

Pediatric Pointers

by Dr. Joey Bell, Pembroke Pediatrics

**Atopic Dermatitis: Working With Your Doctor to Control Your Child's Rash**

Atopic dermatitis also known as atopic eczema is a chronic, itching, rash, which dries the skin. There may be areas of oozing, crusting and/or thickening of the skin. The rash may become infected with bacteria or other organisms, which normally live on the surface of the skin. If this occurs your Dr will need to prescribe special antibiotics to clear the infection. Your Dr can also help you manage the rash by prescribing medications to help control itching, inflammation and dry skin.

Atopic dermatitis is most common in the winter months. Persons with atopic dermatitis are believed to have a predisposition to developing this rash. In 75% of cases the condition will improve by the time the child is 10-14 years old. In 25% of cases the condition persists into adulthood.

Atopic dermatitis can affect persons of all ages including babies as young as 2 months old. A distinguishing feature of atopic dermatitis is that it often appears on different body parts in persons of different body parts in persons of different ages.

-- Young infants most commonly present with the rash on their cheeks, forehead, neck and scalp. However they may also have the rash on their trunk, arms and legs.

-- Older infant's 8-10 months old are more likely to develop the rash on the extensor surfaces of the arms and legs (back of the arms and front of the legs).

-- Children over 1 year old may present with oval shaped areas of rash with well defined borders and scaling on face, trunk and extremities.

-- Children between the ages of 2 and 10 years old will more often develop the rash on the neck, wrists, ankles, and behind the knees and elbows. The rash on children in this age group is more likely to be itchy, with dry scaly patches with distinct borders.

-- Persons between the ages of 12 and the early 20's may develop the rash in areas similar to 2-10 year old as well as on the eyelids, hands and feet. Atopic dermatitis in these persons is more likely to present as areas of thickened dry skin.

There are four components to the management of atopic dermatitis:

1. **Identification and removal of possible precipitating irritants** which might include: excess hand washing or bathing, preservatives, solvents, perfumes, wool cloths, that do not allow air to circulate, sweating, stress and some foods including eggs, nuts, wheat and soy.

2. **Rehydration of skin** through bathing once a day in a warm bath with emulsifying agents. Over the counter emulsifying products include Aveeno, Colloid Oatmeal, RoBath, and Maypo. A low cost alternative is to whisk a small amount of mineral oil into the warm bath water. Use a mild soap for washing such as Oil of Olay, Purpose, Dove, Camay, Aveeno or Careless. Baby shampoo or other mild shampoos may be used to manage the scalp. Upon getting out of the bath lightly pat dry the skin. Do not rub the skin with the towel.

After the bath immediately apply a topical moisturizer to the skin. A variety of common household oils may be sparingly applied including petroleum jelly (Vaseline), Crisco and vegetable oils. If you prefer moisturizing creams such as Eucerin, DML Forte, Moisturel, Aveeno, Purpose, Neutrogena and Curel may be used. However these creams are less effective moisturizers than the aforementioned oils but they may be preferred since they are less greasy. Whether you use oils or creams to rehydrate the skin the moisturizer should be applied several times per day. For more severe cases your Dr may prescribe a topical steroid cream instead of the above oils and creams. Before using any steroid creams on the face always consult with your Doctor. Some steroid creams may cause undesirable skin changes on the face.

3. **Breaking the itch-scratch-itch cycle:** Antihistamines such as Benadryl, Zyrtec or Atarax help relieve itching which helps to break the itch-scratch-itch cycle. The skin then has a chance to heal. Making sure that your child's fingernails are trimmed can minimize the damage that scratching causes.

4. **Control of infection:** Your Dr. may prescribe a topical or oral antibiotic or other medication to control bacterial or other infections that develop at the site of the rash.

Working with your Dr you can proactively manage your child's atopic dermatitis. This will help decrease your child's discomfort and the probability that the rash becomes infected.

**Reflections** by Alta Nye Oxendine

HAPPY 6th BIRTHDAY TO BYRON, on November 8!!

**PRAYER SUPPORT**

Usually, when I suggest that we need to pray for a person, group, or problem, I make an effort to keep the object(s) of our praying OPEN-ENDED. Sometimes I forget!

