Fifth Disease and Roseola

The fifth and sixth classic exanthems: slapped cheeks, and rash after the fever

5th

Fifth disease: erythema infectiosum

parvovirus B19 · "slapped cheeks" · lacy (reticulated) rash on trunk and limbs · afebrile, mildly ill child

6th

Sixth disease: roseola (exanthem subitum)

HHV-6 · about 3 days of high fever · the rash appears as the fever resolves · good general state

B19

Why parvovirus B19 matters

aplastic crisis in hemolytic anemias (sickle cell disease, spherocytosis) · fetal hydrops in pregnancy

Tx

Treatment

both are viral: supportive care, no antibiotics · HHV-6 is a frequent cause of febrile seizures in infants

Slapped cheeks
Parvovirus B19

Fever, then rash
Roseola (HHV-6)

Pregnancy
or hemolytic anemia: parvovirus B19 risk

In roseola the rash appears when the fever has already gone down