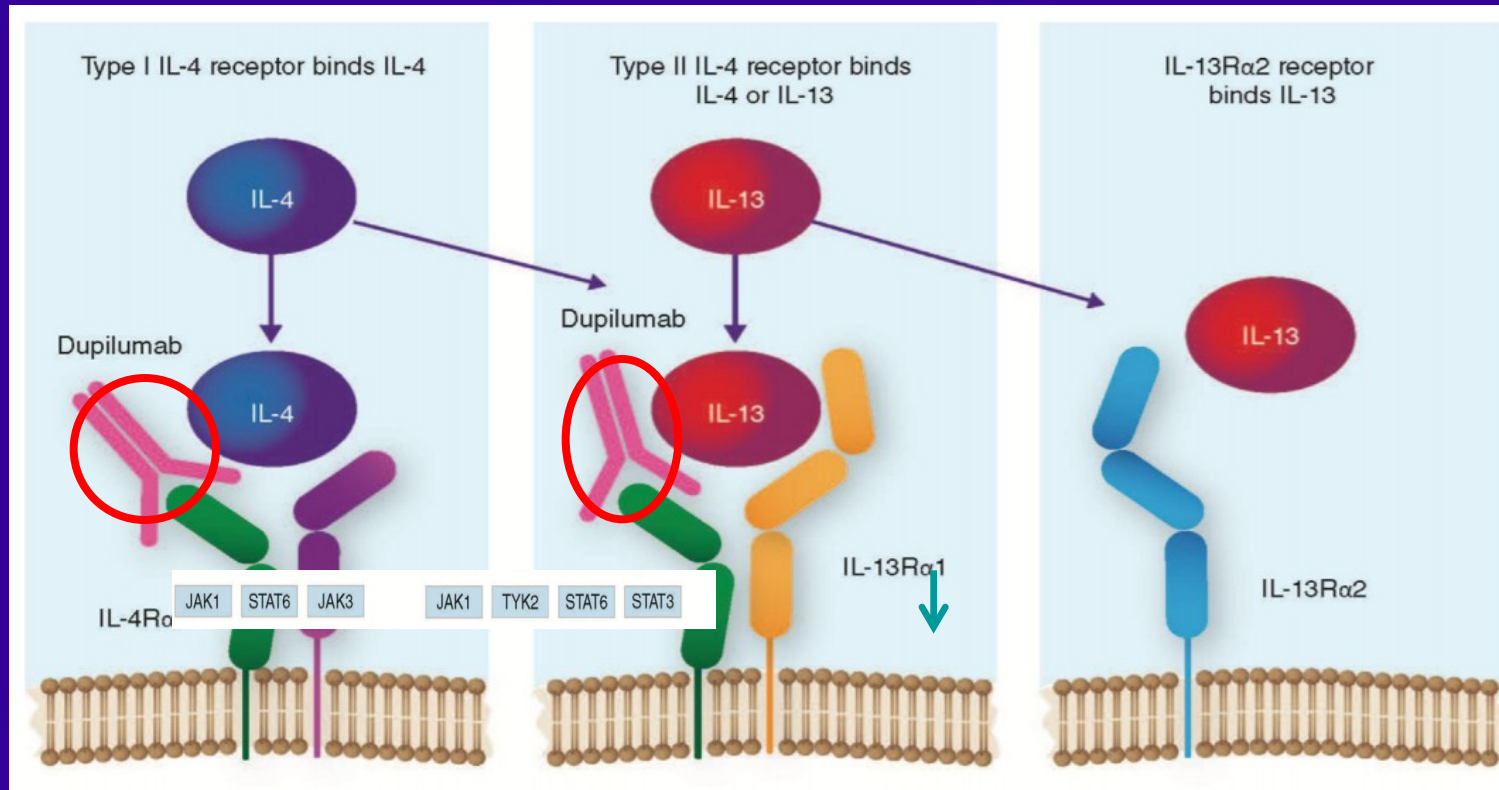
- severe form of AD (5-10% patients)
 - phototherapy (PUVA, UVA-1)
 - systemic corticosteroids (short courses)
 - immunosuppressives: cyclosporine A, MMF, AZT, MTX
 - new therapies:
 - i.v. Ig
 - JAK, PDE inhibitors
 - biologicals (dupilumab...)

New treatments of AD

	PHASE 1	PHASE 2			PHASE 3	Approved
Interleukin Inhibitors	ARGX-1121-3 IL-22R1	Bermekimab ^{6,7} IL-1 α	Secukinumab ⁸ IL-17A	Risankizumab ^{9,10} IL-23	Tralokinumab ¹¹ IL-13	Dupilumab ¹² IL-4R α
	PF-06817024 ^{4,5} IL-33-related	Benralizumab ^{13,1} IL-5R α	MOR10615 IL-17C	REGN3500 ^{16,17} IL-33	Nemolizumab ¹⁸ IL-31RA	Dupilumab 300 mg q2w is licensed for treating moderate-to- severe AD in adult patients ¹²
		Lebrikizumab ¹⁹ IL-13	Fezakinumab ²⁰ IL-22	Etokimab ^{21,22} IL-33		
			Spesolimab ^{23,24} IL-36	LY3375880 ^{25,26} IL-33		
JAK/SYK Inhibitors			ASN00227 SYK/JAK		Upadacitinib ²⁸ JAK1	
					Abrocitinib ²⁹ JAK1	
					Baricitinib ³⁰ JAK1/JAK2	
Other Inhibitors	EDP106631 Undisclosed					
	EDP181531 Undisclosed	DS10732, ³³ CD40	Tezepelumab ^{34,35} TSLP	KY 100536 OX40L	Serlopitant ^{37,38} NK-1R <small>Refer</small>	
	LOU 06439-41 BTK	Adriforant ⁴¹ H4R	GBR 83042 OX40	KHK40834 ^{3,44} OX40	Tradipitant ⁴⁵ NK-1R	

Dupilumab - mechanism of action

human IgG4 class monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to the α subunit of the IL-4 and 13 receptors, thereby blocking the activation of protein kinases JAK 1 or 3 or TYK2



Effect of dupilumab treatment

