

Ichthyoses: Current Problems in Dermatology



Ichthyoses (Current Problems in Dermatology Book 39)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
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Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Ichthyoses are a group of rare genetic skin disorders that affect the way the skin produces and sheds cells. The most common type of ichthyosis is vulgaris, which is characterized by dry, scaly skin that resembles fish scales. Other types of ichthyoses include lamellar ichthyosis, which is characterized by large, thick scales that cover the entire body, and Harlequin ichthyosis, which is a severe form of ichthyosis that can be fatal in infancy.

Ichthyoses are caused by mutations in genes that are involved in the production of the skin's natural moisturizing factor (NMF). NMF is a complex mixture of lipids, proteins, and other molecules that helps to keep the skin hydrated and protected. When NMF is deficient, the skin becomes dry, scaly, and prone to infection.

Symptoms

The symptoms of ichthyoses can vary depending on the type of disorder. However, some common symptoms include:

- Dry, scaly skin
- Thick, thickened skin
- Itching
- Burning
- Skin infections
- Eczema
- Psoriasis

In severe cases, ichthyoses can also lead to:

- Dehydration
- Electrolyte imbalance
- Kidney failure
- Death

Diagnosis

Ichthyoses can be diagnosed based on the patient's symptoms and a physical examination. A skin biopsy may also be performed to confirm the diagnosis.

Treatment

There is no cure for ichthyoses, but treatment can help to improve the symptoms and prevent complications. Treatment options include:

- Moisturizers
- Emollients
- Keratolytics
- Retinoids
- Antibiotics
- Oral medications
- Phototherapy

Psychological and Social Impact

Ichthyoses can have a significant psychological and social impact on patients. The condition can cause feelings of shame, embarrassment, and isolation. Patients may also experience discrimination and bullying. In addition, ichthyoses can interfere with daily activities, such as work, school, and relationships.

Ichthyoses are a group of rare genetic skin disorders that can have a significant impact on patients' physical, psychological, and social well-being. Although there is no cure for ichthyoses, treatment can help to improve the symptoms and prevent complications. Patients with ichthyoses should work with a dermatologist to develop a treatment plan that meets their individual needs.

References

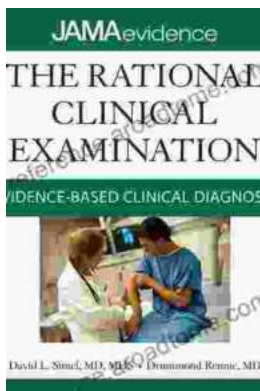
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