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Rare Juvenile Primary Systemic Vasculitis

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8. OTHER VASCULITIDES AND SIMILAR CONDITIONS

Cutaneous leukocytoclastic vasculitis (also known as hypersensitivity or allergic vasculitis) usually implies a blood vessel inflammation caused by a reaction to a sensitising source. Drugs and infections are common triggers of this condition in children; commonly, however, no obvious trigger is identified. It usually affects small vessels and has a specific microscopic appearance in the skin biopsy.

Hypocomplementaemic urticarial vasculitis is characterised by a rash that is often itchy, widespread and resembling hives that does not fade as quickly as a common skin allergic reaction. Blood findings of a decreased level of complement (a blood protein) accompany this condition.

Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (EGPA, previously Churg-Strauss syndrome) is an extremely rare type of vasculitis in children. Various vasculitis symptoms in the skin and internal organs are accompanied by asthma and increased numbers of a type of white blood cell known as eosinophils in blood as well as in tissues.

Cogan´s syndrome is a rare disease characterised by the involvement of eyes and inner ears with photophobia, dizziness and hearing loss. Symptoms of more widespread vasculitis may be present.

Behçet’s disease has been discussed separately in another section.