

A case of contact dermatitis due to green bean

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Editor,

Beans are the basic food for human beings. Allergic reaction to beans is not common. However, it is possible since there are many proteins in the beans. Here, the author would like to introduce a case of contact dermatitis due to green bean. A case of 23 year old female patient presented to the physician complaining of itching sensation at both hands. The symptom occurred after she performed hand squeezing on the green beans in distilled water. The patient gave no previous history of allergy to bean. On examination, both of the patient's hands showed scaly erythematous plaques. The primary presumptive diagnosis is the contact dermatitis to green bean. This case was prescribed for antihistamine drug and topical steroid (0.1% Triamcinolone acetonide lotion) and the symptoms disappeared within a day. The patient performed self-trial of exposure to distilled water and there was no symptom. However, when she performed additional trial by squeezing green beans in distilled water again, she developed symptom and has to visit to the physician again. She repeatedly performed this self-trial for 3 times. Although this case did not agree for having skin biopsy or other sero-immunodiagnoses, the repeated exposure to the bean by the mean of skin rubbing provocative action for several times lead to the same dermatological presentation. Hence, this case was finally diagnosed to be a case of contact dermatitis due to green bean. Generally, green bean is seldom reported as an allergen. However, green bean as food allergen is uncommon¹.

The non-specific lipid transfer protein (Pha v 3) of green bean is identified as the main inducer of

allergic reaction². In some rare cases, the induction of asthma and rhinitis is reported³. Nevertheless, the allergic dermatitis is more extremely rare⁴. Hence, this case report is a very rare case to be documented.

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Erratum

The author names of article "Malva Sylvestris in the treatment of hand eczema. Vol. 13, No. 54, winter 2010" is corrected as follows:

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