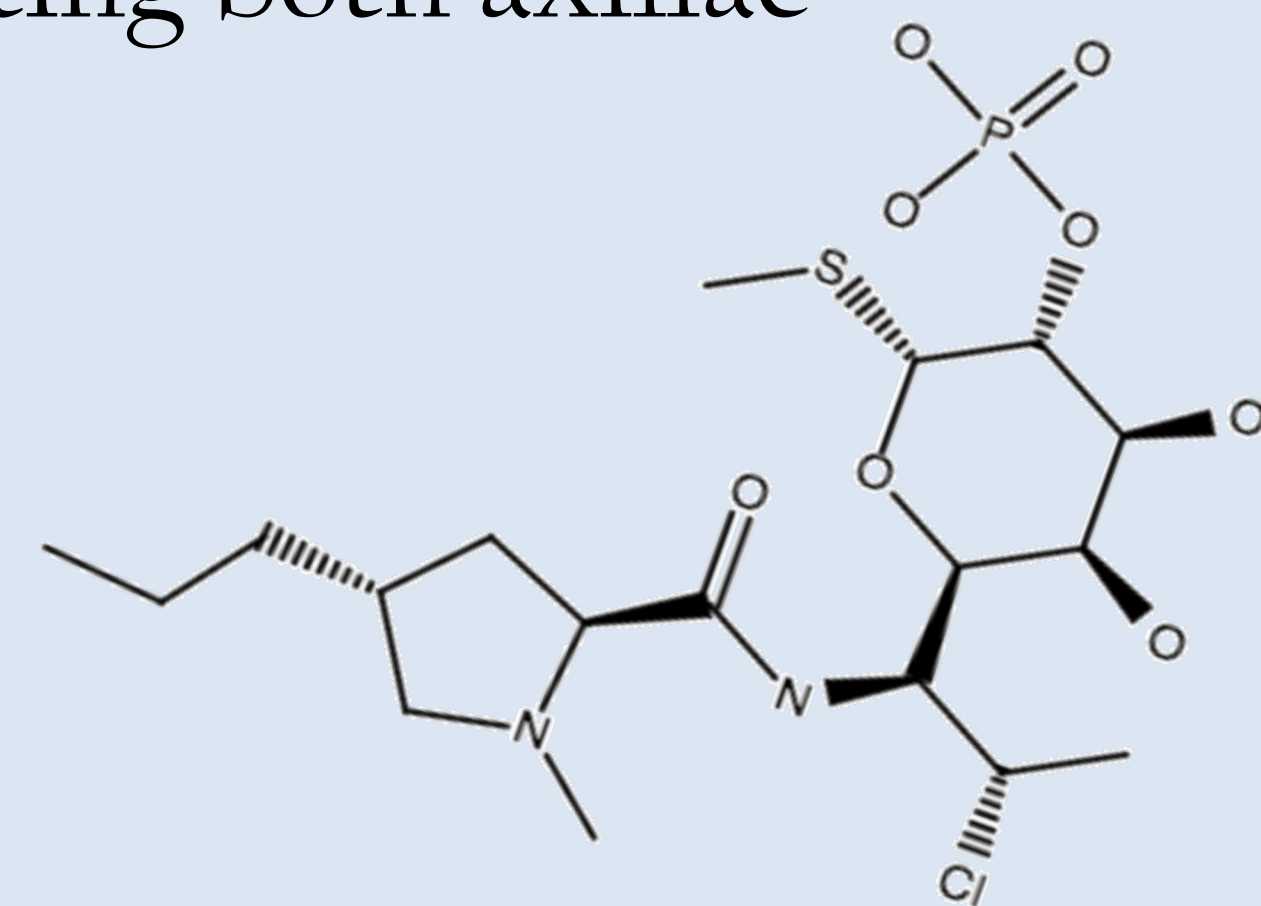




Background

- Clindamycin is a relatively rare sensitizer despite widespread and long-term use¹
- We present a case of allergic contact dermatitis (ACD) to topical clindamycin affecting both axillae

