

Teaching Slide Collection of the Cutaneous Manifestations of the Disease Activity Score

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Introduction

- The following is a slide collection of representative examples of some of the cutaneous manifestations associated with juvenile and adult dermatomyositis which are included in the Disease Activity Score.
- Cutaneous signs are generally scored as present or absent. A few lesions are scored by degree of involvement.

Skin Involvement Type (score 0 – 4): Atrophic Changes Only



- Definition:

Dermal or epidermal cutaneous atrophy, with or without telangiectasia, in the absence of erythema.

Score = 1

Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Mild



- Definition:

Mild erythema = pale pink,
no induration.

Score = 2

Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Moderate



- Definition:

Moderate erythema =
brighter pink to red, with
or without induration

Score = 3

Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Severe



- Definition:

Severe erythema = more intense pink to red with induration

Score = 4

Vasculitis (Score 0- 1 for section)

Erythema - Eyelid



- Definition:
Red or purple discoloration of the eyelid.

Vasculitis: Eyelid Blood Vessel Dilation

- Definition:

Small vessels apparent at the margin of the eyelid.



Vasculitis:

Eyelid Blood Vessel Telangiectasia

- Definition:

Greater degree of eyelid vessel dilation, involving the middle portion of the eyelid.



Vasculitis: Nailfold Erythema (cuticles)

- Definition: Periungual erythema.



Vasculitis: Nailbed Telangiectasia



- Definition: Dilation of the small vessels adjacent to the nailfolds, which may be end row capillaries and other vessels.

Vasculitis: Palate Vessel Dilation



- Definition:
Dilated blood vessels
evident on the hard palate.

Gottron's Papules (score 0 – 1 for section): Mild



- Definition:
Mild Gottron's papules: a few areas (~2.0 cm or less) of localized cutaneous papules, usually skin color.

Gottron's Papules - Moderate



- Definition:
Moderate Gottron's papules: several locations of cutaneous involvement, light to medium pink in color

Gottron's Papules - Severe



- Definition:
Severe Gottron's papules: Bright red, extensive involvement most often over the MCP, PIPs, elbows, knees.

References

- Bode RK, Klein-Gitelman MS, Miller ML, Lechman TS, Pachman LM. Disease Activity Score for children with juvenile dermatomyositis: reliability and validity evidence. *Arthritis Rheum (Arthritis Care Research)*, 2003; 49: 7 – 15
- Smith RL, Sundberg J, Shamtyah E, Dyer A, Pachman LM. Skin involvement in juvenile dermatomyositis is associated with loss of end row nailfold capillary loops. *J Rheumatology*, 2004; 31: 1644 - 9.

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