Atopic Dermatitis 

Media Factsheet

About atopic dermatitis

Atopic dermatitis is a common, chronic, and inflamed inflammatory skin disease, characterized by persistent itch and recurrent skin lesions.1

- It affects more than 230 million people worldwide and is the most common inflammatory skin disease, impacting almost four times more people than psoriasis.2,3
- Approximately 7% of adults in the United States have atopic dermatitis.4
- Up to 17% of adults in Europe are diagnosed with atopic dermatitis each year.5

Burden of disease

Atopic dermatitis has a significant negative impact on quality of life; studies in adults living with moderate-to-severe disease have shown that:6

41% of patients with atopic dermatitis reported that the condition severely impacts their ability to sleep and disrupts their daily lives.7

74% of patients reported that atopic dermatitis caused troublesome symptoms leading to marked quality of life reductions.8

59% of patients with atopic dermatitis reported itch as their most burdensome symptom.9

39% of patients reported that atopic dermatitis caused their lesions to severely impact their ability to sleep.10

Inhibition of IL-31 signaling has been shown to improve itch, inflammation, and skin barrier dysfunction in atopic dermatitis.11

The role of IL-31 in atopic dermatitis

Interleukin-31 (IL-31) is a neuroimmune cytokine known to drive multiple symptoms of atopic dermatitis – including itch.12

In people with atopic dermatitis, IL-31 acts as a bridge between the immune and nervous systems, driving inflammation, itch, and skin barrier disruption, by:13

• Directly stimulating sensory nerves related to itch, triggering their growth14
• Activating immune cells and amplifying circuits between skin, nerve, and immune cells, resulting in inflammation15
• Inhibiting the expression of filaggrin leading to skin barrier dysfunction16

References

6. 2022;10:2927.doi.org/10.3390/biomedicines10112927