

# Management of dermatologic side effects

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# Introduction

- ▶ Clear evidence that rash presence/severity **correlates with response**
- ▶ May compromise quality of life and require to minimize impact on drug dose and quality of life
- ▶ Rash is the most common reported side effect to EGFR Inhibitor treatments

. Rosell R, et al. Ann Oncol. 2008;19:362-369.  
. Van Cutsem E, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2007;25:1658-1664.  
. Geyer CE, et al. N Engl J Med. 2006;355:2733-2743

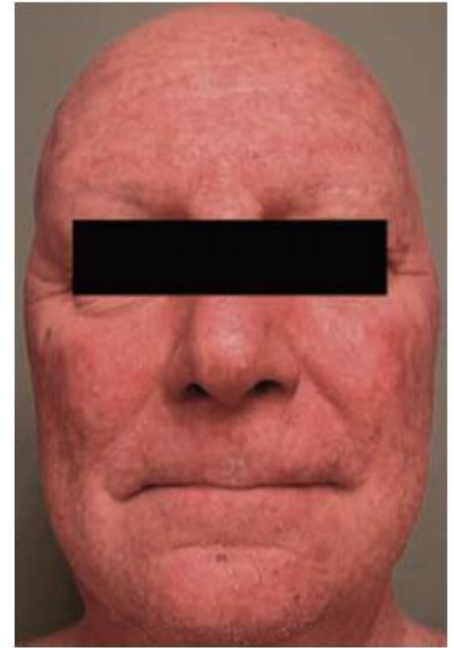
# Cutaneous complications of targeted drug therapies

Molecular target(s)	Agent	Class	FDA-approved indication	Cutaneous side effects
EGFR	Cetuximab (Erbix)	mAb	CRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papulopustular rash</li> <li>• Xerosis, fissures and pruritus</li> <li>• Nail and nailfold changes: paronychia/ periungual granulation tissue</li> <li>• Hair changes: Hair loss on scalp / inflammatory hair loss/ hypertrichosis/ trichomegaly/ trichiasis</li> <li>• In-field radiation toxicity</li> </ul>
	Panitumumab (Vectibix)	mAb	CRC	
	Erlotinib (Tarceva)	TKI	NSCLC, pancreatic cancer	
	Gefitinib (Iressa)	TKI	NSCLC	
	Afatinib (Gilotrif)	TKI	NSCLC	

# Papulopustular rash

- ▶ Acneiform eruption
- ▶ Presents **within 2 weeks**
- ▶ **Most common** skin side effects
  - Gefitinib 44%, erlotinib, 49–75% , cetuximab and panitumumab 90%
- ▶ Without comedones, usually itchy
- ▶ Response to **anti-inflammatory drugs**, not to anti-acne agents
- ▶ Face, upper trunk, but **lower legs and dorsal arms** as well

# Papulopustular Rash

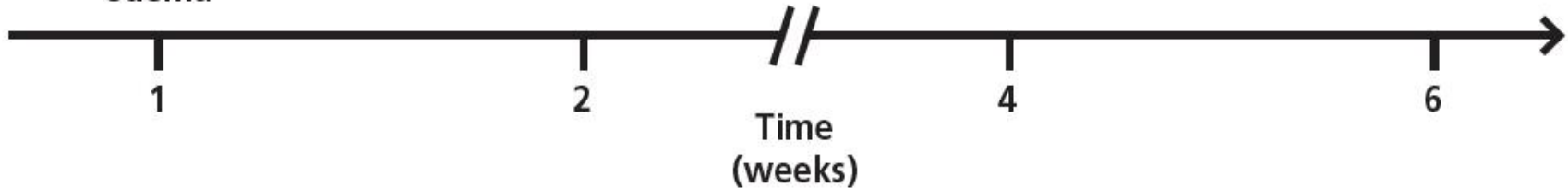


Sensory disturbance,  
erythema,  
edema

Papulopustular

Crusting

Telangiectatic

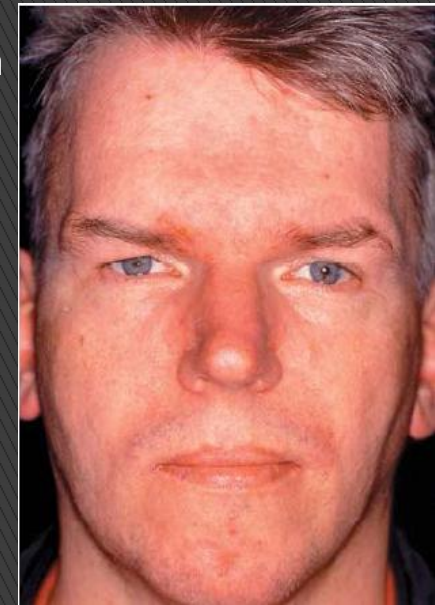


# DDx

- ▶ Seborrhea
- ▶ Acne vulgaris
- ▶ Rosacea
- ▶ Pityrosporum folliculitis



Fitzpatrick's dermatology in  
general medicine, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.



# Comment terminology criteria for adverse events (CTCAE) 4.03 Grading

DISORDER	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
<b>Rash, acneiform</b> <i>Definition:</i> a disorder characterized by an eruption of papules and pustules, typically appearing in the face, scalp, upper chest, and back	Papules and/or pustules <u>covering &lt; 10% of BSA</u> , which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness	Papules and/or pustules <u>covering 10%–30% of BSA</u> , which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness; associated with <u>psychosocial impact</u> ; <u>limiting instrumental ADL</u>	Papules and/or pustules <u>covering &gt; 30% of BSA</u> , which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness; <u>limiting self-care ADL</u> ; <u>associated with local superinfection</u> , with oral antibiotics indicated	Papules and/or pustules covering any % of BSA, which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness and are associated with <u>extensive superinfection</u> , with <u>IV antibiotics indicated</u> ; life-threatening consequences	Death



# Xerosis, Pruritis

- ▶ 50% to 80%, **xerosis presents within 2–3 weeks, followed by fissures at wk5**
- ▶ Miniaturized eccrine sweat glands and compact stratum corneum
- ▶ Decreased QoL, Sleep deprivation
- ▶ Scratching and secondary infections

## Xerotic Dermatitis



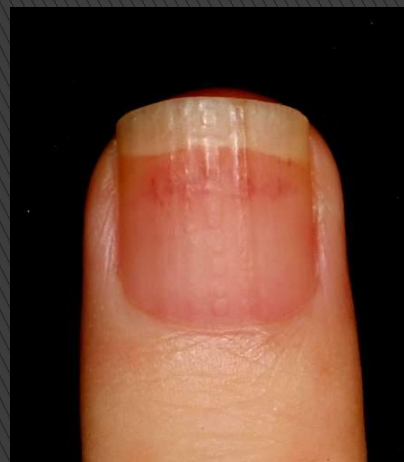


# CTCAE 4.03 Grading

Adverse Event	Grade				
	1	2	3	4	5
Pruritus	<u>Mild or localized; topical intervention indicated</u>	<u>Intense or widespread; intermittent; skin changes from scratching (e.g., edema, papulation, excoriations, lichenification, oozing/crusts); oral intervention indicated; limiting instrumental ADL</u>	<u>Intense or widespread; constant; limiting self care ADL or sleep; oral corticosteroid or immunosuppressive therapy indicated</u>	-	-
Definition: A disorder characterized by an intense itching sensation.					
Dry skin	<u>Covering &lt;10% BSA and no associated erythema or pruritus</u>	<u>Covering 10 - 30% BSA and associated with erythema or pruritus; limiting instrumental ADL</u>	<u>Covering &gt;30% BSA and associated with pruritus; limiting self care ADL</u>	-	-
Definition: A disorder characterized by flaky and dull skin; the pores are generally fine, the texture is a papery thin texture.					

