

Oscar

Oscar has eczema a condition which causes the skin to become itchy, red and cracked. Oscar's specific type of eczema is called discoid eczema which can be particularly stubborn and difficult to bring a prolonged resolution. Eczema occurs in approximately 10 to 20 percent of children and can be misunderstood.

19 month old Oscar, who lives in Skelmersdale with his family, was diagnosed with eczema in January 2019. Oscar's parents had noticed he was developing a rash on his face which was getting progressively worse and spreading across the body. They took Oscar to his GP but it was difficult to diagnose and the various creams and antibiotics weren't working. He was then referred to the dermatology team at Alder Hey where they knew exactly what he had and what to do.

For six weeks Oscar attended the dressing clinic three times a week to be wrapped in bandages to help manage the condition and the itching and he still attends clinic regularly for check-ups. This is a condition Oscar will have until he is a teenager and the effects need to be managed with steroids, patches and regular moisturising.

Amy and Hannah are dermatology nurses at Alder Hey and have played a big part in Oscar's treatment and also helping mum Amy understand how common eczema is and how to manage it better.

Amy said "At first, because we didn't know the cause of his condition, we felt so helpless. We were worried sick and tried everything we could to ease his symptoms from trying lots of different diets, putting cream on him every ten minutes to even sleeping in our caravan in the garden in case it was something in the house. It was heart-breaking as friends and family wouldn't let their children near him to play as they thought their child might catch something.

"It was a relief to come to Alder Hey as the team, especially Amy and Hannah who saw him regularly, were really kind and professional and we felt immediately reassured that they knew what they were doing and how to help Oscar. He still has flare ups but we know how to manage them now, largely due to the outstanding care we received at Alder Hey."

Eczema hasn't stopped Oscar from enjoying life! Oscar is really creative and loves singing and dancing and the Gruffalo!