

Unexpected Patch Test Complication in a Professional Ice Hockey Player

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Abstract

In a survey on work-related skin problems in professional ice hockey players one player developed a severe patch test reaction with an unexpected complication. The positive reaction to diethyl thiourea was vesiculo-bullous, oedematous and significantly elevated and a spreading several centimeters outside the test area was noted. Starting less than 24h after the patch test application, itching erythematous, multiforme-like lesions appeared on the extremities. The lesions were interpreted as a manifestation of a systemic allergic contact dermatitis secondary to the patch tested allergen. As systemic corticosteroids are considered as doping, we had to treat him with topical clobetasol propionate. Systemic allergic contact dermatitis seems to be an extremely rare complication after patch testing. It has been reported after testing with some textile disperses dyes but not after testing with diethyl thiourea and is not described as a complication in major textbooks.

Keywords: Systemic contact Dermatitis; Contact allergy; Patch testing Diethyl thiourea; Erythema Multiforme-like; Neoprene rubber

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elevated and a spreading several centimetres outside the test area was noted (Figure 1).



Figure 1: H positive patch test to diethylthiourea was a vesiculobullous, oedematous and a V L J Q L } Febrile/ Eczematous reaction on the scapular area of the right side of the back.

extremities. On D3, several erythematous-oedematous areas varying in size from a few centimeters to 10 cm² were noted (Figure 2).

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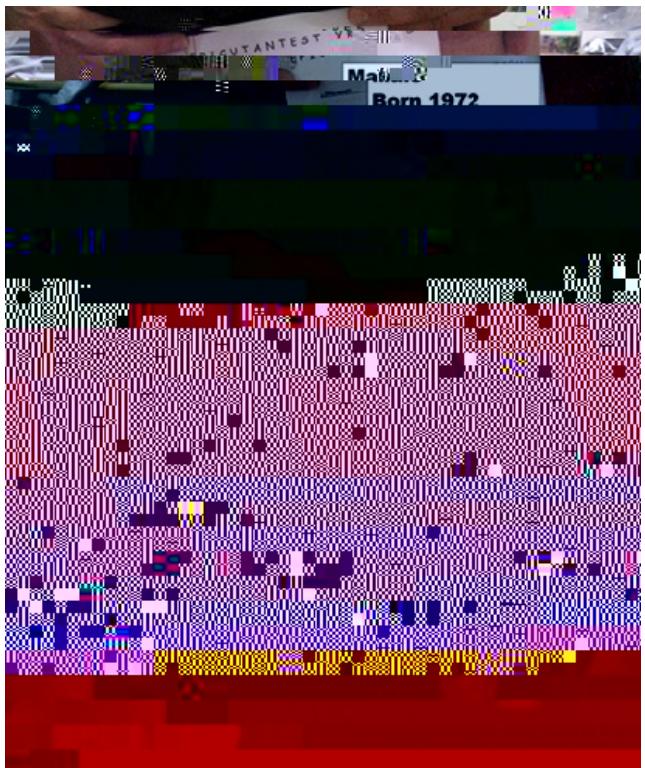


Figure 2 Erythematous, multiforme-like, itching lesions appeared on the extremities less than 24 hrs D V patch test application.

Furthermore, starting less than 24 h D V patch test application, itching erythematous, multiforme-like lesions appeared on the