# Nail and nailfold changes

- ▶ Appears since **wk5–8**
- ▶ Panitumumab 24%, cetuximab and gefitinib 10–15%, <1% of lapatinib
- ▶ Paronychia and granuloma-like tissue
  - Inflict significant pain and affect activities of daily living
- ▶ Nail loss or nail ridging
- ▶ Subungual splitter hemorrhage



# CTCAE 4.03 Grading

DISORDER	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
<b>Paronychia</b> <i>Definition:</i> a disorder characterized by an infectious process involving the soft tissues around the nail	Nail fold edema or <u>erythema; disruption of the cuticle</u>	Localized intervention indicated; oral intervention indicated (eg, antibiotic, antifungal, antiviral); nail fold edema or erythema with pain; <u>associated with discharge or nail plate separation;</u> <u>limiting instrumental ADL</u>	<u>Surgical intervention or IV antibiotics indicated;</u> <u>limiting self-care ADL</u>		



Lacouture ME, et al. Br J Dermatol. 2006;155:852-854. Mitchell EP, et al. Oncology (Williston Park). 2007;21(11 suppl 5):4-9. Osio A, et al. Br J Dermatol. 2009;161:515-521. Manousaridis I et al. J EADV 2013, 27, 11-18

# Hair Changes

- ▶ Pts receiving therapy > 2 months
  - Alopecia
  - Face: hair curling and hirsutism
  - Eyelash trichomegaly, trichiasis



Lacouture ME, et al. Br J Dermatol. 2006;155:852-854. Roe E, et al. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2006;55:429-437. Vano-Galvan S, et al. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2010;62:531-533. Kerob D, et al. Arch Dermatol. 2006;142:1656-1657. Foerster CG, et al. Cornea. 2008;27:612-614.

# CTCAE 4.03 Grading

Adverse Event	Grade				
	1	2	3	4	5
Alopecia	<u>Hair loss of &lt;50% of normal for that individual that is not obvious from a distance but only on close inspection; a different hair style may be required to cover the hair loss but it does not require a wig or hair piece to camouflage</u>	Hair loss of $\geq$ 50% normal for that individual that is readily apparent to others; a wig or hair piece is necessary if the patient desires to completely camouflage the hair loss; <u>associated with psychosocial impact</u>	-	-	-
Definition: A disorder characterized by a decrease in density of hair compared to normal for a given individual at a given age and body location.					
Hypertrichosis	<u>Increase in length, thickness or density of hair that the patient is either able to camouflage by periodic shaving or removal of hairs or is not concerned enough about the overgrowth to use any form of hair removal</u>	Increase in length, thickness or density of hair at least on the usual exposed areas of the <u>body [face (not limited to beard/moustache area) plus/minus arms]</u> that requires frequent shaving or use of destructive means of hair removal to camouflage; associated with psychosocial impact	-	-	-
Definition: A disorder characterized by hair density or length beyond the accepted limits of normal in a particular body region, for a particular age or race.					
Hirsutism	<u>In women</u> , increase in length, thickness or density of hair in a male distribution that the patient is able to camouflage by periodic shaving, bleaching, or removal of hair	In women, increase in length, thickness or density of hair in a male distribution that requires daily shaving or consistent destructive means of hair removal to camouflage; <u>associated with psychosocial impact</u>	-	-	-
Definition: A disorder characterized by the presence of excess hair growth in women in anatomic sites where growth is considered to be a secondary male characteristic and under androgen control (beard, moustache, chest, abdomen)					

# Cutaneous complications of targeted drug therapies

Molecular target(s)	Agent	Class	FDA-approved indication	Cutaneous side effects
VEGFR PDGFR KIT	Pazopanib (Votrient)	TKI	RCC, soft-tissue sarcoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand/foot skin reactions</li> <li>• Redness and flaking on scalp and eyebrows</li> <li>• Warm, burning sensation on face along with redness</li> <li>• Xerosis, fissures and pruritus</li> <li>• Hair loss on scalp</li> <li>• Pazopanib, Sunitinib: gray hair</li> </ul>
VEGFR PDGFR KIT RAF	Sorafenib (Nexavar)	TKI/STKI	HCC, RCC	
VEGFR PDGFR KIT RET	Sunitinib (Sutent)	TKI	GIST, RCC, Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor	
VEGFR PEGFR TIE2 KIT RET BRAF	Regorafenib (Stivarga)	TKI	metastatic CRC, GIST	

# Hand–Foot skin reactions

- ▶ Palmoplantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome
  - **Dysesthesia and tingling** sensation of palms and soles
- ▶ Well–defined symmetric swelling and erythema; may also **affect the lateral sides or the periungual zones**
- ▶ Dry and/or cracked skin
- ▶ Callous–like blisters , usually not containing fluid
- ▶ **Dose dependent**
- ▶ **24 hours to 10 months**
  - median times: 6 to 126 days





- ▶ Multiple kinase inhibitor → more localized tender and hyperkeratosis, blisters formation Soles > Palms
- ▶ Chemotherapy (fluorouracil, capecitabine, and doxorubicin) → diffuse and symmetric erythema palm > sole



# CTCAE 4.03 Grading

DISORDER	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
<b>Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome<sup>a</sup></b> <i>Definition:</i> a disorder characterized by redness, marked discomfort, swelling, and tingling in the palms of the hands or the soles of the feet	Minimal skin changes or dermatitis (eg, erythema, edema, or hyperkeratosis) <u>without pain</u>	Skin changes (eg, <u>peeling, blisters, bleeding, edema, or hyperkeratosis</u> ) <u>with pain; limiting instrumental ADL</u>	Severe skin changes (eg, <u>peeling, blisters, bleeding, edema, or hyperkeratosis</u> ) <u>with pain; limiting self-care ADL</u>		



1



2



3

# Cutaneous complications of targeted drug therapies

Molecular target(s)	Agent	Class	FDA-approved indication	Cutaneous side effects
RAF	Vemurafenib (Zelboraf)  Dabrafenib (Tafinlar)	STKI	Melanoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Papulopustular rash</li> <li>• Hand/foot skin reactions</li> <li>• Xerosis, fissures and pruritus</li> <li>• Paronychia</li> <li>• Hyperkeratosis</li> <li>• KA, SCC</li> </ul>
mTOR	Everolimus (Afinitor)  Temsirolimus (Torisel)	STKI	RCC Breast cancer, Pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor, RCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stomatitis/ aphthous ulceration</li> <li>• Papulopustular rash</li> </ul>
CTLA	Ipilimumab (Yervoy)	mAb	Melanoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bumpy red rash</li> <li>• Itching</li> <li>• Vitiligo and gray hair</li> </ul>

