Table 1

UK Working Party diagnostic criteria for atopic eczema[7]

The patient must report an itchy skin condition (or parental report of scratching or rubbing in a child) in the past 12 months, plus three or more of the following:

- History of involvement of the skin creases (front of elbows, behind knees, front of ankles, around neck or around eyes)
- Personal history of asthma or hayfever (or history of atopic disease in first-degree relative if child aged under four years)
- A history of generally dry skin in the past year
- Onset under the age of two years (not used if child aged under four years)
- Visible flexural dermatitis (including dermatitis affecting cheeks or forehead and outer aspects of limbs in children under four years)