

## Common viral skin infection

Doneby •NabaaNasratMajeed. •GhadeerAbdAlraheemAbdAlaziz. •MahawissamTawfeeq.  
•MaryamMohammedBaker. •MustafaNeamahSahon. •BaneenAliHussien. •HebatullahAliMehdi.  
•MohammedHafidhSulaiman. •MustafaAaliSfoor. •AhmedAlaanKadhim. Supervisedby:

Dr.ZeenaSaeedAl-Fadhily I Introduction Common viral skin infection Skin lesions are prominent features of many viral diseases. In some instances, characteristic skin lesions suggest a specific viral illness, the diagnosis of which can be quickly established by appropriate procedures. In addition to clinical manifestations, laboratory methods including virus isolation are used to diagnose viral infections.

In viral diseases, prophylaxis has proved more successful than the specific treatment of established infection. However, recent progress in molecular biology has facilitated the development of new vaccines and new drugs to treat viral infections.

Many viral skin infections can be diagnosed clinically and do not require a dermatology referral unless there is diagnostic uncertainty or if the patient falls into a special high risk group. Immunocompromised patients are at high risk of picking up viral skin infections and early specialist advice should be sought.

The most common skin viral infections include: 1. Herpes simplex virus infections.

2. Varicella Zoster virus infections. 3. Human Papillomavirus Infections. 4. Molluscum Contagiosum.

5. Measles (rubeola). 6. Rubella (German measles). 7. Roseola infantum.

8. Erythema infectiosum (fifth disease). 9. Hand-foot-mouth disease. [1] II Human papilloma viral infection

Warts are non-cancerous (benign) skin growths that develop on different parts of the body and come in various forms. They are caused by viruses.

Warts are contagious and very common: Most people will have one at some point in their lives. Although they can affect people at any age, warts are most common among children and teenagers. Most warts are harmless and will go away on their own within a few weeks or months. But they can be bothersome and unattractive, and some people feel ashamed. There are a number of different treatments that can make warts go away more quickly – but they don't always work. Viral warts aren't the same as "senile warts" (seborrheic keratosis), which usually first appear in older age and aren't contagious. Senile warts are also quite harmless, but permanent.

This information is about viral warts only. [2] Symptoms

Most warts don't cause any bothersome symptoms. Some may cause itching, tightness or a feeling of pressure. Warts might be painful too, particularly those on the soles of your feet. Some warts have small black or brownish dots caused by clotted blood that has leaked from capillaries (very fine blood vessels) in the skin. Warts may appear alone or in groups, which may then cover larger areas of skin [2,3]. The main types of warts include: – Plantar warts mostly occur on the ankles and soles of the feet. Those on the bottom of the feet and toes are sometimes referred to as verrucas. They can become quite large. Because the soles of your feet have to support your body weight, plantar warts do not grow outward like other kinds of warts. They are pushed inward when you stand or walk. This

