Curriculum Development
Centers Program

Awardee of The Office of the National Coordinator for
Health Information Technology

Component 3-Terminology in Healthcare and Public Health Settings

Unit 2-Integumentary System

This material was developed by The University of Alabama at Birmingham, funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology under Award Number 1U24OC000023.

Integumentary System

- Objectives
  - Define, understand and correctly pronounce medical terms related to the integumentary system
  - Describe the following related to the integumentary system
    - common diseases and conditions
    - laboratory and diagnostic procedures
    - medical and surgical procedures
    - medications

Component 3/Unit 2   Health IT Workforce Curriculum
                            Version 2.0/Spring 2011   2

Integumentary System Overview

- Organs of the integumentary system
  - Skin
  - Hair
  - Nails
  - Sebaceous glands
  - Sweat glands

Component 3/Unit 2   Health IT Workforce Curriculum
                            Version 2.0/Spring 2011   3

Integumentary System Overview

• Covers the entire surface of the body

• Functions
  – Protects against infection
  – Houses nerve receptors
  – Secretes fluids
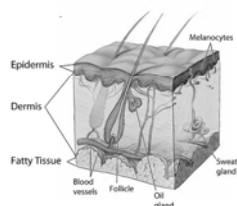 – Regulates temperature

The Skin

• Three layers
  – **Epidermis** – thin, outer membrane layer
  – **Dermis** – middle, fibrous connective tissue layer
  – **Subcutaneous layer** – inner most layer of fatty tissue

Accessory Organs

• Located within dermis
• Include:
  – Hair
  – Nails
  – Sweat glands
  – Sebaceous glands

Burns

- There are three types of burns:
  - First-degree burns damage only the outer layer of skin
  - Second-degree burns damage the outer layer and the layer underneath
  - Third-degree burns damage or destroy the deepest layer of skin and tissues underneath
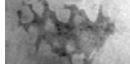
Skin Cancer

- Most common form of cancer in the US
  - Common types
    - basal cell cancer
    - squamous cell cancer
  - Location
    - head, face, neck, hands and arms
  - Melanoma
    - more dangerous
    - less common

Skin Cancer

- Anyone can get skin cancer, but it is more common in people who
  - Spend a lot of time in the sun
  - Have been sunburned
  - Have light-colored skin, hair and eyes
  - Have a family member with skin cancer
  - Are over age 50

Wounds

- Include cuts, scrapes, scratches and punctured skin
- Often occur as a result of:
  - an accident or injury
  - surgical incisions
  - sutures
  - stitches
- Minor wounds usually aren't serious, but even cuts and scrapes require care.

Common Hair Problems

- Include hair loss, infections, and disorders causing itching and scaling
- Hair loss (alopecia) is a frequent concern for both men and women.
  - Male pattern baldness
    - most common cause of hair loss in men
    - receding hair line
    - baldness on the top of the head
  - Female pattern baldness
    - hair becomes thin over the entire scalp

Common Hair Problems

- Infections of the scalp
  - bacterial infection of hair follicles
  - infestation of head lice
  - fungal infection of scalp or ringworm
- Itching and excessive flaking of the scalp
  - dandruff
  - psoriasis

Problems With Nails

- Clue to your overall health
- Healthy nails
  - smooth
  - consistent in color
- Specific types of nail discoloration and changes in growth rate can signal
  - lung, heart, kidney and liver diseases
  - diabetes and anemia

Integumentary System Combining Forms

- cry/o   cold   cryosurgery
- cutane/o   skin   cutaneous
- derm/o   skin   dermatitis
- kerat/o   hard, horny   keratosis
- lip/o   fat   liposuction
- py/o   pus   pyogenic

Tell me, Detective . . .

- Jane is seen in the ER with skin on her arm that is red, swollen, painful, and blanches when touched. The skin has also developed oozing blisters. This is indicative of

  - First-degree burns
  - Second-degree burns
  - Third-degree burns

For additional information on content covered in this unit, please visit:

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/skinhairandnails.html

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____