

Recent findings on the mechanisms of allergic itch

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Although allergic itch is generally thought to be mediated by histamine released from mast cells, itch of many dermatologic diseases except acute urticaria responds poorly to H₁ histamine receptor antagonists. Using mouse models of itch of cutaneous and conjunctival allergy, we have found that not only IgE but also IgG is involved in allergic itch and that the roles of IgE, IgG, histamine and protease in itch are different between cutaneous and conjunctival allergy. Since the mechanisms of allergic itch are different between the skin and conjunctiva (mucous), it is necessary to consider different remedies. In this symposium, we talk about current findings in the allergic itch and consider the medication of allergic itch.