

SCARs

Severe Cutaneous Adverse Reactions are cell mediated drug hypersensitivity reactions occurring in certain population with genetical predisposition, resulting in severe and life-threatening skin and/or mucosal lesions, often associated with internal organ(s) involvement. The latency period (time from first ingestion of a drug to the time a drug reaction occurs) is as early as 4 days to as late as 8 weeks.

Stevens Johnson Syndrome/ Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis

1

Incidence:

5-6/million/year

2

Drugs most commonly associated:

Anticonvulsant (i.e., carbamazepine), antigout (i.e., allopurinol), antibiotic (i.e., sulfamethoxazole), NSAID (i.e., piroxicam)

3

Skin manifestations:

Dusky erythema, purpuric spots, atypical targets and flaccid bullae progressing to extensive, sheet-like detachment and erosions

- <10 % BSA detached – SJS
- 10 to 30 % BSA detached – SJS/TEN overlap
- >30 % BSA detached – TEN

4

Associated signs and symptoms:

Fever, malaise, myalgia, sore throat, conjunctivitis, mucosal involvement (oral, genital), organ involvement (i.e., liver/lung/kidney/GI)



STOP the drug. You can find a board certified allergist at
psaai.org.



References:

- 1.UpToDate. Stevens Johnson Syndrome (SJS). Updated Sept 20, 2023. Available from: https://www.uptodate.com/contents/stevens-johnson-syndrome-and-toxic-epidermal-necrolysis-pathogenesis-clinical-manifestations-and-diagnosis?search=Toxic%20epidermal%20necrolysis%20syndrome&source=search_result&selectedTitle=2-150&usage_type=default&display_rank=2.
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- 3.UpToDate. Acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP). Updated July 20, 2022. Available from: https://www.uptodate.com/contents/acute-generalized-exanthematous-pustulosis-agep?search=acute%20generalized%20exanthematous%20pustulosis&source=search_result&selectedTitle=1-150&usage_type=default&display_rank=1.
- 4.Khan DA, Banerji A, Blumenthal KG, et al. Drug allergy: A 2022 practice parameter update. J ALLERGY CLIN IMMUNOL 2022; 150 (6): 1333-1393. [https://www.jacionline.org/action/showPdf?pii=S0091-6749\(2022\)2901186-1](https://www.jacionline.org/action/showPdf?pii=S0091-6749(2022)2901186-1).
- 5.Patrimonio Mary Ann Jean. SJS. 2021. Photograph.
- 6.Patrimonio Mary Ann Jean. TEN. 2022. Photograph.