

Case 1

A 17-year-old boy was referred by his GP for advice on the management of his psoriasis, which had been a particular problem for four months.

The patient mentioned in passing that he was very itchy, and further questioning established that the itch was worse at night and spared his head.

Examination confirmed typical localised plaque psoriasis, and revealed a maculopapular eruption on his trunk (see figure 1, p23), burrows on his hands (see figure 2, opposite and figure 7, p26) and a scabetic nodule on his penile shaft.

Treatment with topical permethrin was recommended, in addition to standard topical therapy of his psoriasis.