Abstract

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Acquired zinc deficiency dermatosis in man.

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BACKGROUND: We encountered two cases of acquired zinc deficiency. In one of the patients the state was due to alcoholism with liver cirrhosis and pancreatitis, and in the other patient it was attributed to a small intestine bypass operation for obesity. The skin symptoms included hair loss, acrodermatitis, and widespread eczema craquelé (asteatosis).

CONCLUSION: The cutaneous manifestations of zinc deficiency seem to constitute a characteristic syndrome that might be helpful in recognizing manifest zinc-deficient states in man.

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