# Other cutaneous side effects

- ▶ Hair depigmentation, hair graying
- ▶ Vitiligo
- ▶ Hyperkeratosis
- ▶ Keraotacanthoma and squamous cell carcinoma
  - 15–30% of patients treated with BRAF inhibitors



# Management

- »» Do not forget the patient education

## Severity (CTCAE v.4.0)

## Intervention (Reactive)<sup>a</sup>

### Grade 0



Prophylactic therapy with sunscreen having an SPF  $\geq$  30; moisturizing creams; gentle skin care instructions given

### Grade 1

Papules and/or pustules covering < 10% BSA, which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness



Continue anticancer agent at current dose and monitor for change in severity

Treat with hydrocortisone 2.5% cream and clindamycin 1% gel every day

Reassess after 2 weeks (either by healthcare professional or patient self-report); if reactions worsen or do not improve, proceed to next step

### Grade 2

Papules and/or pustules covering 10%–30% BSA, which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness; associated with psychosocial impact; limiting instrumental ADL



Continue anticancer agent at current dose and monitor for change in severity

Treat with hydrocortisone 2.5% cream and doxycycline (100 mg) or minocycline (100 mg twice daily)

Reassess after 2 weeks (either by healthcare professional or patient self-report); if reactions worsen or do not improve, proceed to next step

### Grade 3/4

Grade 3: Papules and/or pustules covering > 30% BSA, which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness; limiting self-care ADL; associated with local superinfection, with oral antibiotics indicated

Grade 4: Papules and/or pustules covering any % BSA, which may or may not be associated with symptoms of pruritus or tenderness and are associated with extensive superinfection with IV antibiotics indicated; life-threatening consequences

Modify dose per PI; obtain bacterial/viral cultures if infection is suspected

Continue treatment with hydrocortisone 2.5% cream and doxycycline (100 mg) or minocycline (100 mg twice daily) plus

prednisone (0.5 mg/kg) for 5 days

Reassess after 2 weeks; if reactions worsen or do not improve, dose interruption or discontinuation per PI may be necessary

# Papulopustular rash recommendations

DO NOT USE over the counter acne medications that contain **benzoyl peroxide** (drying)

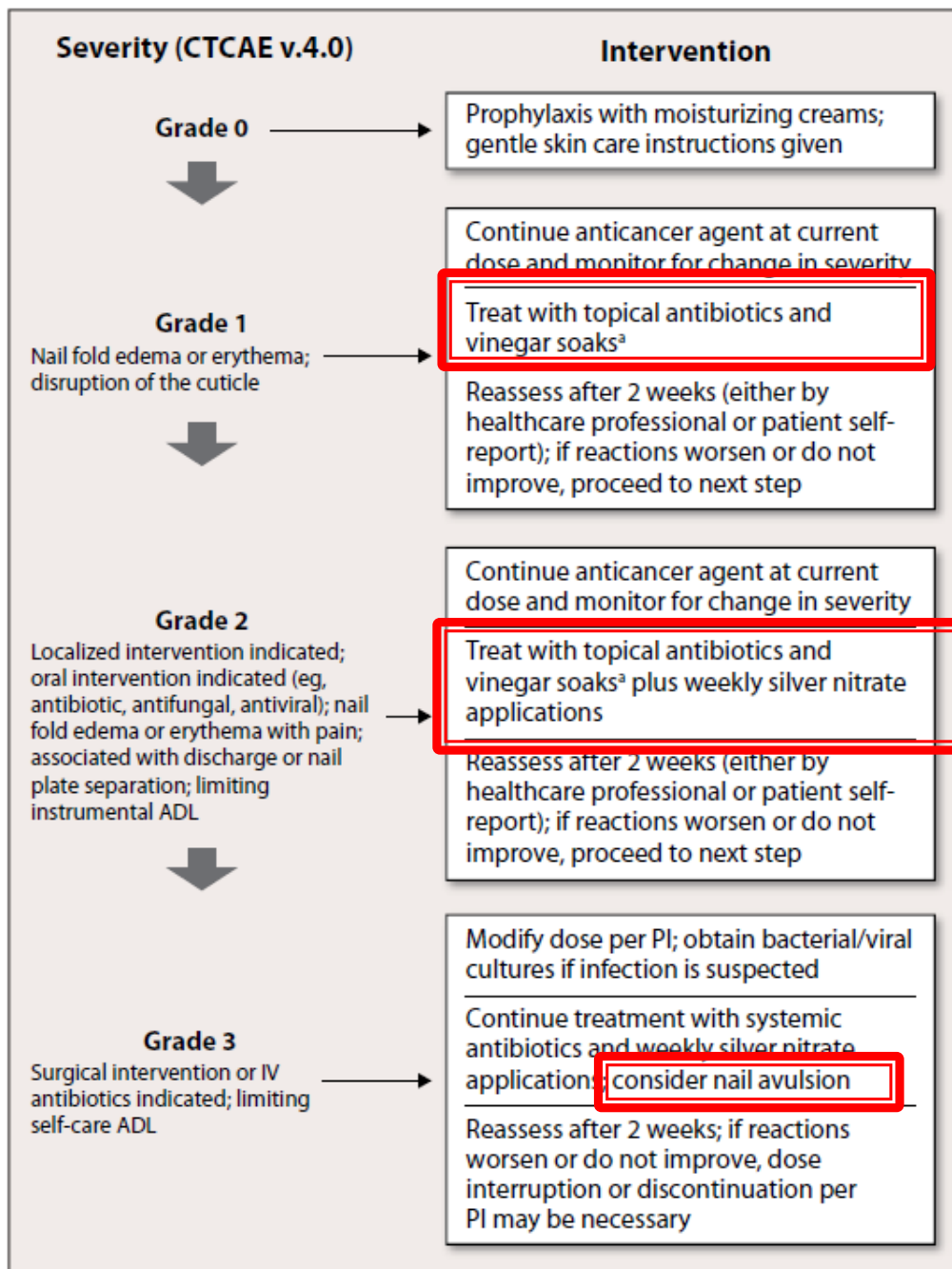


right side face: hydrocortison  
left side face: tazarotene

Scope A. et al. J Clin Oncol 2007; 25:5390-5396



Two weeks of  
vitamine K cream



**Figure 10** Treatment Algorithm for Paronychia

## Nail changes recommendations

- ▶ Petrolatum as protection
- ▶ Wear comfortable shoes
- ▶ Avoid prolonged or frequent water immersion

