



Droopy eyelids and double vision



Jerzy K Pawlak, MBBS, MSc, PhD, is a general practitioner, Winnipeg, Canada.

Case history

A 48 year old woman presents with a history of intermittently droopy eyelids and double vision. These symptoms are absent when she wakes up in the morning and seem to fluctuate during the day. She is otherwise well.



Question 1

What is the diagnosis?

Question 2

What is the aetiology?

Question 3

What type of medications can exacerbate the symptoms of this disease?

Question 4

What type of diseases may be associated with this condition?

Question 5

What tests can be used for diagnosing this disease?

ANSWERS TO DECEMBER BRAIN TEASER



Answer 1

Scabies is a dermatosis caused by infestation with the mite *Sarcoptes Scabiei var hominis*. It is spread by close physical contact between infected people.

Answer 2

Differentiation from eczema and impetigo may be difficult, particularly as hypersensitivity to the scabies mite may cause an eczematous eruption associated with erythematous papules. The rash of hand, foot and mouth disease may also have a similar appearance.

Answer 3

Management

- permethrin 5% cream (child >6 months) topically to whole body including face and hair (avoid eyes and mucous membranes), leave overnight

OR

- benzyl benzoate 25% emulsion (child >2 years: dilute with 3 parts water; child 2–12 years: dilute with equal parts water) topically to whole body, including face and hair (avoid eyes and mucous membranes), leave for 24 hours
- for moderate and severe infections, repeat scabicide treatment in 14 days.

Treat family and close contacts, even if symptom free. Wash clothing and bedclothes and hang in the sun. The itching of scabies does not resolve immediately after treatment and may take 2–3 weeks to subside.

Send your answers to arrive by 5 March. 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 March 2004 issue.

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

The winner of the December Brain teaser is Dr S Missaghi, Rockhampton, Qld