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# What is Acrodynia?

## Description

**Acrodynia**, also known as Pink Disease, is a rare condition often associated with chronic exposure to mercury.

## Understanding Acrodynia

Acrodynia, or Pink Disease, is a rare childhood disorder that was most prevalent during the early 20th century. It is primarily associated with chronic exposure to mercury, particularly from teething powders that contained mercury-based antiseptics.

## Symptoms and Diagnosis

The symptoms of Acrodynia include pink discoloration of the hands and feet, severe itching, irritability, high blood pressure, and rapid pulse. The diagnosis is typically based on the presence of these symptoms, along with a history of mercury exposure.

## Treatment and Prognosis

The primary treatment for Acrodynia is the removal of the source of mercury exposure. In some cases, chelation therapy may be used to remove mercury from the body. The prognosis for Acrodynia is generally good, with most children recovering completely once the source of mercury exposure is removed.

## Mercury Exposure in the Workplace

Mercury is used in various industries, including manufacturing and healthcare. Workers in these industries may be at risk of mercury exposure, which can lead to conditions like Acrodynia. Employers should implement safety measures to minimize this risk, such as proper ventilation, protective clothing, and regular health checks.

## Prevention

Prevention of Acrodynia involves avoiding exposure to mercury, particularly in children. This includes avoiding the use of mercury-containing products and ensuring that homes and environments are free from mercury contamination.

## Conclusion

While Acrodynia is a rare condition, it serves as a reminder of the potential dangers of mercury exposure. By being aware of the sources of mercury and taking steps to avoid exposure, it is possible

to prevent this condition.

## CATEGORY

1. Health

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1. Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (CoSHH) 2002
2. CoSHH Assessments
3. Diagnosis
4. Dust
5. Exposure Monitoring
6. Health
7. Manufacturing Sector
8. Occupational Illness and Disease
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