# Pruritus Recommendations

Preventive	Recommended	Level of Evidence	Recommendation Grades	Comments
Topical	Gentle skin care instructions	IV*†	D	Consensus of experts
Systemic		IV*†	D	Consensus of experts
Treatment	Recommended	Level of Evidence	Recommendation Grades	Comments
Topical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Menthol 0.5% pramoxine, 1% doxepin</li> <li>▪ Medium- to high-potency steroids (triamcinolone acetonide 0.025%;, desonide 0.05%, fluticasone propionate 0.05%, alclometasone 0.05%)</li> </ul>	III†	B	Treat underlying condition first (rash, xerosis)
Systemic	Antihistamines†	I‡	A	Nonsedating first; some may need adjustment for renal impairment
Systemic	Gabapentin/pregabalin*	V*†	D	Recommended as second-line treatment only if antihistamines fail
Systemic	Doxepin	V*	D	



# Hair Changes Recommendations

	Recommended	Level of Evidence	Recommendation Grades	Comments
Preventive hair loss				
Topical	??			
Systemic	??			
Treatment for hair loss				
<b>Topical</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Nonscarring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minoxidil 2%, 5% BID</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <b>Scarring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class 1 steroid lotion, shampoo, or foam</li> <li>• Antibiotic lotion</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	I*/II/III/IV <sup>†</sup>	B/D	Consensus of experts
Preventive increased hair	Patient education and support	IV	B	Consensus of experts
Treatment for increased hair				
Facial hypertrichosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Eflornithine (DFMO)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Lasers</b></li> </ul>	IV, <sup>†</sup> II*	B	Consensus of experts
Eyelash trichomegaly	Eyelash trimmings regularly	IV	B	

\*Non-EGFR inhibitor noncancer treatment study.

<sup>†</sup>EGFR inhibitor study.

## Severity (CTCAE v.4.0)

## Intervention

### Grade 0



Prophylaxis with ammonium lactate 12% cream twice daily or heavy moisturizer (eg, petroleum jelly) twice daily

### Grade 1

Minimal skin changes or dermatitis (eg, erythema, edema, or hyperkeratosis) without pain



Continue treatment at current dose and monitor for change in severity

Treat with urea 20% cream twice daily and clobetasol 0.05% cream once daily

Reassess after 2 weeks (either by healthcare professional or patient self-report); if reactions worsen or do not improve, proceed to next step

### Grade 2

Skin changes (eg, peeling, blisters, bleeding, edema, or hyperkeratosis) with pain; limiting instrumental ADL



Continue treatment at current dose and monitor for change in severity

Treat with urea 20% cream twice daily and clobetasol 0.05% cream once daily and control pain with NSAIDs/GABA agonists/narcotics

Reassess after 2 weeks (either by healthcare professional or patient self-report); if reactions worsen or do not improve, proceed to next step

### Grade 3

Severe skin changes (eg, peeling, blisters, bleeding, edema, or hyperkeratosis) with pain; limiting self-care ADL

Interrupt treatment until severity decreases to grades 0–1

Continue treatment with clobetasol 0.05% cream twice daily and control pain with NSAIDs/GABA agonists/narcotics

Reassess after 2 weeks; if reactions worsen or do not improve, dose interruption or discontinuation per PI may be necessary



# Skin care for HFSR

## Skin care products

## Product information

Cetaphil skin cleanser,  
Aveeno shower gel

Non-deodorant, non-fragrance products

Udderly Smooth,  
Gold Bond, Aveeno

Thicker products with more intense moisturizing properties than basic lotions. Anti-itch formulations are available.

Norwegian Formula:  
Soothing Relief Anti-Itch  
Moisturizer by Neutrogena

Contains dimethicone 1%, camphor 0.1%, and lidocaine

Norwegian Formula:  
Foot Cream by Neutrogena

Contains ceterayl alcohol, dimethicone, menthol, and urea

Bag Balm

May provide "cooling" effect from eucalyptus

Eucerin Cream

Best used at night due to greasy formulation

Eucerin Dry Skin Therapy

Contains trea and alpha hydroxy acid

Aquaphor Healing  
Ointment

Petrolatum 41%

Kerasal

Salicylic acid 5% exfoliates and softens skin;  
urea 10% moisturizes skin



# Risk Factors??

✓ Drug dosage

Patient factors???

- ▶ advanced age
- ▶ female sex
- ▶ performance status
- ▶ total body irradiation
- ▶ ethnic ,genetic
- ▶ **Asians: 45%~55%**

# From management to prevention

»» What else we can do?

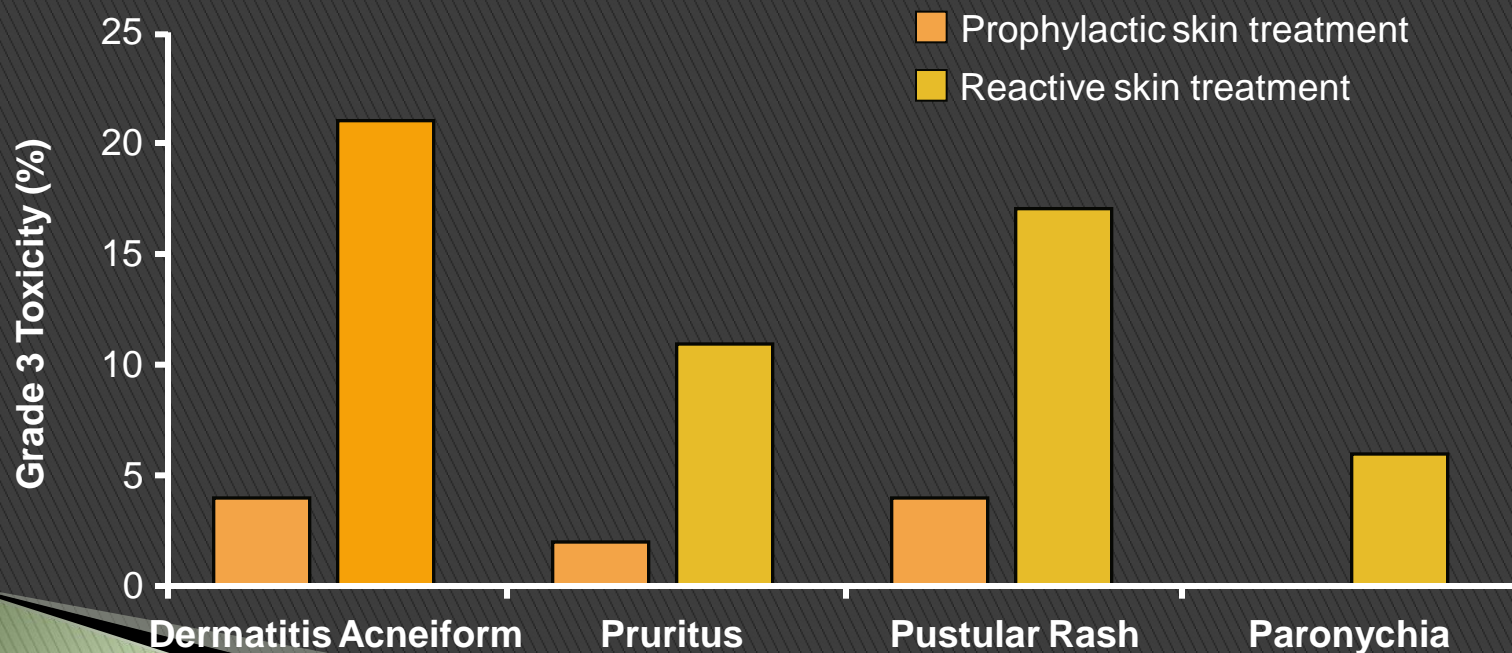
# STEPP Study: Preemptive vs Reactive Skin Toxicity Treatment in Metastatic CRC

