

Mayo Clinic Minute

Protecting babies from eczema risk

VIDEO	AUDIO
Graphic: Eczema 3 in 10 kids	This little guy has a rash called eczema or atopic dermatitis – an immune sensitivity disease that affects as many as 30 percent of children.
Title: DAWN DAVIS, M.D. DERMATOLOGY Mayo Clinic	“And the immune system cells secrete a lot of irritating and acidic proteins that cause the skin to break down.”
Graphic: Arms Legs Hands Feet Face	The result is a rash that may form in the bends of a child’s arms and legs, on his hands, feet or face.
	“Atopic dermatitis is not a disease that we can cure.”
.	But Mayo Clinic pediatric dermatologist Dr. Dawn Davis says new research shows eczema can be controlled or reduced through regular moisturizing.
	“The most highly recommended product is petroleum jelly.”
Graphic: Petroleum jelly 6 months	A recent study concluded that daily application of simple petroleum jelly for the first six months of a child’s life can reduce the risk for eczema.
	“People want a magic wand, and, unfortunately, it’s not like that.”
	However, Dr. Davis says daily moisturizing with petroleum jelly is an easy, affordable way to offer more protection against the rash and itch of eczema.
Graphic: newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jeff Olsen.