When I urged everyone to pray for the president, vice president, and several other government officials, I left out some of the MOST important governmental persons who surely need our prayer support now. One person is our new Homeland Security Director, Tom Ridge, former governor of Pennsylvania. According to media reports, it's obvious that JUST getting his diverse team of security experts together "on the same page" will be a daunting challenge! The fact that each of those agencies has, apparently, been going its OWN independent way, is a problem that certainly needs to be overcome in order to get the flow of intelligence information processed thoroughly enough to glean what I call "nuggets of truth" to be shared with the HOMELAND chief, Attorney General, FBI, CIA, National Security Director, White House, State Department, the Secretary of Defense and other military planners, and members of Congress who have a part in helping provide national security. Actually, ALL THE PEOPLE INCLUDING OUR full-time military personnel AND THE NATIONAL GUARD, our LOCAL, COUNTY, STATE, REGIONAL, and FEDERAL OFFICIALS, as well as our overworked FBI AGENTS, who have been working so diligently and selflessly to enhance our safety and security since "my" 9-11 birth date (along with ALL other human beings throughout this world) surely need our prayers at this time. I hope Tom Ridge is a managerial type person who can get along well with all kinds of people. Also that he is one of those rare individuals willing to WAIT patiently, study ALL KINDS of reports, and make SURE he and the others are working together to COMPARE possible EVIDENCE, rather than going off on ONE TANGENT, following ONLY one or two leads that fit into SOMEBODY'S PRECONCEIVED notion of where the truth lies. Our leaders have done this in the past, with the fateful result of OVERLOOKING something that DID NOT SEEM (at the time) to make sense, but that COULD open the door to the MOST CRITICAL truths of all!

Tom Ridge has accepted an almost IMPOSSIBLE responsibility to keep us all safe and secure. Or at least to do his VERY BEST trying!

Of course we need TO KEEP our president and vice president, our secretary of State, Colin Powell, all these other government officials, and each person involved in BOTH the foreign and domestic FRONTS of this current WAR, in our prayers each day.

**PRAYING**

I believe God always wants the VERY BEST for every single person he has brought into being. But, He seems to provide an extra measure of CARE to the person, group, or situation brought to Him in prayer!

For on thing, by asking God's help, we are giving PERMISSION for Him to intervene with His SUPERHUMAN POWER. He does not FORCE Himself, His everlasting LOVE, His POWER or His DIVINE GUIDANCE upon us. Instead, He waits for us to OPEN UP our lives to Him, which allows Him to fill them up with His spiritual blessings.

I'm not talking mainly about physical protection. Our sovereign God may, or may not, intervene to HEAL our illness or to KEEP US ALIVE within our present earthly body, no matter what is going on around us! (Just take a long look at all the faithful "believers" who have been brutally tortured and/or put to death by one means or another throughout history, right up to the present.) No, we are not PROMISED that our pain, our suffering, or even our earthly life, will be spared.

But, when we surrender our very being and our most cherished plans to HIS PERFECT WILL, we can be assured that "though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death", our DIVINE SHEPHERD will be right there WITH US, holding us up with His strong, LOVING support, EVERY SINGLE STEP of the way!

I believe that god's perfect will for EVERY ONE of us includes praying for Christians, and for all others, throughout the entire world, who are right now, at this very MOMENT, suffering persecution for their belief, or their lack of belief (so-called "infidels", for example).

Let's also pray for the Cuban people who's island was hit by hurricane Michelle. It always slips up on me! But last weekend was the time set aside for Christians to pray for SUFFERING members of their faith around the world. China and Sudan are two of the countries most active in persecuting Christians. WE CAN CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR!

"DIVINE POWER is greater than Atomic or Nuclear power"

J. Vernon McGee



Most babies can walk unaided by the time they reach 18 months of age.

Deaths & Funerals

**Grover C. Locklear**  
Lumberton-Grover C. Locklear, 75, of 83 Kayla Drive, died Saturday at Duke University Medical Center in Durham.

The funeral was held Thursday at New Point Baptist Church, the Revs. Lindbergh Chavis and Ronald Locklear officiating. Burial was in Lumbee Memorial Gardens.

Locklear was born in Robeson County on March 6, 1926 to the late Clarence Locklear Sr. and Lillian Holmes Locklear. He attended New Point Baptist Church and was a retired painter.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, James Locklear and Archie Locklear, and a sister, Eva McGee.

Surviving are three sons, Lonnie Locklear, Frank Locklear and David Locklear, all of Chicago, Ill.; a daughter, Gail Palma of Fayetteville; a stepdaughter, Laura Miller of Smithfield, Ky.; four brothers, Garland Locklear and Clarence Locklear Jr., both of Lumberton; Paul Locklear of Pinchurst and Lonnie Locklear of Raleigh; four sisters, Odessa Maynor and Lillian Scott, both of Lumberton, Elizabeth Woodville of Chicago and Shelby Merritt of Ashland, Ky.; his former wife and the mother of his children, Liz Locklear of Smithfield, Ky.; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

**Cholie Cheyane Hunt**  
Lumberton-Cholie Cheyane Hunt, 7 months, of 2241 Norment Road, died Monday at Southeastern Regional Medical Center.

