

SKIN DISEASES AND BURNS

- 961 Examination of the Action of Injurious Substances in Industry on the Physiological Function of the Skin and of the Prevention of Injury by Protective Ointments. I. Testing the Alterations in the Capacity of the Skin to Absorb Water. O. Jacobi. Zent. Arbeitsmed. u. Arbeitsschutz 1, 126-130 (Nov. 1951) German.

Many references are given to work on the effects of alkali, soaps, organic solvents, and other substances on the skin, and on the mode of action of various protective ointments. The author maintains, however, that in order to get a clear picture of the action of various irritants there should be detailed examinations of their effect on the function and properties of the skin. This would necessitate the measurement of capacity to absorb water, carbonic acid excretion, insensible perspiration, elasticity, capillary changes, capacity for neutralizing acid and alkali, fat content, temperature, and other characters. The author describes some of his work on the effect of a number of substances on the power of the skin to take up water.

-- Cond. from Bull. Hyg.

- 962 Sensitivity to Rubber Materials. An Analysis of One Hundred Twenty-Five Cases of Eruptions Proved to be Caused by Rubber Articles. M. Leider, Dorothy Furman, and A. A. Fisher. Arch. Dermatol. & Syphilol. 65, 587-595 (May 1952).

Some features of 124 cases of sensitivity to rubber and eruptions from it are reported. As in most cases of allergic eczematous contact-type dermatitis, treatment involves strict avoidance of the offending substance. In rubber sensitivity it is sometimes possible to obtain substitutive products because of the great variety in composition. Specific allergens in rubber are not readily discoverable because of the complex nature of the material, but the sensitizing potentials of whatever substances there are in rubber that can sensitize must be low, considering its wide and generally harmless use.

-- Authors' Summary

- 963 A Study of Rubber Adhesives in Shoes as the Cause of Dermatitis of the Feet. I. H. Blank and O. G. Miller. J. Am. Med. Assn. 149, 1371-1374 (Aug. 9, 1952).

An acute dermatitis of the feet may be an allergic, eczematous, contact-type dermatitis. The allergen for those patients we have studied