Fig. 1. Chemical structure of clindamycin phosphate



Case Presentation

- **HPI:** A 63-year-old female presented with a 1-year history of intermittent axillary dermatitis
 - Hydrocortisone 1% and 2.5% creams provided minimal improvement
 - Previously prescribed clindamycin phosphate 1% lotion used as deodorant for bromhidrosis
- **Fig. 2.** Exam: light pink, nummular eczematous plaques in anterior/posterior axillary skin folds



Fig. 3. Fougera brand clindamycin phosphate 1% lotion

Patch Testing

Patch Tested To:

- 2019 – 2020 North American Contact Dermatitis Group screening series
- Select emulsifiers, preservatives
- Purified clindamycin, 10% pet.
- Clindamycin phosphate 1% lotion, tested “as is”

Relevant Final Reactions:

- +:
 - Purified clindamycin, 10% pet. (Fig. 4)
 - Clindamycin phosphate 1% lotion (Fig. 5)
 - Tixocortol-21-pivalate
 - Various fragrances
 - (Clindamycin lotion had no fragrance)
- ++:
 - MCI/MI

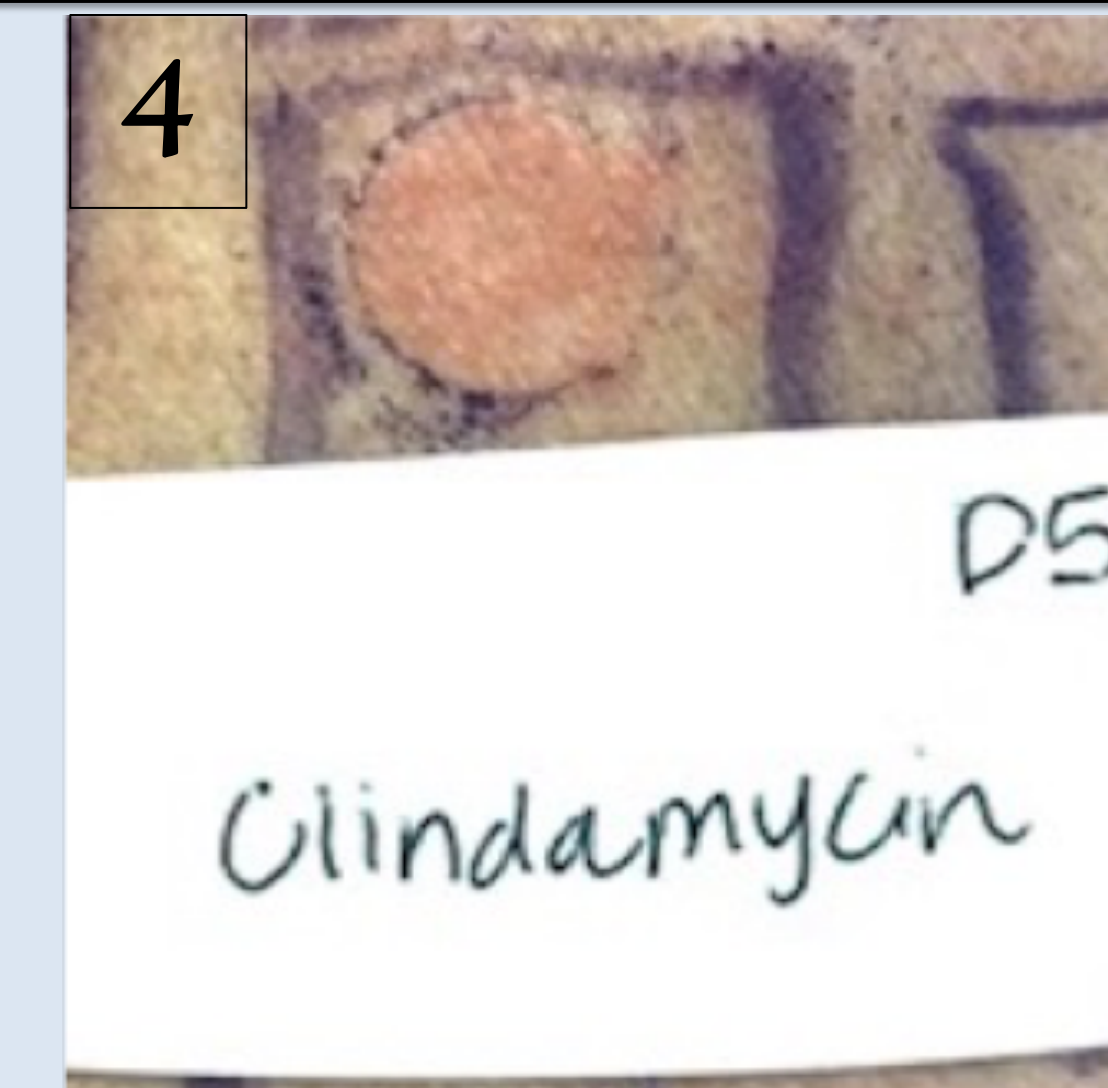


Fig. 4. + reaction to purified clindamycin

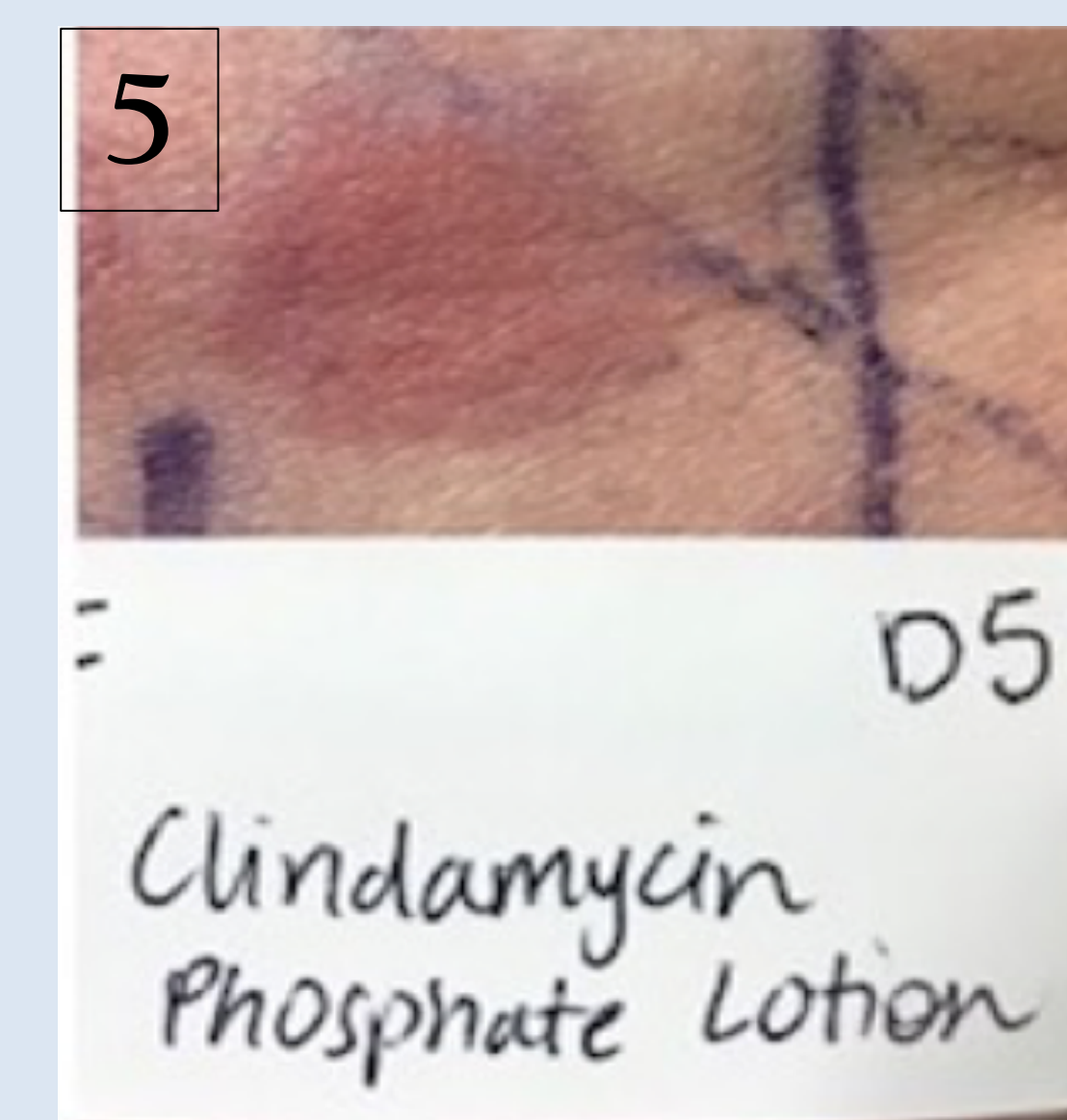


Fig 5. + reaction to clindamycin phosphate lotion

Pertinent Negative Reactions:

