

Mayo Clinic News Network

Sun Allergy

Video

Audio

<p>Vivien Williams</p>	<p>This time of year, many of us head outside to enjoy the sunshine. Now, we all know it's important to wear sunscreen to prevent sunburn, which is linked to skin cancer. But, Mayo Clinic dermatologist Dr. Dawn Davis says there are other issues that can happen from being in the sun that you might not know about.</p>
<p>Dawn Davis, M.D. Dermatology Mayo Clinic</p>	<p>"The sun is an immune system stimulant. It is technically toxic to the skin and irritates the skin."</p>
<p>Vivien Williams</p>	<p>It can trigger what's called polymorphic light eruption, which can cause a nasty rash. It's like an allergic reaction. Also, sun can interact with stuff on your skin, such as perfume or spilled citrus juice, and cause what looks like a burn or sting.</p>
<p>Dawn Davis, M.D.</p>	<p>"Phytophoto dermatitis, which is a chemical toxic reaction to the skin, which gives your skin a chemical burn."</p>
<p>Vivien Williams</p>	<p>Ouch. So, be careful, because the sun can cause more trouble than just sunburn. For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Vivien Williams.</p>