

Diagnostic Criteria for Atopic Dermatitis

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Abstract

Atopic dermatitis is a disease of various names and presentations. There is no definitive diagnostic test for atopic dermatitis. The diagnosis depends on a set of clinical features. Ever since Hanifin and Rajka first proposed a set of diagnostic criteria for atopic dermatitis in 1980, various other criteria have been suggested from different geographic locations. In this article, we have described the need for uniform diagnostic criteria, various criteria proposed, their validation studies, and the cause of wide variation in the results of the validation studies.

Key words: dermatitis, atopic dermatitis, diagnostic criteria