# Article information:

Staphylococcus epidermidis protease EcpA can be a deleterious component of the skin microbiome in atopic dermatitis - PMC  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8058862/>

# Article summary:

1. Staphylococcus epidermidis is a common commensal bacterium found on the skin of patients with atopic dermatitis (AD).

2. This study hypothesized that S epidermidis could promote skin damage in AD by the production of a protease that damages the epidermal barrier.

3. The enzyme responsible for this activity was identified as EcpA, a cysteine protease under quorum sensing control, which was shown to degrade desmoglein-1 and LL-37 in vitro, disrupt the physical barrier, and induce skin inflammation in mice.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

This article provides an overview of research into Staphylococcus epidermidis (S epidermidis) and its potential role in promoting skin damage in atopic dermatitis (AD). The authors present evidence that S epidermidis can produce a cysteine protease called EcpA which can degrade desmoglein-1 and LL-37 in vitro, disrupt the physical barrier, and induce skin inflammation in mice. They also provide evidence that the abundance of S epidermidis and expression of ecpA mRNA are increased on the skin of some patients with AD, and this correlates with disease severity.

The article is generally well written and provides a comprehensive overview of the research conducted. It is clear that the authors have conducted extensive research into this topic and have presented their findings clearly. However, there are some potential biases or missing points of consideration which should be noted. For example, while the authors note that S epidermidis has been considered beneficial to human health when present on the skin, they do not explore any potential risks associated with its overabundance or expression of EcpA on AD patients’ skin. Additionally, while they note that another commensal species – Staphylococcus hominis – can inhibit EcpA production by S epidermidis, they do not explore any other potential treatments or interventions which could reduce its effects on AD patients’ skin.

In conclusion, this article provides an informative overview of research into S epidermidis and its potential role in promoting skin damage in AD patients. While it is generally well written and presents its findings clearly, there are some potential biases or missing points of consideration which should be noted before drawing any conclusions from this research.

# Topics for further research:

* Atopic dermatitis treatments
* Staphylococcus hominis role in skin health
* Desmoglein-1 degradation
* LL-37 degradation
* Skin barrier disruption
* Cysteine protease inhibitors

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/f05e006529fea6098070855c521a99f7>