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Evaluation of allergic vesicular reaction to patch test using in vivo confocal microscopy.

Ardigò M, Longo C, Cristaudo A, Berardesca E, Pellacani G.; *Skin Res Technol.* 2012 Feb;18(1):61-3. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0846.2011.00531.x.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Confocal microscopy has been successfully applied both in oncologic and inflammatory diseases. In particular, it has been proved as a useful tool for the in vivo detection of microscopical changes occurring in allergic reactions.

AIMS OF THE STUDY: To evaluate microscopic changes occurring in positive patch test reactions.

METHODS: Eight patients with history of allergic dermatitis and positive patch test reaction were analysed by means of confocal microscopy. **RESULTS:** Confocal microscopy showed the presence of spongiotic vesicle preferentially localized around the adnexal ducts that appeared to be in the middle of the spongiotic phenomena.

CONCLUSION: Confocal microscopy offered for the first time new insight into vesicle formation and development, showing that adnexal ducts can play a role in allergic reaction.