

Self-reported eczema valid for detecting atopic dermatitis

July 28 2015



(HealthDay)—Self- and caregiver-reported history of eczema is valid for identifying atopic dermatitis (AD), according to a study published online July 17 in the *British Journal of Dermatology*.

Jonathan I. Silverberg, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., from the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, and colleagues performed a prospective multicenter dermatology practice-based study at three sites to examine the validity of caregiver- and self-reported ever and one-year [history](#) of eczema. Unselected patients were surveyed with questionnaires. Seven hundred eighty-two patients were then assessed by expert dermatologists.

The researchers found that, compared with a physician diagnosis of AD at that visit, caregiver-reported one-year history of [childhood eczema](#) had a sensitivity, specificity, and positive predictive value (PPV) of 0.70, 0.96, and 0.87, respectively. The corresponding values were 0.70, 0.95, and 0.76 for self-reported one-year history of adult eczema. Ever-history of caregiver- and self-reported eczema had high specificity (0.89 and 0.97, respectively) and PPV (0.81 and 0.91, respectively), with high sensitivity in children but not adults (0.83 versus 0.43).

"Self- and caregiver-reported diagnosis of [eczema](#) ever or in the past year based on a single question demonstrates sufficient validity for the epidemiological study of AD," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2015 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Self-reported eczema valid for detecting atopic dermatitis (2015, July 28) retrieved 5 January 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-07-self-reported-eczema-valid-atopic-dermatitis.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--