

## principles treatment of skin diseases

- primary treatment

- primary treatment commences with **removal of hair coat and debris** to enable topical applications to come into contact with the causative agent.
- **accurate diagnosis of the cause** must precede the selection of any topical or systemic treatment.
- in bacterial diseases **sensitivity tests on cultures of the organism are advisable.**
- specific skin diseases due to bacteria, fungi and metazoan parasites are **reasonably amenable to treatment with the appropriate specific remedy.**

- supportive treatment

--supportive treatment **includes prevention of secondary infection** using **bacteriostatic ointments or dressings** and the prevention of further damage from scratching.

- effective treatment of pruritus

-depends upon the reduction of central perception of itch sensations by the use of ataractic, sedative or narcotic drugs administered systemically or

-on successful restraint of the mediator between the lesion and the sensory end organ.

in the absence of accurate knowledge of the pathogenesis of pain

=it is usual to resort to local anesthetic agents, which are short lived in their activity, and corticosteroids, which are longer-acting and effective,

- provided that vascular engorgement is part of the pruritus stimulating mechanism.

- when large areas of skin are involved

- it is important to prevent the absorption of toxic products by **continuous irrigation or the application of absorptive dressings.**

- losses of fluid and electrolytes should be made good by the

- parenteral administration of isotonic fluids containing the necessary electrolytes
- ensure an adequate dietary intake of protein, particularly **sulfur-containing amino acids** to facilitate the repair of skin tissues.