can cause pain or tenderness due to the pressure. It also makes it difficult to treat this kind of wart. → Common warts are skin growths that range from the size of a pinhead to the size of a pea. They harden, making them rough and scaly to the touch. Common warts are often found on the back of the hands, the fingers, the skin around the nails, and on your feet. → Flat warts are small, slightly raised warts that are often just a few millimeters wide. Sometimes they are light brown in color. They are most commonly found on the face, particularly on the forehead and cheeks. Hands and lower arms are often affected too. → Mosaic warts are white and about the size of a pinhead. They are usually found on the balls of the feet or under the toes, but may also spread and cover larger areas on the entire sole of the foot. Mosaic warts are flatter than plantar warts, and they only rarely hurt when you walk. [2,3] IV → Filiform warts have a thread-like, spiky appearance. Because they often appear on the face and sometimes look like tiny brushes, they are usually considered to be especially bothersome. → Genital warts are small, hard nodules with rough surfaces. They are sexually transmitted and affect only the genital area. This information does not cover genital warts. Some types of skin cancer may look like warts, but they are very rare. Corns are also sometimes mistaken for plantar warts. But corns have a single visible core of dense hard skin in their center, while plantar warts often have brownish dots. Causes Warts are caused by human papillomaviruses (HPV), of which there are more than 100 different types. These viruses can enter the skin through small cuts and cause extra cell growth. The outer layer of skin turns thicker and harder, forming a raised wart. Wart viruses are mainly spread by direct skin contact, but they may also be spread by touching objects like towels or razors. They are more likely to infect moist and soft or injured skin. [2] Epidemiology Warts are a common medical problem. Warts are common worldwide and affect approximately 10% of the population. In school-aged children, the prevalence is as high as 10% to 20%. They are more common among immunosuppressed patients and meat handlers. Warts can occur at any age. Although rare in infancy and early childhood, prevalence increases among school-aged children and peaks at 12 to 16 years. Warts are twice as common in Whites as in Blacks or Asians. The male-to-female ratio is approximately equal. [2,3] Treatment depends on number of lesions, site and type of wart, cosmetic disability. • Keratolytics. • Chemical cautery. • Retinoic acid. • Cryotherapy. • Electrocautery. • Topical 5-fluorouracil. Podophyllin 20%. • Imiquimod 5%. • Laser therapy. [4] Herpes simplex virus Herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) is a linear dsDNA virus that is a member of the Alpha herpesviridae subfamily. HSV-1 is responsible for establishing primary and recurrent vesicular eruptions, primarily in the VI orolabial and genital mucosa. HSV-1 infection has a wide variety of presentations, including orolabial herpes, herpetic syphilis (HSV folliculitis), herpes gladiatorum, herpetic whitlow, ocular HSV infection, herpes encephalitis, Kaposi varicelliform eruption (eczema herpeticum), and severe or chronic HSV infection. Antiviral therapy limits the course of HSV infection. This activity describes the evaluation, and treatment of herpes simplex virus type 1 and reviews the role of the interprofessional team in evaluating and treating patients with this condition. In general, the pathogenesis of HSV-

1 infection follows a cycle of primary infection of epithelial cells, latency primarily in neurons, and reactivation. HSV-1 is responsible for establishing primary and recurrent vesicular eruptions, primarily in the orolabial and genital mucosa. HSV-1 infection has a wide variety of presentations, including orolabial herpes, herpetic sychosis (HSV folliculitis), herpes gladiatorum, herpetic whitlow, ocular HSV infection, herpes encephalitis, Kaposi varicelliform eruption (eczema herpeticum), and severe or chronic HSV infection. Antiviral therapy limits the course of HSV infection. [5,6,7] Epidemiology It has been hypothesized that approximately one-third of the world's population has experienced symptomatic HSV-1 at some point throughout his or her lifetime. HSV-1 first establishes primary infection in patients with no existing antibodies to HSV-1 or HSV-2. Non-primary initial infection is defined as infection with one HSV subtype in patients who already have antibodies to the other HSV type (i.e., HSV-1 infection in a patient with HSV-2 antibodies, or vice versa). Reactivation results in recurrent infection and most commonly presents as VII asymptomatic viral shedding. pregnancy have a high risk. [8,9,10] Pathophysiology HSV-1 typically spreads through direct contact with contaminated saliva or other infected bodily secretions, as opposed to HSV-2, which is spread primarily by sexual contact. HSV-1 begins to replicate at the site of infection (mucocutaneous) and then proceeds to travel by retrograde flow down an axon to the dorsal root ganglia (DRG). It is in the DRG that latency is established. This latency period allows the virus to remain in a non-infectious state for a variable amount of time before reactivation. HSV-1 is sly in its ability to evade the immune system via several mechanisms. One such mechanism is inducing an intercellular accumulation of CD1d molecules in antigen presenting cells. Normally, these CD1d molecules are transported to the cell surface, where the antigen is presented resulting in the stimulation of natural killer T-cells, thus promoting an immune response. When CD1d molecules are sequestered intercellularly, the immune response is inhibited. HSV-1 has several other mechanisms by which it downregulates various immunologic cells and cytokines. HSV-1 is the most common culprit for orolabial herpes (a small percent of cases are attributed to HSV-2). It is important to note that orolabial HSV-1 infection is most commonly asymptomatic. When there are symptoms, the most common manifestation is the "cold sore" or fever blister. In children, symptomatic orolabial HSV-1 infection often presents as gingivostomatitis that leads to pain, halitosis, and dysphagia. In adults, it can present as VIII pharyngitis and a mononucleosis-like syndrome. Symptoms of a primary orolabial infection occur between three days and one week after the exposure. Patients will often experience a viral prodrome consisting of malaise, anorexia, fevers, tender lymphadenopathy, localized pain, tenderness, burning, or tingling prior to the onset of mucocutaneous lesions. Primary HSV-1 lesions usually occur on the mouth and lips. Patients will then demonstrate painful grouped vesicles on an erythematous base. These vesicles exhibit a characteristic scalloped border. These vesicles may then progress to pustules, erosions, and ulcerations. Within 2 to 6 weeks, the lesions crust over and symptoms resolve. Symptoms of recurrent orolabial infection are typically milder than those of primary infection, with a 24-hour prodrome of tingling, burning, and itch. Recurrent orolabial HSV-1 infections classically affect the vermilion border

