

Summary of rankings as voted during the second stage

399 patients (or carers of patients) and 106 healthcare professionals took part in the second round voting stage

All responses	Combined Ranking	Ranking for health professional	Ranking for patient /carer
What is the best and safest way of using topical steroids for eczema? (Including frequency of application, potency, length of time, alternating with other topical treatments, and age limits for treatments).	1	1	3
What is the long term safety of applying steroids to the skin?	2	7	2
How effective are nutritional supplements (e.g. evening primrose, fish oils, iron, marine proteins, vitamins, fatty acids)?	3	30	1
What role might food allergy tests play in treating eczema?	4	5	5
What is the best psychological treatment for the ITCHING in eczema (e.g. habit reversal techniques)?	5	11	7
Which emollient is the most effective and safe in treating eczema?	6	4	9
What are the best and safest natural products to apply to the skin? (e.g. cocoa butter, aloe vera. hemp oil)	7	32	4
How effective are exclusion diets (e.g dairy, wheat, nuts, eggs)?	8	12	10
How much does avoidance of irritants and allergens help people with eczema (including washing powders, soap, detergents, pollen, pets, house dust mite, carpets)?	9	16	8
What is the role of diet in treating eczema? (If your question is about exclusion diets/ supplements please see those specific questions)	10	27	6

key

In the combined top 15 AND in the top 10 for health professionals and pts/carers - SHARED PRIORITIES

In the combined top 15 AND top 10 for health professionals but NOT top 10 in pts/carers - HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PRIORITIES

In the combined top 15 AND top 10 for pts/carers but NOT top 10 for health professionals - PATIENT PRIORITIES

Top 10 for health professionals but NOT in the combined top 15 - HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PRIORITIES

Which is more effective in the management of eczema; GP's, nurse-led clinics, doctor-led clinics, education programmes, or multi disciplinary clinics (with dermatologist, allergy specialist, dietician)?	11	2	14
Which is the best way to wash, including frequency of washing, water temperature, bath vs shower ?	12	19	12
How much does temperature, weather and humidity effect people with eczema?	13	48	11
How effective is specialist training for GPs who assess and prescribe treatments for eczema including training on when to refer to a dermatologist?	14	22	15
How effective and safe are antihistamines in treating eczema?	15	20	16
How much does water type (hard/soft/sea) help people with eczema?	16	38	13
What is the best and safest treatment for eczema in sensitive areas such as eyes and the genital area?	17	26	17
What role might immunotherapy (e.g. to house dust mites) have in treating eczema?	18	25	19
Do some emollients (e.g. containing paraffin/petroleum jelly) make eczema worse?	19	35	18
Which is the best complementary therapy (including homeopathy, chinese medicine and acupuncture)to help people with eczema?	20	41	20
What is the best psychological treatment for the relief of STRESS in the treatment of eczema (e.g. CBT, counselling, stress therapy)?	21	28	21
Which is safer and more effective for treating eczema; steroids or calcineurin inhibitors?	22	6	27
How effective are interventions to reduce staphylococcus aureus in the management of eczema?	23	10	28
How effective is specialist clothing (e.g specialist silk and cotton fabrics) in treating eczema?	24	14	26
Why do some treatments applied to the skin stop working?	25	29	22
Which should be applied first emollients or topical steroids?	26	3	34
What is the best and safest way of using drugs that suppress the immune system? (including azathioprine, leflunomide, methotrexate, cyclosporine, mycophenolate mofetil, steroids)	27	9	32

NOTE:

In order to ensure that items included in the top 10 for either stakeholder group were included in the finalised priority topics, some overlapping uncertainties were combined as follows:

- Uncertainties 5 and 12 were combined
- Uncertainties 6 and 10 were combined
- Uncertainties 13 and 36 were combined

How effective are probiotics for the treatment of eczema?	28	36	24
How much effect do normal clothing fabrics have on eczema?	29	44	23
What is the best systemic treatment (effecting whole body) that does not suppress the immune system?	30	37	25
What is the best and safest way of using calcineurin inhibitors applied to the skin e.g tacrolimus/pimecrolimus (Elidel)? (includes frequency, length of time, application with other topical treatments, age limits)	31	15	35
What is the best and safest way to use ultraviolet light (UVA, UVB, sun, sunbeds) for eczema?	32	21	33
Which is the best treatment to apply to the skin for irritant hand eczema; steroids or moisturisers?	33	34	30
How much does supporting and educating patients/carers about treatments and management of eczema help?	34	8	37
Can treatments that I put on my skin make my eczema worse?	35	42	29
Which is better; oral immunosuppressant treatment or ultraviolet light therapy?	36	13	39
Can applying steroids to my skin make eczema worse?	37	46	31
Do antibiotics and antiseptics applied to the skin work in treating eczema?	38	24	38
Which is more effective; antimicrobials (antibiotic/antifungal/antiseptic) applied to the skin or taken by mouth?	39	17	40
What is the role of exercise in treating eczema?	40	51	36
Do bath additives work in the treatment of eczema?	41	23	44
What is the importance of maintaining the PH level of the skin?	42	45	41
What is the best and safest treatment taken by mouth NOT steroids or immunosuppressants? (including alitretinoin, leukotrine inhibitors, glitazones) If your question is about steroids or immunosuppressants please see those specific questions.	43	31	47
What is the most safe and effective monoclonal antibody treatment for eczema?	44	18	51
What is the best and safest way to use antimicrobial (antibiotic/antifungal/antiseptic) bath additives (including salt and bleach)?	45	47	43

What is the best and safest way to use treatments applied to my skin, (NOT including steroids and calcineurin inhibitors)?	46	50	42
Which is best; sedating or non-sedating antihistamines?	47	43	45
How much does hypnotherapy and biofeedback help people with eczema?	48	39	48
What is the best and safest way of using wet wraps (including potency of steroids)?	49	40	49
What is the best and safest way to use oral antibiotic treatments for eczema?	50	33	50
How much does massage therapy help patients with eczema?	51	52	46
What is the best and safest way to use antimicrobials applied to the skin?	52	49	52

