

*Forum Minireview***Analysis of the Mechanism for the Development of Allergic Skin Inflammation and the Application for Its Treatment:
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Allergic skin disorders include urticaria, angioedema, contact dermatitis, and atopic dermatitis. Among them, atopic dermatitis is the most common skin disorder in young children. The pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis is linked to a complex interaction between skin barrier dysfunction and environmental factors such as allergens and microbes. It is a chronic disease characterized by periods of remission and relapse. Therefore, one of the therapeutic objectives for atopic dermatitis is to quickly reduce disease symptoms by targeting pathophysiological pathways and to provide long-term management by reducing recurrence. It is also very important to clarify the mechanism for the initiation and development of atopic dermatitis.

The aims of this JPS Forum Minireview series are to present recent findings on the mechanism of atopic dermatitis and to provide a forum for researchers active in this field to propose new therapeutic strategies for this disorder.

The review articles described here were presented at the 81st Annual Meeting of The Japanese Pharmacological Society held in Yokohama, Japan on March 17 –

19, 2008 as a symposium of the same title (chair persons: Kazuo Ohuchi and Tadashi Terui) (Proceedings: published in the J Pharmacol Sci, 2008;106 Suppl I:40P–41P).

The present review series contains “Overview of the Pathophysiology of Atopic Dermatitis” by T. Terui, “Aspirin Modulation of IgE-Dependent Mast Cell Activation: Role of Aspirin-Induced Exacerbation of Immediate Allergy” by Y. Suzuki and C. Ra, “Establishment of a Modified Allergic Dermatitis Model in Mouse Ear Lobes by Application of 12-*O*-Tetradecanoyl Phorbol 13-Acetate: Putative Involvement of Thymic Stromal Lymphopoietin and Roles of Histamine” by N. Hirasawa et al., “Mouse Models for the Development of Remedies for Human Allergic Dermatitis” by N. Inagaki and H. Nagai, “Keratinocytes in Atopic Dermatitis – Their Pathogenic Involvement” by M. Komine, and “Mechanisms and Management of Itch in Atopic Dermatitis” by A. Ikoma.

We would be very grateful if this JPS Forum Minireview contributes to the development of clinically new strategies for the suppression of atopic dermatitis.

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