of the lip (as opposed to the mouth and lips as seen in primary infection). The gold standard for diagnosing HSV-1 infection is HSV-1 serology (antibody detection via western blot). The most sensitive and specific mechanism is viral polymerase chain reaction (PCR). However, serology remains the gold standard.

Viral culture, direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) assay, and Tzanck smear are alternative methods of diagnosing. It is important to note that the Tzanck smear identifies multinucleated giant cells, so it cannot distinguish between HSV and VZV. The DFA assay, however, can distinguish between the 2 entities. [11,12,13] IX Treatment/Management For the treatment of orolabial herpes, the current recommendation is oral valacyclovir (2 gram twice daily for one day). If the patient has frequent outbreaks, chronic suppression is warranted. For chronic suppression of immunocompetent patients, oral valacyclovir 500 mg daily (for patients with less than ten outbreaks per year) or oral valacyclovir 1 gram by mouth daily (for patients with greater than 10 outbreaks a year) is recommended. For the treatment of feczema herpeticum, it is recommended to use 10 to 14 days of either acyclovir (15 mg/kg with a 400 mg maximum) 3 to 5 times daily or Valacyclovir 1 gram by mouth twice a day.

For immunocompromised patients with severe and chronic HSV, treatment is aimed at chronic suppression.

For chronic suppression of immunocompromised patients, oral acyclovir 400 to 800 mg 2 to 3 times daily, or oral valacyclovir 500 mg twice daily is recommended. [14,15,16] Herpes zoster Varicella-

zoster virus (VZV) causes chickenpox and herpes zoster

(shingles). Varicella is characterized by a pruritic, maculopapular,

vesicular rash that evolves into noninfectious dried crusts over a 3- to 7-

day period. Reactivation of the dormant virus results in the characteristic painful dermatomal rash

of herpes zoster, which is often followed by pain in the distribution of the rash (postherpetic neuralgia). X

VZV infection gives rise to two distinct syndromes. The primary

infection, chickenpox, is a contagious and usually benign febrile

illness. After this infection resolves, viral particles remain in the

dorsal root or other sensory ganglia, where they may lay dormant for years to decades.

