



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

DRUG REACTIONS TO NEWER DRUGS AND BIOLOGICS

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Primum-non-nocere (Hippocrates).

Any drug that is capable of producing a therapeutic effect can also cause unwanted or adverse reactions. While adverse drug reactions (ADRs) to commonly used medications are well known, ADRs to newer agents are relatively underrecognized and may be missed.

With the increasing use of specific targeted therapies and biological agents, the medical community is entering in to hitherto uncharted territory. Dermatologists should be familiar with the complete spectrum of toxicity of newer agents as these toxicities are unique and closely mimic a wide variety of inflammatory and neoplastic dermatoses.

PRIDE (papuloustules/paronychia, regulatory abnormalities of hair growth, itching, dry skin due to EGFR inhibitor) syndrome; painful hand foot skin reaction and seborrheic dermatitis-like rash to multikinase inhibitors; facial edema and pigmentary abnormalities in skin and hair to BCR-ABL tyrosine kinase inhibitors; epidermal neoplasm to BRAF inhibitors and alopecia and skin tumors to Hedgehog signaling pathway inhibitors are some of the well-recognized toxicities of these newer agents and will be discussed.

