# \* What's New in Psoriasis

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- \*7 million people in the US have psoriasis
- \*About 30 percent of patients experience joint pains called psoriatic arthritis
- \*It occurs in all age groups but it peaks at 20's and 40's
- \*There are several subtypes: plaque, inverse, erythrodermic, pustular, guttate, scalp and nail disease



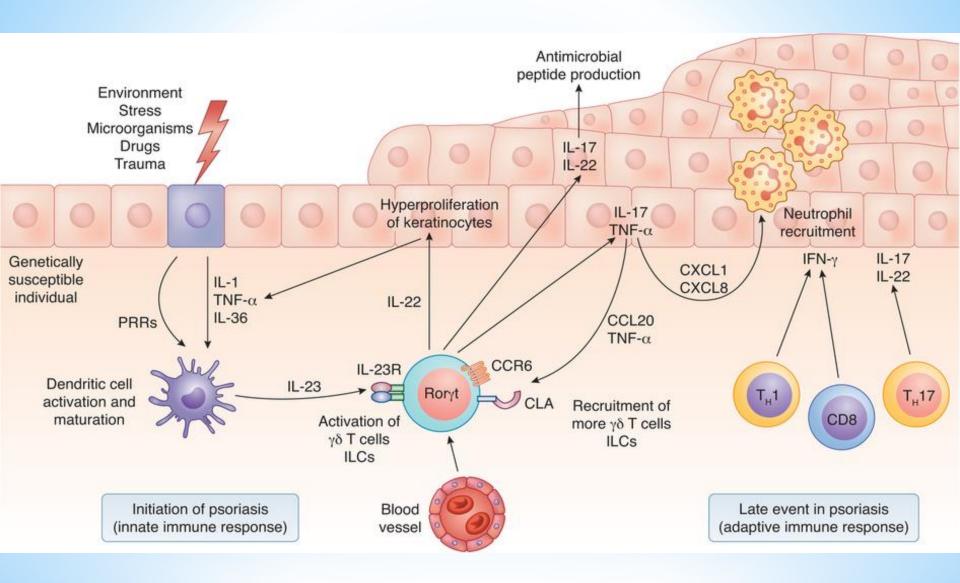
\*Other diseases that psoriasis patients are more likely to get include: Inflammatory bowel disease, diabetes, lymphoma, heart disease and depression

\*The incidence of Crohn's disease and UC is 4-7.5 times greater than general population



### **Risk Factors**

- Family history
- Viral bacterial infection
- Stress
- Obesity
- Smoking







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\*Topicals:

\* Topical steroids: creams, ointments, foams, lotions, sprays

\* Topical Vitamin D products

\* Tar, salicyclic acid

\* Topical Vitamin A: Tazorac

\* Topical emollients/moisturizers



#### \*Methotrexate

- \* Pros: oral drug that is taken once weekly, cheap, easy to fill at pharmacy, been around a long time in dermatology world, works on skin and joints
- \* Cons: Category X medication, requires a lot of bloodwork to check Liver function and WBC count, cannot take for prolonged periods of time (greater than 2 years without taking a break), GI side effects, slow to work

## \*Oral treatments

- \*Pros: oral drug, generic now so cost is better than was before, great for thick plaques on scalps, palms, and soles
- \*Cons: Category X medication-cannot donate blood for 3 years or longer, very slow to work, requires bloodwork to check Liver function and raises Triglycerides, dries out lips and skin; doesn't help joint pain/arthritis



- \*Pros:Newest oral on market, Category C medication, comes as starter pack that you titrate up to twice daily, works on skin and joints, requires no bloodwork monitoring, no risk of cancer or infections
- \*Cons: Expensive, some insurances require "failing" other drugs before you can take, GI side effects at beginning



- \*Enbrel: a TNF alpha receptor blocker, good long term safety data; requires PPD to check for TB, Hepatitis B and C infections, self injections twice a week for 3 months then once a week to maintain
- \*Humira: TNF alpha antibody inhibitor, same workup as Enbrel, Shots are only twice a month, good long term safety data
- \*Stelera: IL 12/23 blocker: injection that is given at the doctors office every 3 months



\*Cosentyx: Newest drug for psoriasis on the market. It is an IL 17 A antibody blocker; injections are once weekly x 5 weeks then once a month; same monitoring as Enbrel and Humira; expensive and some have to fail other biologics before can get medication



- \*PUVA-old treatment, was effective but long term use has caused skin cancers in patients
- \*Narrow band UVB therapy: much better targeted for psoriasis with little side effectsused to treat vitiligo and atopic dermatitis too

Can do in doctors office 3 times a week of get home unit with National Biological-fill out insurance paperwork to see if can get it

### \*Light therapy