

GASTROINTESTINAL DERMATOLOGY CLINIC



Approximately 30 percent of gastrointestinal patients, specifically those diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or celiac disease, have a concomitant dermatologic disease. Recognizing this, the UPMC Department of Dermatology coordinated the region's first-ever Gastrointestinal Dermatology clinic, located in the Falk Medical Building. The clinic's goal is to improve the quality of life for patients with dermatologic issues unique to their gastrointestinal (GI) condition.

This clinic demonstrates the coordinated care and subspecialty expertise available at UPMC. Our GI experts from the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center partner with the Department of Dermatology to provide dermatologic care to ostomy patients and those diagnosed with IBD, celiac, and other GI disorders.

What is gastrointestinal dermatology?

Gastrointestinal dermatology is defined as the extraintestinal manifestations of gastrointestinal disease, particularly on the skin and oral cavity. Because the GI tract and the skin share similar immunology, they often will share manifestations of a clinical disease. A GI condition might look different on the skin than in the GI tract. A diagnosis requires a physician to correctly recognize the dermatologic conditions associated with not only certain GI conditions, but also the various therapies treating those GI conditions.

Who is a candidate?

Patients with the following conditions who have secondary dermatologic issues may be candidates for the clinic:

- Oral Crohn's disease
- Cheilitis granulomatosa
- Erythema nodosum
- Pyoderma gangrenosum
- Peristomal pyoderma gangrenosum
- Pyostomatitis vegetans
- Metastatic Crohn's disease
- Aphthous ulcers/aphthous stomatitis
- Sweet's syndrome
- Bowel-associated dermatosis arthritis syndrome
- Celiac disease (gluten-sensitive enteropathy)
- Dermatitis herpetiformis
- Perianal/peristomal dermatitis
- Nutritional deficiency dermatoses

The UPMC Department of Dermatology will coordinate with IBD specialists, enterostomal nursing, and colorectal surgeons to provide an interdisciplinary team approach to patient care. Our expertise enables GI patients to have significant dermatologic improvement following treatment.

How can I refer a patient?

Patients must first be referred by a gastroenterologist affiliated with UPMC. Please include a referral note with the reason for consultation, as well as any additional clinical information that is relevant.

The clinic will be open the first Monday of the month and will expand based upon patient demand.

UPMC Department of Dermatology

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