VZV reactivates when the host mechanisms fail to contain the virus. Such failure may result from a wide

spectrum of conditions, ranging from stress to severe immunosuppression; occasionally,

it follows direct trauma Herpes zoster (shingles) is an acute, cutaneous viral infection caused

by the reactivation of varicella-zoster virus (VZV), a herpesvirus that is the cause of varicella

(chickenpox). Differences in clinical manifestations between varicella and herpes zoster apparently

depend on an individual's immune status; those with no previous exposure to

VZV, most commonly children, develop the clinical syndrome of varicella, whereas those with circulating

varicella antibodies develop localized recrudescence, zoster. [17,18] Zoster probably results most often from

a failure of the immune system to contain latent VZV replication. Whether other factors, such as

radiation, physical trauma, certain medications, other infections, and stress,

also can trigger zoster has not been determined with certainty. Nor is it entirely clear why circulating

varicella antibodies and cell-mediated immune mechanisms do not prevent recurrent overt disease, as is

common with most other viral illnesses. XI Herpes zoster manifests in many ways. It should not be considered

simply a self-limited dermatomal rash with pain. VZV infection is an

acute neurologic disease that warrants immediate evaluation.

That VZV is always a benign disorder is a common misperception.

Once VZV infection resolves, many individuals continue to suffer pain—a condition known as postherpetic neuralgia (PHN).

The acute eruptive phase is marked by the emergence of vesicular eruptions. Patients may also experience some of the other symptoms seen in the pre-eruptive phase. Lesions begin as erythematous macules and papules that quickly develop into vesicles. New lesions tend to form over a period of 3–5 days, sometimes coalescing to form bullae. After they form vesicles, lesions progress through stages in which they rupture, release their contents, ulcerate, and finally crust over and become dry.

Patients remain infectious until the lesions have dried. [19]

During this phase, almost all adult patients experience pain (i.e., acute neuritis). A few experience severe pain without any evidence of a

vesicular eruption (i.e., zoster sine herpete), and a small number have a characteristic

eruption but do not experience pain. Symptoms and lesions in the acute eruptive phase tend to resolve over 10–15 days. However, lesions may require up to a month to

completely heal, and the associated pain may become chronic. In the United States, approximately 95% of adults—and 99.5% of adults aged 40 years or older—have antibodies to VZV and thus are

vulnerable to reactivation of infection. [A person of any age with a

previous varicella infection may develop zoster, but the incidence increases with advancing age as a

consequence of declining immunity. [20, 21] Approximately 4% of patients develop a recurrent episode later in life. Recurrent zoster occurs almost exclusively in people

who are immunosuppressed. Approximately 25% of patients with HIV and 7–

9% of those receiving renal transplantation or cardiac transplantation experience an episode of zoster.

Over the period of a lifetime, 10–20% of those with primary infections went

on to experience episodes of herpes zoster. High-risk groups, such

as elderly populations and immunocompromised people, might

experience cumulative incidences as high as 50%. The estimated

annual number of cases in the United States is approximately 1 million.

Since the introduction of widespread vaccination for varicella in

1995, the incidence of primary VZV infection in the United States has been reduced by up to

90%. However, the effect of this vaccination, as well as that of the subsequently approved

vaccination for herpes zoster, on the current and future incidence of

herpes zoster remains to be determined. It is rare in children and young adults, except in younger patients with

AIDS, lymphoma, other malignancies, and other immune deficiencies and in patients who have received bone

marrow or kidney transplants. [19] Diagnosis A dermatologist can often diagnose shingles by looking at the

rash on your skin. If there is any question about whether you have shingles, your

dermatologist will scrape a bit of fluid from a blister. This will be

sent to a lab where a doctor will look at the fluid under a high-powered microscope. Treatment:

Topical Treatments There are a variety of topical treatments, including topical acyclovir