- ▶ Open-label phase II study
- ▶ Prophylactic skin treatment regimen administered Wks 1–6 (beginning Day 1)
  - Skin moisturizer
  - Sunscreen (PABA free, SPF  $\geq$  15, UVA/UVB protection)
  - Topical steroid (1% hydrocortisone cream)
  - Doxycycline 100 mg BID
- ▶ Per investigator discretion, reactive skin treatment administered anytime during Wks 1–6

# STEPP: Dermatologic Toxicities

	Prophylactic (n = 48)	Reactive (n = 47)
Patients with grade 2 or higher skin toxicity, n (%)	14 (29)	29 (62)
OR (95% CI)	0.03 (0.1-0.6)	

Skin side effects can be reduced with prophylactic treatment

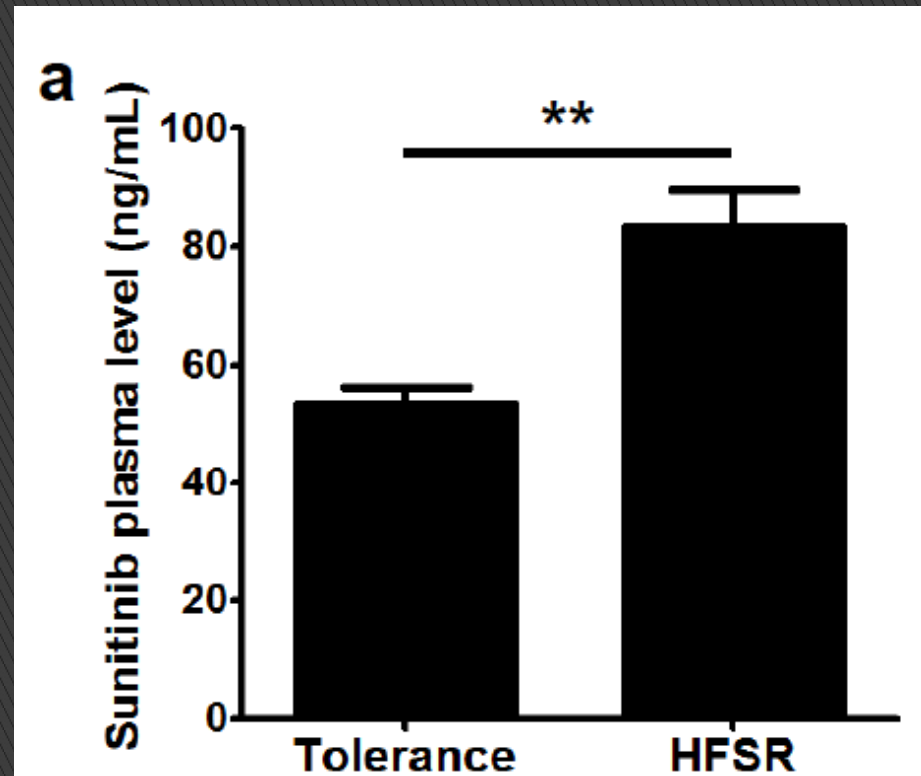


# Pathomechanism of Multi-targeted Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor-induced Hand-foot Skin Reaction

## Fas/Fas Ligand Mediates Keratinocyte Death in Sunitinib-Induced Hand-Foot Skin Reaction

Chun-Nan Yeh<sup>1,6</sup>, Wen-Hung Chung<sup>2,6</sup>, Shih-Chi Su<sup>2</sup>, Yen-Yang Chen<sup>3</sup>, Chi-Tung Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Yen-Ling Lin<sup>4</sup>, Wan-Chun Chang<sup>4</sup>, Rosaline Chung-Yee Hui<sup>2</sup>, Kun-Chun Chiang<sup>1</sup>, Tsung-Wen Chen<sup>1</sup>, Yi-Yin Jan<sup>1</sup>, Chien-Wei Chen<sup>4</sup>, Ting-Jui Chen<sup>4,5</sup>, Chih-Hsun Yang<sup>2</sup> and Shuen-lu Hung<sup>4</sup>

- ▶ 53 sunitinib-treated patients
  - 23 HFSR cases
  - 30 tolerant controls
- ▶ Elevated plasma levels of sunitinib in patients with HFSR





