

Title:

Bacterial Infections : More Than Just Skin Deep

Word Count:

955

Summary:

The skin is the largest organ of the body and serves as a first line of defense against bacteria.

Keywords:

skin infections, bacterial infections, over-the-counter drugs

Article Body:

They say that "beauty is skin deep". Yet, the continuous growth in the cosmetic industry proves otherwise. However, some people who are absorbed in their busy lifestyles have no more time left for indulging in skin care. Those who do not give attention to skin care are often surprised to see skin blemishes and other skin problems. Is this just a case of vanity? Or there is something more to skin-care than meets the eye?

Bacterial Skin Infections

Skin care, to be sure, is not just about beauty. It is about hygiene and safety. Unknown to many, history showed that most cases of fatal staph infections in the past have occurred in people who neglected their skin care. Moreover, the usually powerful antibiotics are no longer as highly effective as it used to be.

Signs and Symptoms

The signs and symptoms of bacterial infections depends on the condition and affected area of the skin. They may range from mild skin infections to food poisoning, deadly pneumonia, surgical wound infections, etc. Boils - also called skin abscess, usually begins as a reddened, sore area which hardens over time. Cellulitis - is an infection involving the tissues below the surface of the skin which makes it red, swollen and painful. Impetigo - a superficial skin infection or rash that is most common in young children and infants. Scalded skin syndrome - is a severe blistering condition that affects newborn infants.

Folliculitis - is an infection of the hair follicles in the form of small white-headed pimples.

Hordeolum - also referred as stye, is a swelling near the edge of the eyelid as the glands at the base of the eyelashes become infected.

Most skin problems would require clinical care by medical professionals but it helps to take certain precautions.

Make sure to always clean and cover areas of skin that have been injured.

Do not share towels, sheets, clothing until the infection has been fully healed.

Do not touch to avoid spreading it to other parts of your body.

There are several practical ways to prevent infections from happening, thus, staying disease-free.

Always remember that cleanliness and good skin care hygiene is not just a form of vanity but a necessity.

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