

## **If it's dry, wet it; if it's wet, dry it**

Catherine Marco, MD

What did you prescribe the last time you treated a patient with a "rash"? Steroids? Antifungal cream? "Rash," a common ED complaint, is worthy of a strong armamentarium of therapeutic options. Cutaneous complaints result in approximately 10 percent of outpatient medical visits and \$36 billion in health care annually. Rapidly advancing diagnostic and therapeutic technologies result in novel dermatologic agents, and novel uses of traditional agents.

Some say: "If it's dry, wet it; if it's wet, dry it; otherwise, use steroids." Is this adage accurate? Indeed, there is some truth to the ancient advice that selection of vehicle and formulation are important, and that steroids are frequently therapeutic for inflammatory skin conditions. In addition to a review of vehicles, formulations, and steroids, this lecture will address other commonly prescribed systemic and topical medications used to treat dermatologic disorders.

This presentation will highlight a select group of therapies for dermatologic complaints, including not only steroids, but antifungals, antibiotics, antiviral agents, antiproliferative therapies, antihistamines and more.

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