# Elevated Fas-L levels in the Plasma and blister fluids of HFSR patients

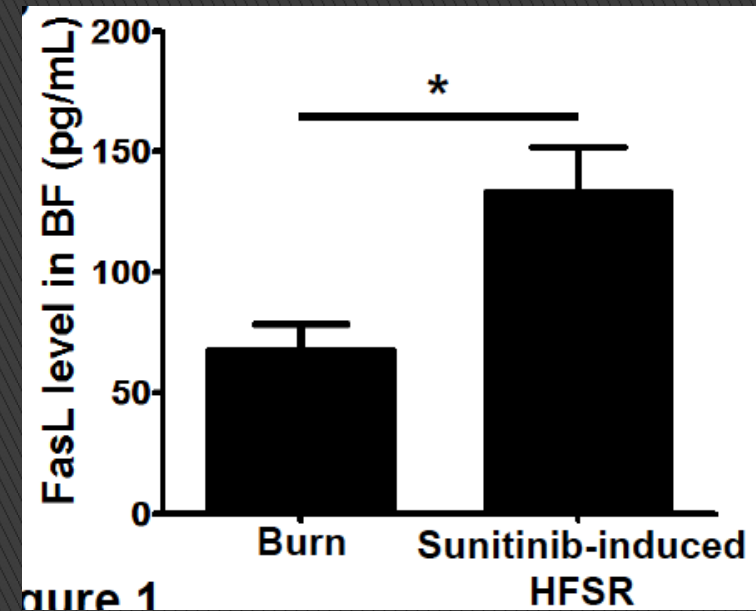
