

Rash on breast

Ms M, 31 years of age, presents as she is worried about a 'rash' on her breast which isn't sore, but seems to have become bigger during the past few months.

Question 1

What is your provisional diagnosis?

Question 2

What is the differential diagnosis?

Question 3

What are the management options for this woman?



Steve Trumble

Answer to last month's brain teaser



Answer 1

Morgan has scabies. It is not chilblains, despite his cold exposure. The crowded conditions in a ski lodge provide the ideal environment for this condition to be spread.

Answer 2

The mite sarcoptes scabeii burrows into the skin to mate and lay her eggs. Her saliva and excrement are believed to cause the intense itching that often accompanies the infestation.

Answer 3

After a hot bath, 25% benzyl benzoate is painted onto the body from the chin to the soles of the feet. It is left for 24 hours and then washed off. Bed clothes are changed and the treatment may be repeated (once only) if required. Itch may take some weeks to settle. All family members should be treated.

Seen any interesting cases lately? Email us your 'Brain teaser' (including a clear jpeg image) to: afp@racgp.org.au

Send your answers to arrive by 5 September. A voucher for medical books or medical equipment to the value of \$100 will be awarded for the first correct entry drawn. The winner will be notified by mail and the answer published in the September 2003 issue.

Address entries to:
August Brain Teaser
Australian Family Physician
1 Palmerston Crescent
South Melbourne
Victoria 3205

The winner of the June Brain teaser is Dr Raad Hassan, Norwood, Tas