

The full report is titled: "Atopic dermatitis: Burden of illness, quality of life, and associated complications." It is in the January-February 2017 issue of *Allergy Asthma Proceedings* (volume 38, pages 3 to 8). The author is Aaron M. Drucker.

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Burden of atopic dermatitis on quality of life of patients and parents

Atopic dermatitis (also called eczema) is a chronically relapsing inflammatory skin condition that, in addition to its disease manifestations, frequently impacts the quality of life of the individual patient and his or her family. In a recent study, Dr. Drucker reviewed the burden of atopic dermatitis with respect to disease prevalence, economic costs, impact on quality of life, and risk for associated diseases and accompanying complications. He describes the assessment of the patient's level of burden as well as gives suggestions for addressing the problem in a clinic setting.

Who or What Was Proposed to Be Studied?

This article was divided into four main sections: (1) atopic dermatitis prevalence, persistence, and population-level burden; (2) burden of atopic dermatitis for individuals and their families; (3) medical complications and comorbidities of atopic dermatitis; and (4) assessment of the burden of atopic dermatitis in clinical practice.

How Was the Study Done?

The author reviewed reports from the literature and discussed his own experience on the challenges of stress-related and anxiety-inducing factors associated with atopic dermatitis.

What Are the Limitations of the Proposed Study?

Results were limited by the extent of the literature search performed by the author.

What Are the Implications of the Study?

The results of this study support the notion that atopic dermatitis has diverse and marked impacts on patients, families, and society as a whole. An understanding of this association is both important for achieving optimal management of atopic dermatitis by health care professionals and important for ameliorating the patient level and parent level of burden of the condition. □