

A RASH WITH MANY FACES

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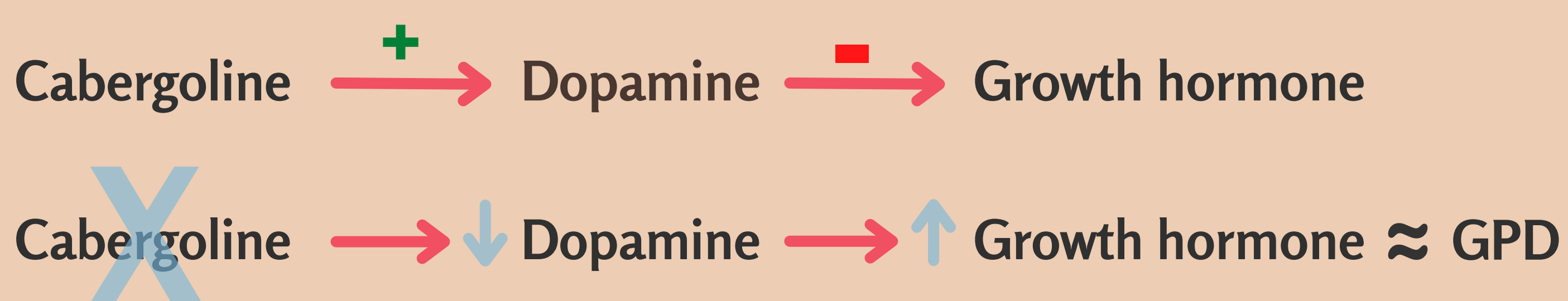
A 32-year old pregnant Caucasian woman consulted with a slightly itching rash on the cheeks. This started one week after she stopped cabergoline which she was taking for a prolactinoma. At first glance the clinical examination showed a demarcated erythema with scales around the mouth and nose.



A more detailed inspection revealed multiple skin coloured papules located on the cheeks and neck. A biopsy showed a perifollicular granulomatous dermatitis. The diagnosis of a granulomatous periorificial dermatitis (GPD) was made. A treatment with topical erythromycin and mometasone furoate creme improved the lesions

The pathogenesis of GPD is unknown. It is hypothesized that it is an inflammatory reaction to external agents which leads to a granulomatous reaction. In recent years two cases showed an association with growth hormone therapy. Cabergoline is a dopamine agonist that suppresses growth hormone. Our patient reported cessation of cabergoline intake 1 week prior to her rash. This may have triggered a feedback loop which led to an increase of growth hormone and subsequently to GPD.

Cessation of Cabergoline



GPD is a granulomatous subset of perioral dermatitis with unknown etiology. The symptoms mimic perioral dermatitis, seborrheic dermatitis, granulomatous rosacea, cutaneous sarcoidosis and lupus miliaris disseminatus faciei. In contrast to a perioral dermatitis, GPD also affects the skin bordering the lips. GPD distinguishes itself from a seborrheic dermatitis by an absence of symptoms around the eyebrows and scalp.

ETYMOLOGY

FACE
Facial Afro-Caribbean
Eruption of Childhood

Presence in
caucasians

GPDC
Granulomatous
Periorificial Dermatitis
of Childhood

Presence in
adults

GPD
Granulomatous
Periorificial Dermatitis

Extrafacial
manifestations

GPD
Granulomatous Periorificial
Dermatitis with extrafacial
manifestations



TAKE HOME MESSAGES

GPD is not limited
to children or
Afro-Carribeans



Growth hormone
may trigger GPD



Benign disease: no
further investigations
are needed



Pimecrolimus
Tacrolimus
Erythromycin
Metronidazol



Tetracycline
Doxycycline
Clarithromycin
Erythromycin
Isotretinoin

