The role of antibacterial therapy in atopic eczema.

Abstract:
Atopic eczema is highly colonized with Staphylococcus aureus in lesional as in non-lesional skin. Antimicrobial therapy as part of a comprehensive therapeutic concept in atopic eczema has been discussed for a long a time. A complete literature review of the accessible publications concerning antibacterial and antiseptic therapy has been undertaken. This review covers the literature on antimicrobial therapy in atopic eczema and will try to weigh the different publications in the field. TAKE-HOME MESSAGE: A beneficial role for antibacterial/antiseptic therapy on top of anti-inflammatory therapy in atopic eczema has to be questioned. However, a role in prevention of overt skin infection seems possible.

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