



ASPIRE[®]

DERMATOLOGY



Understanding Skin Infections:

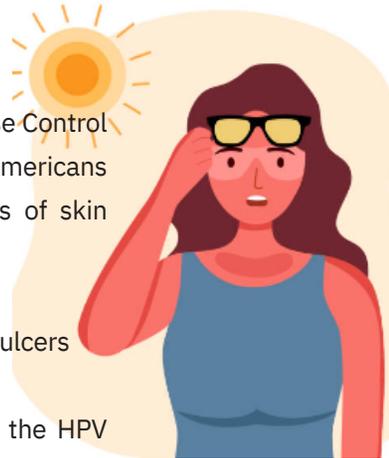
As an exposed organ, the skin is vulnerable to infections just like any other body organ—perhaps even more so due to constant exposure to external elements. Skin can be affected by burns, sun damage, cuts, wounds, chemical irritants, fungi, and bacteria. When the skin is infected, cells become overwhelmed and damaged, leading to symptoms such as sores, bleeding, pain, swelling, and fluid buildup.



Causes

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, around 44.6% of Americans experience skin infections. Causes of skin infections include:

- Severe burns or sunburns
- Scratching or irritating sores or ulcers
- Staphylococcus aureus
- Warts (an infection caused by the HPV virus)
- Ringworm
- Impetigo
- Eczema
- Shingles
- Scabies
- Measles or chickenpox



Treatment

Treatment typically involves antibiotics, antifungals, or antiviral medications (oral or topical) that can clear up a skin infection within days. In some cases, dermatologists at Aspire Dermatology, with 12 offices throughout Rhode Island, may need to remove abscesses, sores, or infected skin cells to promote healing from skin infections, severe burns, or sunburns.



Like any infection, a skin infection can lead to more serious health issues if left untreated, especially if it spreads throughout the body.

Learn about the causes of skin infections, including severe burns and sunburns, and seek immediate treatment at Aspire Dermatology, with offices throughout Rhode Island.