

# Teaching Slide Collection of the Cutaneous Manifestations of the Disease Activity Score

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# Introduction

- The following is a slide collection of representative examples of some of the cutaneous manifestations associated with juvenile and adult dermatomyositis which are included in the Disease Activity Score.
- Cutaneous signs are generally scored as present or absent. A few lesions are scored by degree of involvement.

# Skin Involvement Type (score 0 – 4): Atrophic Changes Only



- Definition:

Dermal or epidermal cutaneous atrophy, with or without telangiectasia, in the absence of erythema.

Score = 1

# Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Mild



- Definition:  
Mild erythema = pale pink,  
no induration.

Score = 2

# Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Moderate



- Definition:

Moderate erythema =  
brighter pink to red, with  
or without induration

Score = 3

# Skin Involvement Type: Erythema - Severe



- Definition:

Severe erythema = more intense pink to red with induration

Score = 4



# Vasculitis (Score 0- 1 for section)

## Erythema - Eyelid



- Definition:  
Red or purple discoloration of the eyelid.

# Vasculitis: Eyelid Blood Vessel Dilation

- Definition:  
Small vessels apparent at the margin of the eyelid.





# Vasculitis:

## Eyelid Blood Vessel Telangiectasia

- Definition:

Greater degree of eyelid vessel dilation, involving the middle portion of the eyelid.



# Vasculitis: Nailfold Erythema (cuticles)

- Definition: Periungual erythema.



# Vasculitis: Nailbed Telangiectasia



- Definition: Dilation of the small vessels adjacent to the nailfolds, which may be end row capillaries and other vessels.

# Vasculitis: Palate Vessel Dilation



- Definition:  
Dilated blood vessels  
evident on the hard palate.



# Gottron's Papules (score 0 – 1 for section): Mild



- Definition:  
Mild Gottron's papules: a few areas (~2.0 cm or less) of localized cutaneous papules, usually skin color.



# Gottron's Papules - Moderate



- Definition:  
Moderate Gottron's papules: several locations of cutaneous involvement, light to medium pink in color

# Gottron's Papules - Severe



- Definition:  
Severe Gottron's papules: Bright red, extensive involvement most often over the MCP, PIPs, elbows, knees.

# References

- Bode RK, Klein-Gitelman MS, Miller ML, Lechman TS, Pachman LM. Disease Activity Score for children with juvenile dermatomyositis: reliability and validity evidence. *Arthritis Rheum (Arthritis Care Research)*, 2003; 49: 7 – 15
- Smith RL, Sundberg J, Shamtyah E, Dyer A, Pachman LM. Skin involvement in juvenile dermatomyositis is associated with loss of end row nailfold capillary loops. *J Rheumatology*, 2004; 31: 1644 - 9.

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