Toilet contact dermatitis

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ABSTRACT

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Article Text

In 1982, an unusual case of formaldehyde contact dermatitis in a 6-year-old girl, caused by a d-
manifestation.

Case Report

3 patients (1 female and 2 males) presented to our out patient department with ring-shaped, re-
corresponded to the pressure areas of the toilet seat. Patients reported that eczematous-like l
Each patient was patch tested with the Italian baseline series of allergens (Società Italiana di Dermatologia, Italy) with 'Haye's chambers'. At D4 reading, the tests showed a positive reaction (++) to formaldehyde in all the cases, we detected the source of dermatitis in a domestic cleanser containing formaldehyde releasers.

Comment

Formaldehyde is a ubiquitous and strong sensitizer, commonly used in industrial, domestic, or household products. It is found as free formaldehyde, as a component of formaldehyde-releasing preservatives, and in common products such as house detergents, topical medications, and cosmetics; they are used as adhesives and binders in paper, plastic, textile finishing, etc. (2).

The risk of sensitization to formaldehyde is estimated to be very high among workers and cons of patients patch tested with the European baseline series. This is the result of exposure to formaldehyde releasers in sensitized patients has frequently been reported (5).

Because of the widespread use of formaldehyde, clinical presentations may be variable. In our patients, the unusual distribution of the dermatitis led us to the cause.

After an accurate history was taken, we showed that every patient in the group had spent length of time in contact with formaldehyde: The first man, respectively 45 years old, was a businessman spending most of the day in an office; the second patient, a 41-year-old teacher, and the first patient whom we described, in 1982, was a 6-year-old girl attending school.

Therefore, we concluded that contact with formaldehyde or formaldehyde components is more often used.

Multicentric studies should be promoted to investigate the prevalence of formaldehyde contact dermatitis. Those subjects are more prone to be sensitized because of the physiological changes in their homes. Therefore, they should be encouraged to substitute less sensitizing products for the problematic agents.

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