

NOTE ON PSORIASIS

Concordance in monozygous twins

F. RAY BETTLEY*

In 1962 the author reported a case of discordance of Psoriasis in monozygous twins (1). Up to that time, 16 cases of psoriasis in monozygous twins had been recorded.

To accumulate adequate data for genetic analysis it is desirable to report as many cases as possible. The following instance of concordance in monozygous twins is now reported.

Case Report

History

These twins were born on the 25th October 1919. They were brought up together and had the same childhood ailments at the same times. One of the twins (C.H.) married at the age of 18 and left home. The other twin (F.W.) remained at home until the age of 23 when she also married. Since that time the two sisters lived about five miles apart, seeing each other very frequently. They each have three children. C.H. had empyema 1960, cholecystectomy 1964, menopause 1960. F.W. has had no previous notable illness, no menopause.

Blood groups confirm that they are identical twins.

Psoriasis

C.H. developed psoriasis in 1956 at the age of 37. This was treated with an ointment, cleared up and has never recurred. F.W. developed psoriasis in 1965 at the age of 45 which cleared up after a few months. In 1967 (three months ago) the psoriasis recurred, producing profuse eruption on the limbs and trunk.

C.H. is happily married with no family stresses. F.W. has extreme continuing family trouble.

The medical and social lives of these sisters are closely similar but F.W. has a very unhappy marriage, which gives rise to constant severe emotional upset. It is perhaps because of this that her psoriasis, originally as mild as that of her sister, has now become active and extensive.

REFERENCE

1. Bettley, F. Ray: *Acta derm.-venereol.* 42: 248, 1962.

* The author's address: 10 Harley Street, London W. 1, England.