5% cream, lidocaine, and capsaicin. Antiviral agents

Many studies have found acyclovir and its derivatives (valacyclovir,

famciclovir, penciclovir, and desciclovir, which is not available in

the United States) to be safe and effective in treating active disease and preventing PHN. Their mechanism of action involves preventing VZV replication through inhibition of viral DNA polymerase. Valacyclovir and famciclovir are not approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of herpes zoster in children; acyclovir is more commonly used. XIV Antiviral therapy may decrease the length of time for new vesicle formation, the number of days to attain complete crusting, and the days of acute discomfort. Usually, the earlier antiviral medications are started, the more effective they are in shortening the duration of zoster and in preventing or decreasing the severity of PHN. Ideally, therapy should be initiated within 72 hours of symptom onset. [20,21] Chickenpox Varicella infection is caused by varicella-zoster virus (VZV), a ubiquitous, highly contagious, human alpha-herpes virus. The disease is usually named chickenpox; it is generally mild and self-limiting and has worldwide distribution. Varicella results from primary VZV infection, after which the virus establishes a latent state in cells of the dorsal root ganglia, and, when reactivated, causes herpes zoster infection or shingles. Thus, herpes zoster occurs only in individuals who had primary VZV infection. The average course of varicella in children includes fever of 2-3 days' duration, accompanied by a vesicular rash involving a median of 300 lesions. Persons over 15 years of age and children under one year tend to have more severe VZV infection and a higher rate of complications. The most common in children is a secondary bacterial infection of the skin; the incidence of extracutaneous complications of varicella is low and consists of cerebellar ataxia, encephalitis, hepatitis, Reye's syndrome and pneumonia, the latter being the most common in adults. Women who contract varicella in the first 20 weeks of pregnancy are at risk of their fetus developing congenital varicella syndrome, and of premature delivery. If onset is just before term, severe neonatal varicella with rapidly disseminated infection and extensive visceral involvement occurs in the infant. In addition, pregnant women who contract varicella in the last trimester are at risk of severe pneumonia and death. Most cases of herpes zoster occur in individuals over 45 years old and the incidence increases with advancing age, it is a localized, painful, vesicular rash involving one or several adjacent dermatomes. Depression of cell-mediated immunity is the main risk factor for developing herpes zoster. It is common in patients treated with immunosuppressive drugs for malignant diseases or to prevent rejection of bone marrow or organ transplants. Patients with AIDS and those receiving systemic steroid therapy for chronic diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis or lupus erythematosus have also an important risk. Incidence of varicella—Varicella occurs throughout the year in temperate regions, but the incidence typically peaks in the months of March through May [2]. According to national seroprevalence data from the pre-vaccine era, greater than 95 percent of persons in the United States acquired varicella before 20 years of age, and fewer than 2 percent of adults were susceptible to infection [3-6]. Prior to 1995 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated the yearly incidence of chickenpox in the United States at approximately four million cases, with nearly 11,000 admissions and 100 deaths. [22,23,24]

XVI Clinical presentation Initial symptoms of chickenpox include fatigue, a mild fever, lack of appetite, and a feeling of being generally unwell. This is quickly followed (usually within 24 hours) by the development of a red rash, which usually appears on the chest and/or back first, later spreading to the face, scalp, arms, and legs. Twelve to 48 hours later the rash develops into small red spots. These then turn into yellow fluid-filled blisters, which burst and dry up 3-4 days after they appear. There may be several crops of spots occurring over 4-5 days. The spots cause itching, which may be severe. They may occur all over the body, including the mouth and genital area. Some people may have only a few spots whereas others will have hundreds. Symptoms start appearing 10-21 days after exposure to the virus. Full recovery from chickenpox usually takes 7-10 days after the symptoms first appear. [22,23]

XVII Treatment There is no specific treatment for chickenpox, but there are pharmacy remedies that can alleviate symptoms. These include paracetamol to relieve fever, and calamine lotion and cooling gel to ease itching. In most children, the blisters crust up and fall off naturally within one to two weeks. [23]