The funeral was held Friday at Locklear and Son Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Pleasant View Church Cemetery.

Surviving are her parents, Andy and Tracy Hunt of the home; two brothers, Ethan Alan Hunt of the home and Danny Christopher Hunt of the home; her maternal grandmother, Debra Hunt of Pembroke; and her paternal grandparents, Addie L. Hunt and Albert Hunt Jr., both of Pembroke.

**Steve Brewer**  
Hope Mills-The Rev. Steve Brewer, 74, of 4448 Betsy Ross Drive, died Friday at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

The funeral was held Monday at Zion Hill Baptist Church in Rennett with the Revs. Romey Revels, Jimmy Locklear and Anthony Oxendine officiating. Burial followed in Oxendine Cemetery.

Brewer served three churches in more than 25 years of ministry, Zion Hill Baptist, Antioch Baptist and South Broadway Baptist in Baltimore.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Della P. Brewer; a son, Franklin Emmanuel; a daughter, Luree Armentrout; and a grandson, William Armentrout.

Surviving are a daughter, Kathy

broke

**Douglas Strickland**  
Pembroke-Douglas Strickland, 71, of Dial Family Care, died Tuesday at Dial Family Care.

The funeral was Friday at Hopewell Methodist Church with the Rev. Jimmy Strickland officiating.

Surviving are three sons, Bruce Strickland, Dean Strickland and Terry Strickland, all of Pembroke, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Glenda A. Strickland**  
Maxton-Mrs. Glenda Ann Strickland, 38, of 125 Rose Road, died Monday.

Mrs. Strickland was a former assistant director of Precious Days Learning Center.

The funeral were conducted Friday in Gospel Tabernacle by the Revs. Ricky Deese and Daniel Jacobs. Burial followed in Clark Cemetery.

Mrs. Strickland is survived by her husband, Arnold Strickland of the home, her mother, Lucille C. Strickland; her father, Jack Strickland Sr.; two brothers, Jack Strickland Jr. and Shelton Strickland, both of Maxton and three sisters, Jan Hunt of Rockingham, Margie Locklear and Sarah Sweat, both of Maxton.

**Betty Faye Sampson**  
Pembroke-Betty Faye Sampson, 58, of Pembroke died Wednesday at her home.

The funeral was held Saturday at Bear Swamp Baptist Church, the Revs. Timmy Chavis, Mike Cummings and Charles Locklear officiating. Entombment followed in the Sampson Family Mausoleum.

Sampson was born November 21, 1942, to the late Lero and Delessie Locklear of Pembroke. She graduated from Pembroke State University with a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in elementary education. She taught school in Columbus, Hoke and Robeson Counties. She also worked at the Robeson County Department of Social Services. She was an active member of Bear Swamp Baptist Church.

The family said: "She was a devoted Christian mother, wife, daughter and friend. She was loved by all those who knew her. Her smile, love, resilience and devotion will be remembered always."

Sampson was preceded in death by her two brothers, Harvey Locklear and Terry Wayne Locklear.

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Kittleston of Lumberton, four sisters, Dovie Lee Locklear of Hope Mills, Cleatis Hunt of Fairmont, Evelyn Locklear of Pembroke and Carol Hunt of Lumberton, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Tommy J. Oxendine**  
Red Springs-Tommie J. Oxendine, 88, of 275 Eastman Drive, died Friday at Greystone Manor Assisted Living.

The funeral was held Sunday at Heritage Chapel in Red Springs with the Revs. Stefford Smith and Luke Jacobs officiating. Burial followed in Oxendine Cemetery in Pembroke.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Sent Oxendine.

Surviving are a son, James Locklear; a daughter-in-law, Genevieve Oxendine; three grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

**Billy B. Oxendine**  
Roanoke, VA-Billy B. Oxendine, 58, of Roanoke, VA died Friday at his home.

The grave-side service was held Wednesday evening at Oxendine Cemetery on Oak Grove Church Road in Pembroke.

Oxendine was born November 8, 1942. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gordon and Lady Oxendine; three brothers, Rosser, Grady and Dannie W. Oxendine.

Surviving are three sons, Matthew Oxendine, Grayory Oxendine and Kevin Oxendine, all of Roanoke; two granddaughters, Amanda Oxendine and Heather Oxendine, a special friend, Tarry of the home; two brothers, James G. Oxendine of Pembroke, and Robert L. Oxendine of Rowland; three sisters, Alene Locklear of Parkton, Alethea Tyner and Betty Locklear, both of Pembroke.

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The ballet, it's believed, was invented by Baltazarini, director of music to Catherine de Medici.



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Kid.

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