

Atopic Dermatitis

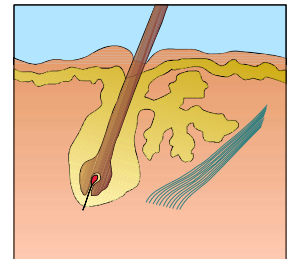
What is it?



- **Chronic**- (long lasting) disease that affects the skin
 - **Dermatitis** means skin and atopic means hereditary or runs in families, decreases with age
- **Skin**- is itchy and inflamed, redness, swelling, cracking, scaling, crusting and weeping
- **Most often Affects**- infants and young children, continues into adulthood or first shows up later in life
- **Environmental Factors**- can progress the disease

Who does it affect?

- **Males and Females**- equally
- **10 to 20%**- of all referrals to dermatologists
- **65% Develop**- in the first year of life
- **90%**- before the age of 5
- **Increased Risk**- in urban areas with low humidity
- **>15 million people in U.S.**- have symptoms of atopic dermatitis



What are the Symptoms?

- **Skin**- dry, itchy, red raised bumps on face, upper arms and thighs
- **Rashes**- on the cheeks, arms and legs, scales on the skin, leathery skin
- **Cracks**- behind the ears
- **Hyperpigmented Eyelids**- extra fold of skin under the eyes
- **Cheilosis**-inflammation of skin around lips, inflammation on and around the lips
- **Susceptible**- to reoccurring infections

What do I need to do?

- **See a Dermatologist**- immediately
 - **Treatment**- short, lukewarm baths and apply lubricant keep fingernails short, cotton fabric to wear, stay cool, try not to scratch