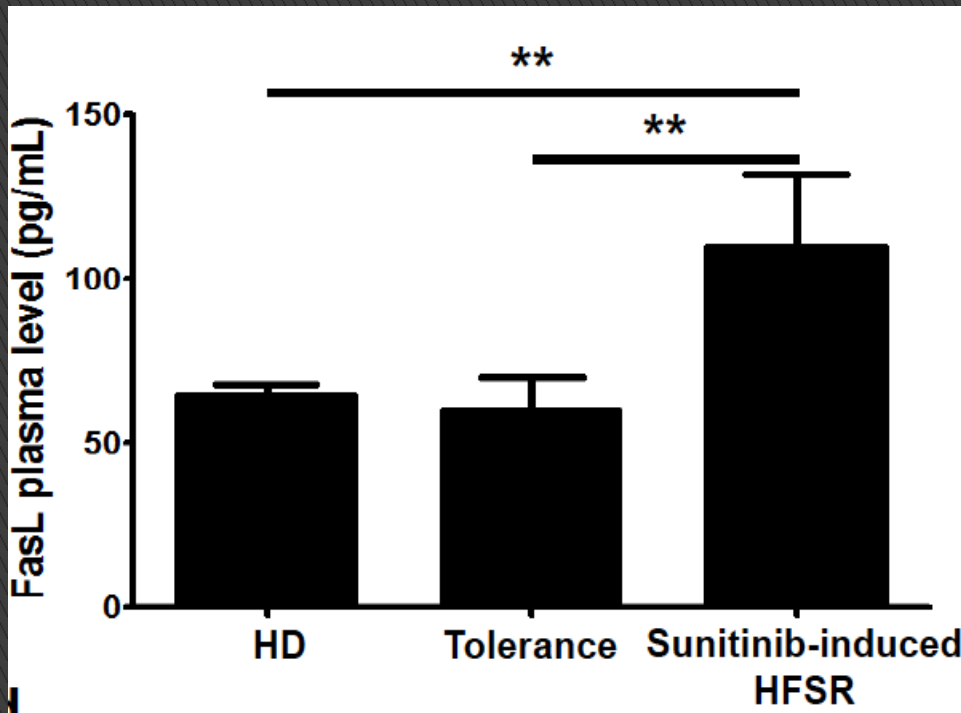
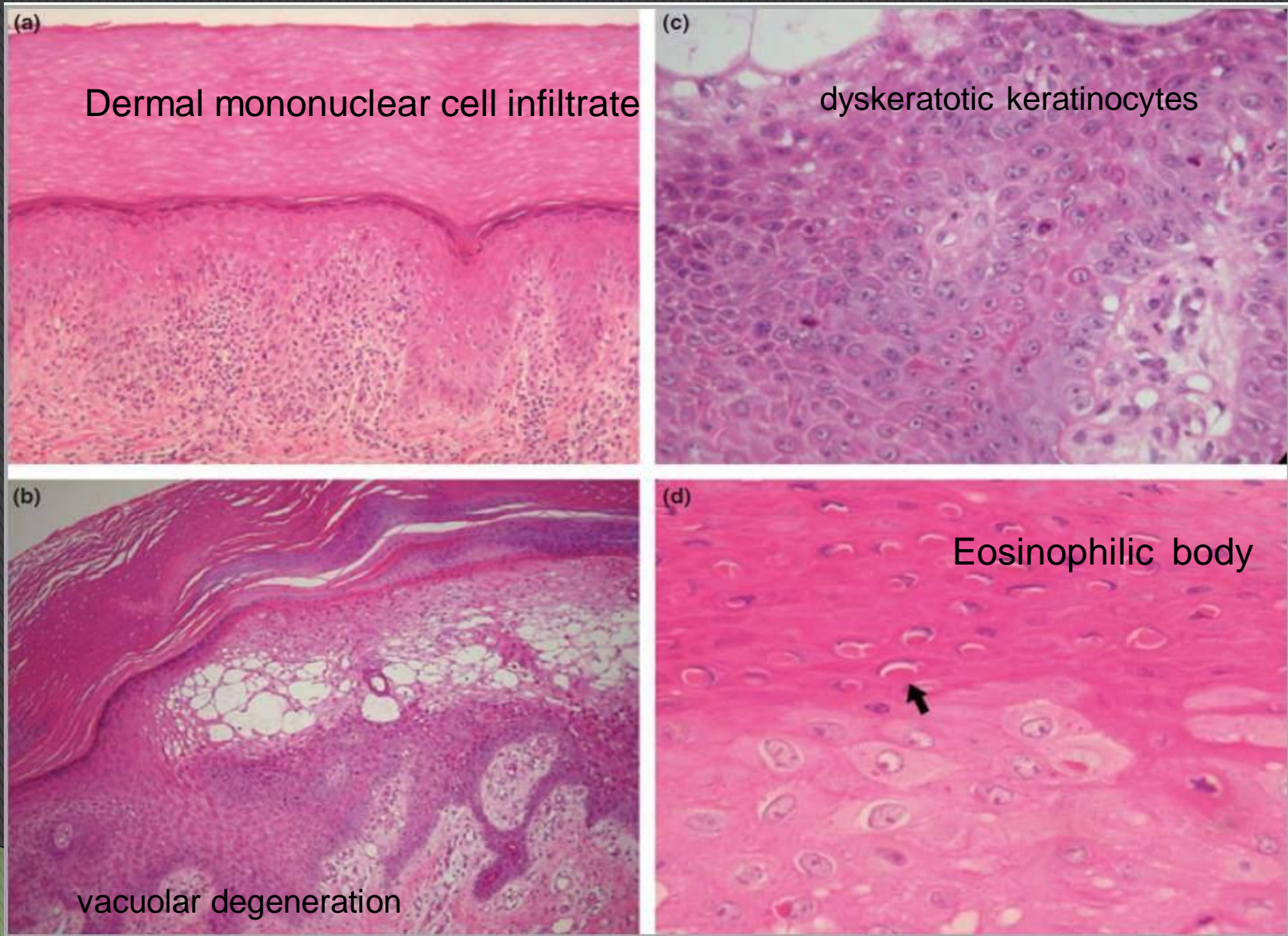
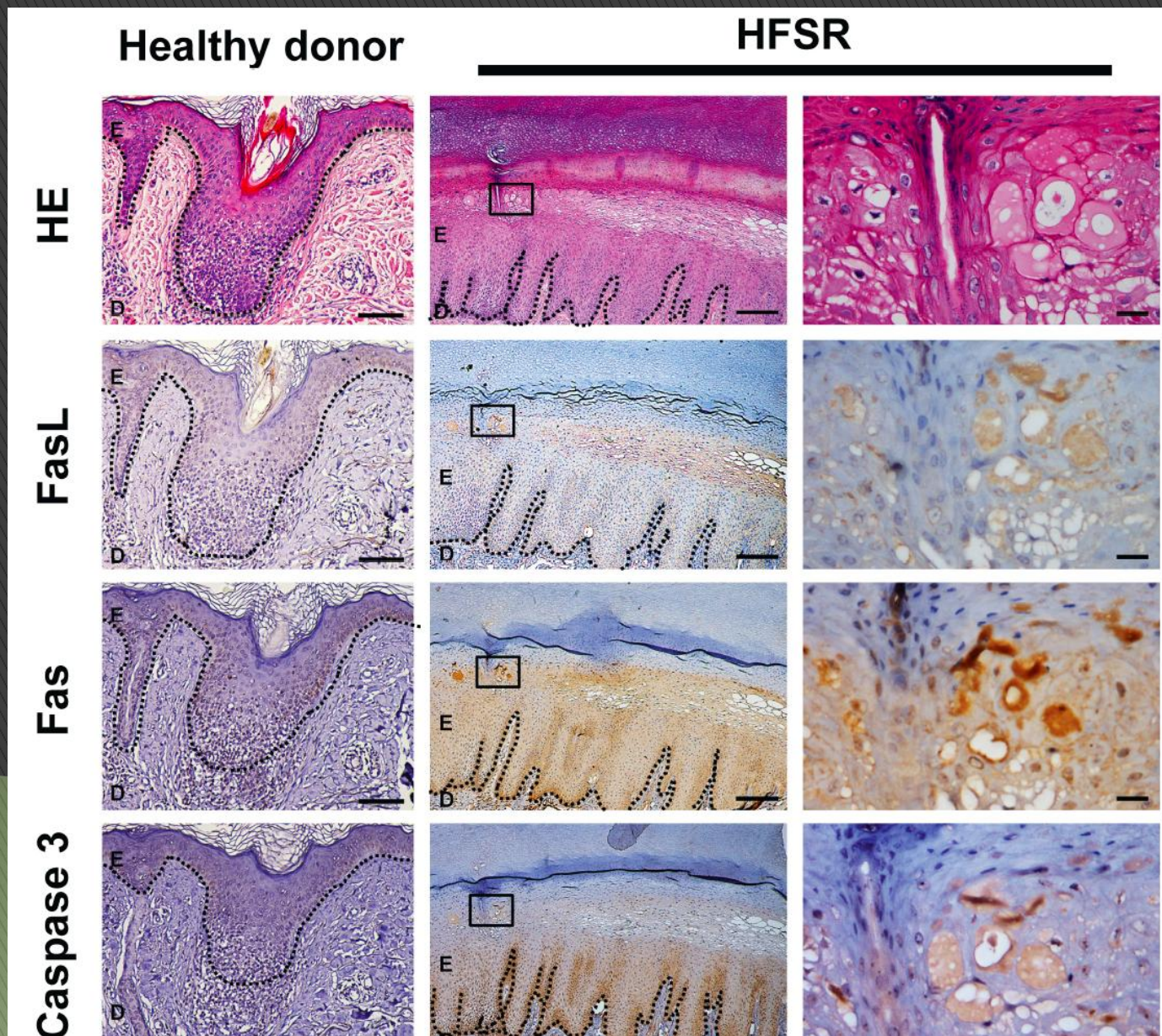


