

The Hierarchy of Evidence

The Hierarchy of evidence is based on summaries from the National Health and Medical Research Council (2009), the Oxford Centre for Evidence-based Medicine Levels of Evidence (2011) and Melynyk and Fineout-Overholt (2011).

- I Evidence obtained from a systematic review of all relevant randomised control trials.
- II Evidence obtained from at least one well designed randomised control trial.
- III Evidence obtained from well-designed controlled trials without randomisation.
- IV Evidence obtained from well designed cohort studies, case control studies, interrupted time series with a control group, historically controlled studies, interrupted time series without a control group or with case- series
- V Evidence obtained from systematic reviews of descriptive and qualitative studies
- VI Evidence obtained from single descriptive and qualitative studies
- VII Expert opinion from clinicians, authorities and/or reports of expert committees or based on physiology

Melynyk, B. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2011). *Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice (2nd ed.)*. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

National Health and Medical Research Council (2009). *NHMRC levels of evidence and grades for recommendations for developers of guidelines* (2009). Australian Government: NHMRC.
http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files_nhmrc/file/guidelines/evidence_statement_form.pdf

OCEBM Levels of Evidence Working Group Oxford (2011). *The Oxford 2011 Levels of Evidence*. Oxford Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine. <http://www.cebm.net/index.aspx?o=1025>

Reference (include title, author, journal title, year of publication, volume and issue, pages)	Evidence level (I-VII)	Key findings, outcomes or recommendations
Parental education in the treatment of childhood atopic eczema, Broberg,A. Kalimo, K. Lindblad, B. Swanbeck, G. Acta Dermato-Venereologica.	II	Education program on AD management had positive effects on disease severity and parental compliance. data base: Medline, Cohchrane Libraray. Key word: Atopic Dermatitis and education.
Comparison of parent knowledge, therapy utilization and severity of atopic eczema before and after explanation and demonstration of topical therapies by a specialist dermatology nurse, Cork, M.J. Britton, J. Butler, L. Young, S. Murphy, R. Keohane, S. G. British Journal of Dermatology.	IV	Education program on AD management had positive effects on disease severity and parental compliance. data base: Medline, Cohchrane Libraray. Key word: Atopic Dermatitis and education.
The effectiveness of wet wrap dressings using 0.1% mometasone furoate and 0.005% fluticasone propionate ointments in the treatment of moderate to severe atopic dermatitis in children, Pei, A. Y. Chan,H. H. Ho, K. M. Pediatric Dermatology.	III	Effectiveness of wet dressings and topical steroids
'Wet-wrap' dressings for the treatment of atopic eczema in the community, Mallon, E. Powell, S. Bridgman, A. Journal of Dermatological Treatment	IV	Effectiveness Wet dressings
'Wet-wrap' dressings for the treatment of atopic eczema in children, Goodyear, H. M. Spowart, K. Harper, J. I. British Journal of Dermatology.	IV	Effectiveness of wet dressings
Epidermal Barrier Dysfunction in Atopic Dermatitis, Michael J. Cork, Simon G. Danby, Yiannis Vasilopoulos, Jonathan Hadgraft, Majella E. Lane, Manar Moustafa, Richard H. Guy, Alice L. MacGowan, Rachid Tazi-Ahnini and Simon J. Ward, Journal of Investigative Dermatology (2009) 129, 1892–1908; doi:10.1038/jid.2009.133; published online 4 June 2009	V	Effectiveness of emollients for the eczema skin
What's new in atopic eczema? An analysis of systematic reviews, K. Shams, D. J. C. Grindlay and H. C. Williams, Clinical and Experimental Dermatology doi:10.1111/j.1365-2230.2011.04078., published in 2009–2010	I	Effectiveness of treatments used in atopic eczema
Treatment of Staphylococcus Aureus colonization in atopic dermatitis decreases disease severity, Huang, J.T., et al, Paediatrics, 2009,	II	Bleach baths in eczema

Eczema Workshops reduce severity of childhood atopic eczema, Moore, E et al, Australasian Journal of Dermatology 2009,	II	Effectiveness of education/Atopic Eczema/Wet dressings for the eczema patient
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