- Aluminum chloride hexahydrate, 2% pet.
- Drysol (20% aluminum chloride hexahydrate, tested semi-open)
- Inactive ingredients in clindamycin phosphate lotion:
 - Cetostearyl alcohol, 20% pet.
 - Stearyl alcohol, 30% pet.
 - Sodium lauroyl sarcosinate, 0.5% aq.

Discussion

- Topical clindamycin is most often used for acne vulgaris and bacterial vaginosis
 - Can also be used to treat hidradenitis suppurativa, rosacea, and bromhidrosis^{2,3}
- ACD from topical application of clindamycin is rare
 - First case described in 1978 from an alcohol-based clindamycin hydrochloride 1% solution for facial acne⁴
 - **Only 1 other case located in the axillae⁵**
 - Cases may present atypically
- In cases of worsening dermatitis coinciding with topical clindamycin usage, it is important to consider ACD

References

1. Veraldi S, Brena M, Barbareschi M. Allergic contact dermatitis caused by topical antiacne drugs. *Expert Rev Clin Pharmacol*. 2015;8(4):377-381. doi:10.1586/17512433.2015.1046839
2. van Zuuren EJ, Fedorowicz Z, Carter B, van der Linden MMD, Charland L. Interventions for rosacea. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. April 2015. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD003262.pub5
3. Ingram JR, Woo PN, Chua SL, et al. Interventions for hidradenitis suppurativa: a Cochrane systematic review incorporating GRADE assessment of evidence quality. *Br J Dermatol*. 2016;174(5):970-978. doi:10.1111/bjd.14418
4. Coskey RJ. Contact Dermatitis due to Perfume in Mycolog Cream. *Arch Dermatol*. 1975;111(1):131. doi:10.1001/archderm.1975.0163013013026
5. Vejlstrup E, Mennè T. Contact dermatitis from clindamycin. *Contact Dermatitis*. 1995;32(2):110-110.

Previous Cases

Table 1. Previous reports of allergic contact dermatitis to topical clindamycin

Study	Country	Body Site	Patch Test Results on Final Readings
Coskey, <i>Arch Dermatol</i> , 1978	United States	Face	++ to clindamycin hydrochloride 1% aq. at 48hr
Herstoff, <i>Arch Dermatol</i> , 1978	United States	Face	Positive reaction to clindamycin aq. capsular preparation at 72hr
de Groot, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1982	The Netherlands	Face	++ to clindamycin lotion (as is) and clindamycin hydrochloride 1% aq. at 96hr
Conde-Salazar, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1983	Spain	Generalized	+++ to clindamycin hydrochloride 1% aq. and clindamycin phosphate 1% aq. at 96hr
de Kort, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1989	The Netherlands	Face	++ to clindamycin solution and clindamycin phosphate 1% aq. at 72hr
Yokoyama, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1991	Japan	Face	+ to clindamycin lotion (as is), clindamycin hydrochloride 0.5% aq. and clindamycin phosphate 0.1% aq. on D3
Vejlstrup, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1995	Denmark	Axillae, generalized	+ to clindamycin solution and clindamycin phosphate 1% aq. on D3
García, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 1996	Spain	Face	Positive reaction to clindamycin phosphate 1% pet. on D3
Romita, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 2017	Italy	Face	++ to clindamycin 1% pet. on D4, repeated open application test positive after 2 applications
Veraldi, <i>Contact Derm</i> , 2019	Italy	Inguinal folds	++ to Clindamicina SAME gel, clindamycin hydrochloride 1% pet., clindamycin phosphate 1% aq. on D4