

Contact Dermatitis from Occupation-Induced Injury

Lior Zeller MD^{1,2}, Vered Bieber BSc² and Daniel Flusser MD^{1,2}

¹Department of Medicine D, Soroka University Medical Center, and ²Faculty of Health Sciences, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel

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A 25 year old sixth year medical student, 3 weeks into her last rotation in the internal medicine department, complained of an annoying scratching sensation at the back of her neck. She was otherwise healthy and was not taking any medication. Physical examination revealed a wet and edematous rash with sharply demarcated, weeping, eczematous plaques distributed over the neck [Figure, arrows]. A thorough history-taking revealed that the student was wearing her stethoscope around her neck during the day-to-day work in the ward.

She removed the stethoscope from her neck, keeping it in the right pocket of her white coat during her work on the ward. Within one week after the offending agent was removed, the eruption was resolved without the need for other treatment.

Correspondence

Dr. L. Zeller

P.O. Box 151, Beer Sheva 84101, Israel

Phone: (972-8) 640-0216

Fax: (972-8) 627-2836

email: zellerl@bgu.ac.il

