

Cutaneous lesions on the body

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Figure 1. Papular and erythematous lesions on body areas covered by the swimsuit several hours after contact with seawater.



Figure 2. Maculo-papular lesions were located in areas covered by the swimsuit.



CASE REPORT

An 8-year old female with no relevant history of previous illnesses was seen in the first week of July because of pruritic cutaneous lesions on her body in areas covered by a new bikini. The lesions appeared after swimming at a beach in Cantabria, Spain, and after having the wet fabric in contact with her skin for several hours. The patient showed neither fever nor any other systemic symptoms.

Physical examination showed an eruption consisting of papulo erythematous lesions of 1-3 mm in diameter, grouped but not converging, located on breasts, sides, back and buttocks, excluding the skin not covered by the swimsuit (figures 1 and 2).

A cutaneous biopsy showed a spongiotic and superficial perivascular dermatitis with lympho-histiocytes and many eosinophils. A blood test including food allergens test to milk, egg and anti-transglutaminase antibodies, as well as epicutaneous tests (standard, coloring, textile fabrics from her own swimsuit) did not suggest any pathology. The patient experienced a significant improvement with topical corticosteroids and oral antihistamines leading to a complete recovery and clearing in a period of two weeks.

WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS?

See page 91 for the answer to this photo quiz.