Vaccination and prevention A person with chickenpox is infectious from 1-2 days before the rash first appears until after the final crop of blisters have formed scabs, approximately 5-10 days later. The nature of the infectious period makes it very difficult to prevent the disease from spreading. Nonetheless, children should stay away from day care or school, and public places, while they are infectious. Adults with chickenpox who work with children should also stay home. The chickenpox (varicella) vaccine is the best way to prevent chickenpox. One dose of the vaccine provides approximately 99% protection against severe chickenpox and 80% protection against chickenpox of any severity. Vaccination may prevent or reduce the severity of chickenpox if it is given within 3-5 days of exposure to someone with the disease. The varicella vaccine is available from GPs. It is fully funded for infants at 15 months of age or children at 11 years of age not previously infected with or vaccinated against chickenpox, as part of the New Zealand Ministry of Health's national immunisation XVIII schedule. The varicella vaccine is also recommended and funded for certain high-risk groups and is available at a cost to other patients. [23,24,25]

Molluscum contagiosum: Molluscum contagiosum is caused by a poxvirus of the Molluscipox genus. Preschool and elementary school-aged children are more commonly affected. The virus is transmitted by close physical contact, autoinoculation, and fomites. Typically, molluscum contagiosum presents as asymptomatic, discrete, smooth, flesh-colored, dome-shaped papules with central umbilication from which a plug of cheesy material can be expressed. Some authors suggest watchful waiting of the lesions. Many authors suggest active treatment of lesions for cosmetic reasons or concerns of transmission and autoinoculation. Active treatments may be mechanical (e.g. cryotherapy, curettage, pulsed dye laser therapy), chemical (e.g. cantharidin, potassium hydroxide, podophyllotoxin, benzoyl peroxide, tretinoin, trichloroacetic acid, lactic acid, glycolic acid, salicylic acid), immune-modulating (e.g. imiquimod, interferon- $\alpha$ , cimetidine) and anti-viral (e.g. cidofovir). Recent patents related to the management of molluscum contagiosum are also retrieved and discussed. These patents comprise of topical compositions and herbal Chinese medicine with limited documentation of their efficacy. [26,27]

Epidemiology: of MC is largely of poor quality. The largest XIX

incidence is in children aged between 0 and 14 years, where the incidence rate ranged from 12 to 14 episodes per 1000 children per year. Incidence rates in the UK were highest in those aged 1-4 years. Meta-analysis suggests a point prevalence in children aged 0-16 years of between 5.1% and 11.5%. There is evidence for an association between swimming and having MC and MC is more common in those with eczema; however, there is little evidence for other risk factors. The diagnosis of MC is clinically based on the distinguishing characteristics of the lesions. Complications • Inflammation or infection (cellulitis) • Irritation • Conjunctivitis if the lesions are on the eyelids • Abscess [27,28,33] Treatment: Currently, the need for active treatment in patients with MC is controversial, given the self-limited course of infection, the large number of therapeutic alternatives available, and the lack of evidence to define the best therapy. There is a consensus that treatment should be indicated in patients with extensive disease, secondary complications (bacterial superinfection, molluscum dermatitis, conjunctivitis), or aesthetic complaints. A retrospective study evaluated the resolution rate of the lesions in treated and untreated MC patients, showing a resolution at 12 months of 45.6% in the treated group and 48.8% in the untreated group. At 18 months, they found a resolution rate of 69.5% and 72.6% in the treated versus the untreated group, respectively. From this cardinal study, it appears that active treatment does not improve the resolution rate when compared to observation alone. For all patients, general measures are recommended to prevent the spread of MCV. It should be advised not to scratch or rub the lesions; besides, patients should not share towels, tub, or bath utensils. Active treatments can be classified as mechanical, chemical, immunomodulatory, and antiviral. [29,31,32,34] XXI Patients & methods This study is a retrospective study conducted in dermatology outpatients' clinic in Merjant teaching hospital over the period of April-May 2022. Data collected by fourth stage medical college students from hospital records. Any patient attended outpatient clinic in this hospital in the year 2021 who were diagnosed with cutaneous virus infection regardless of the type were included in this study. No exclusion criteria Demographic data like name, sex, age of the patient, date of visiting were collected. Type of skin viral infection was diagnosed by dermatology specialist in the clinic. XXII Results and discussion