# **Allergic Reactions**

### What is it?

• **Dermatitis**- chronic itching, hypersensitivity to an unknown component in one's blood though to be caused by the transmission of antibodies from an allergic donor or antigens recently acquired.

## Signs and Symptoms:

- <u>Allergic Reactions</u>- usually mild, dizziness, headache, edema/fluid retention and less frequent are wheezing, incontinence and rarely anaphylactic shock.
- <u>Skin</u>-may have oozing, crusting, scaling, and erythema.

#### Facts:

- <u>Human Skin</u> often able to resist the harmful effects but increasing the thickness. Examples:
  - Fruits and Vegetables- Onions and Citrus Fruits
  - Plants- Poison Oak, Ivy and Sumac, Ragweed, Primrose, wild Parsnip, Chrysanthemum, Tropical varieties of trees as Balsa, Teak, Kapok, Mahogany, white pine, and Japanese lacquer.
  - **Fabrics** as Silk, wood, leather, fur, synthetic fibers, and dyes.
  - Household Items- Waxes, polishes, detergents, and metals especially Nickel.
  - Chemicals- Mercury, p-phenylenediamine and pyrethrum
  - **Medicines/Drugs** Streptpmycin, antihistimines, sulfonamides, pencillin, and phenothiazines.



• **Cosmetics/Makeup**- bleaches, tonics, deodorants, hair dyes, nail polishes and depilatories.

#### What can I do?

- See your Health Care Provider- usually give an antihistamine
- See a Registered Dietitian for help as needed
- See FFF RD- on line for help



