Climb™

Supporting those affected by Inherited Metabolic Disorders

Acrodermatitis Enteropathica

There are three forms of this condition, two acquired forms and an inborn form that is apparent at birth (congenital). The acquired forms can be caused a deficiency of zinc in the diet. In the congenital form, there appears to be a deficiency or absence of a zinc transporter in the intestines which can lead to zinc malabsorption and a deficiency of zinc. There is also a deficiency of the enzyme alkaline phosphatase which occurs because of zinc deficiency. Acrodermatitis Enteropathica (AE) is characterised by inflammation of the skin in certain areas with pimples that often blisters and then dries up to form scaly red patches. Other key symptoms include diarrhoea and abnormal nails. In the acute phase of AE behavioural and emotional problems are evident due to wasting (atrophy) of the outer membrane of the brain. Therefore, early diagnosis and correct lifelong management to correct zinc levels is important.

Synonyms

Alternative names for this condition are:

- AE
- Brandt Syndrome
- Danbolt-Cross Syndrome
- Zinc Deficiency, Congenital

Further information about this condition is available from Climb.

Disclaimer

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