Figure 1

# HISTOPATHOLOGY

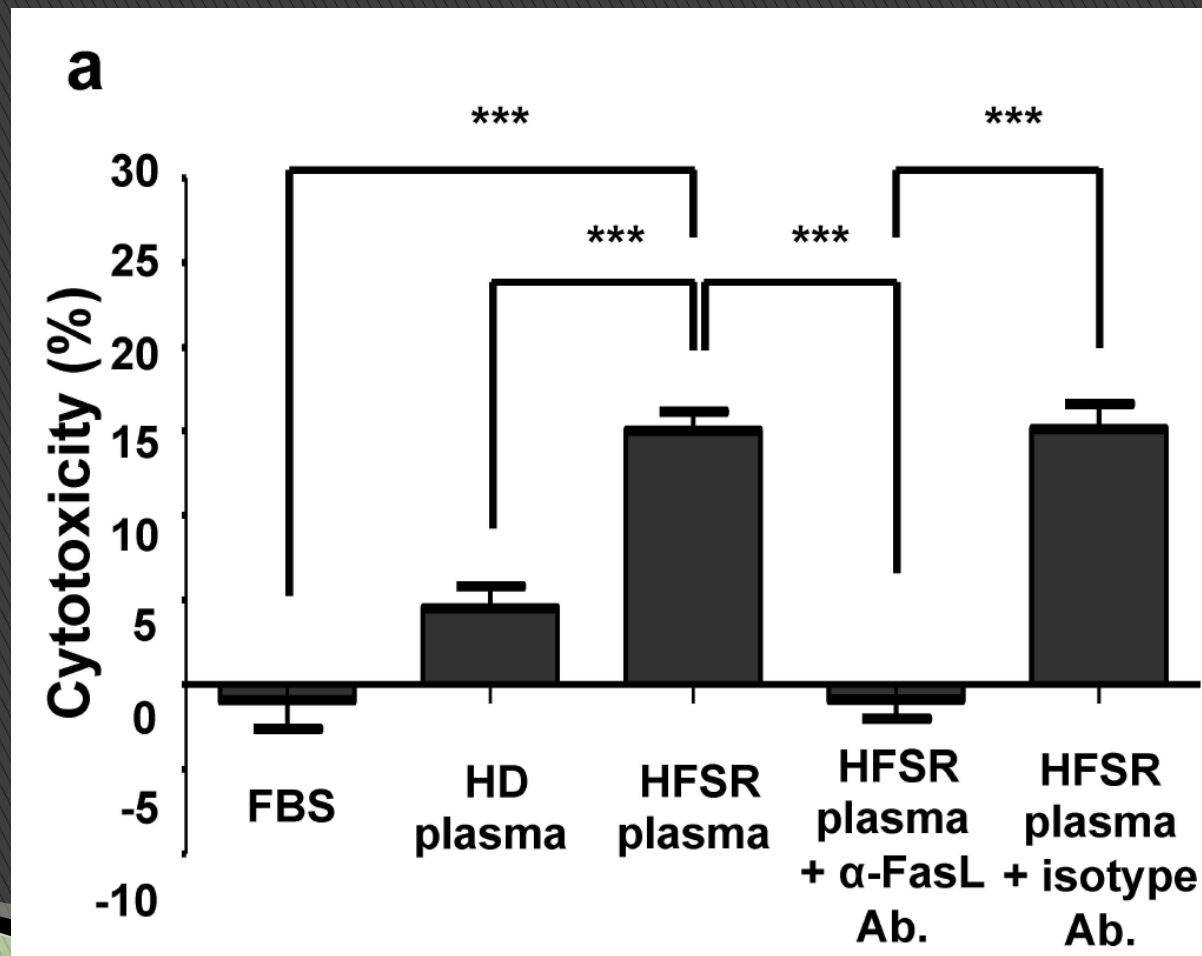


# Increased expression of FasL, Fas and caspase-3 in HFSR lesions

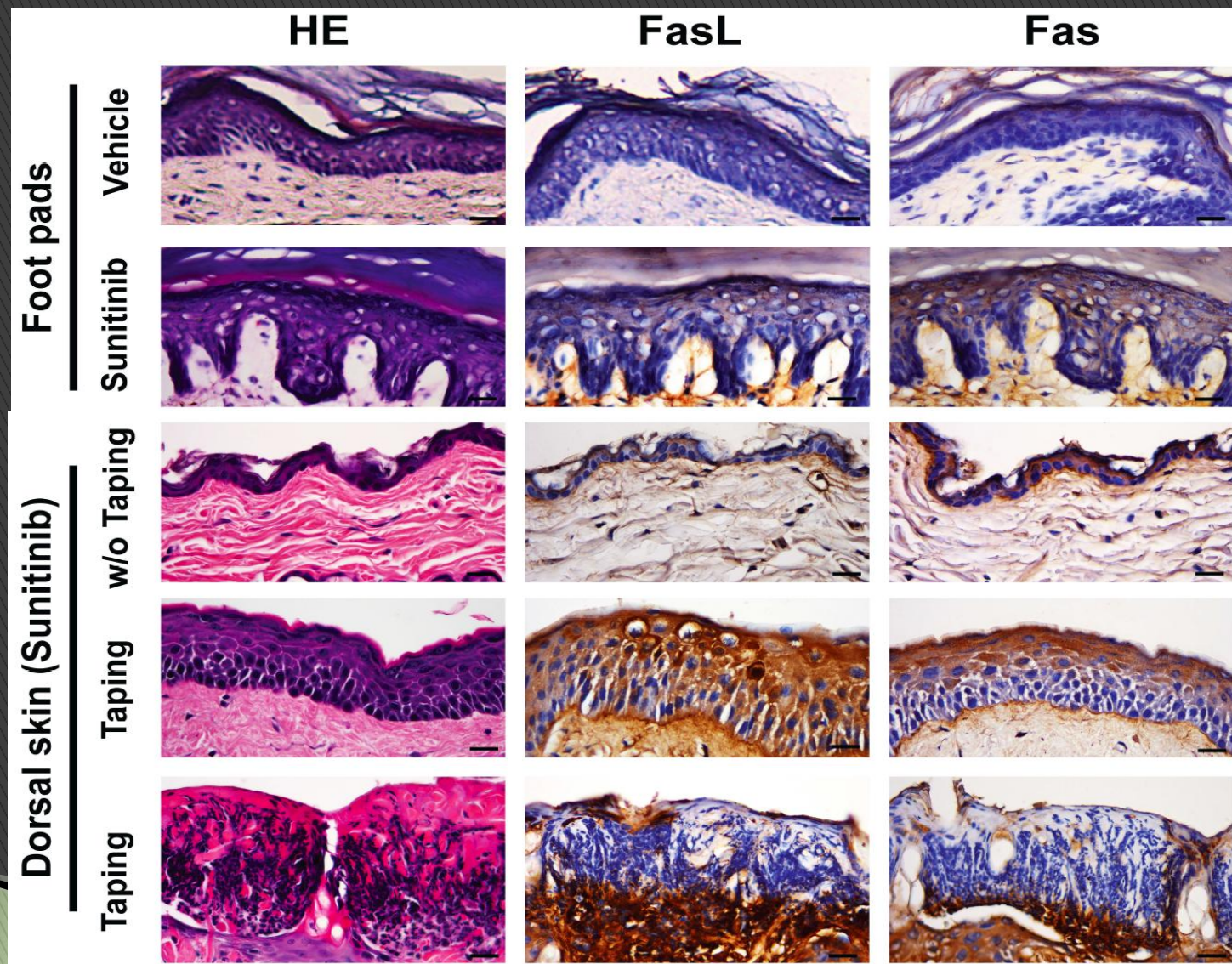


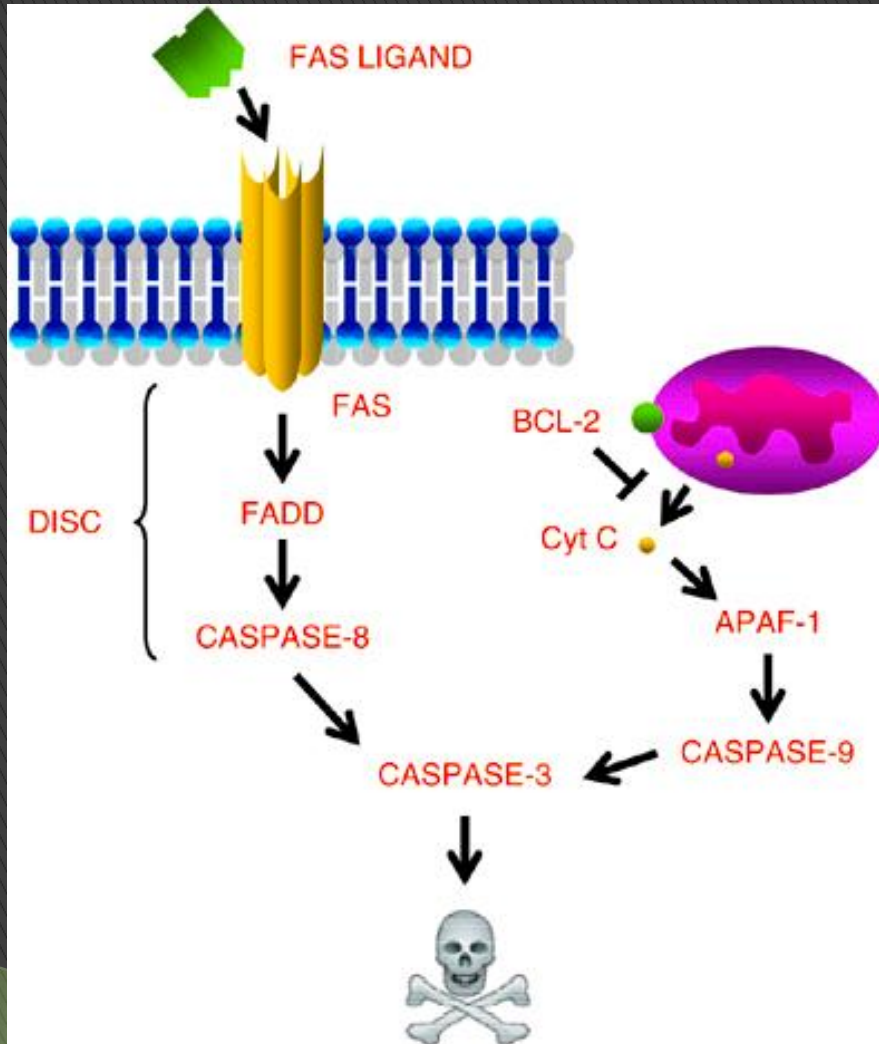
# Fas-L mediates the cytotoxicity of HFSR plasma to keratinocytes

Anti-FasL antibody block keratinocytes apoptosis



# Sunitinib increased the expression of Fas/FasL in mice keratinocytes





Increased plasma levels of FasL and overexpression of Fas in keratinocytes is found in HFSR patients and animal model

**Fas/FasL interaction mediates keratinocyte death in HFSR**

# Conclusion

- ▶ Goal of therapy: alleviate patient discomfort, improve quality of life, minimize treatment interruptions
- ▶ Proactive approach help to limit the incidence of severe symptoms
- ▶ The skin toxicities **are manageable and reversible**
- ▶ Characterization of dermatologic toxicities will increase in importance
  - Adjuvant setting
  - Dose escalation and combination studies
  - Longer survival

# Thank you for listening!

For any comment or question:

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