Think the Worst With Neontal Vesicles, Pustules

BY SHERRY BOSCHERT
San Francisco Bureau

SAN FRANCISCO — When pediatricians call in dermatologists to assess neonatal vesiculopustular eruptions, what they're really asking is, "Could it be herpes?" said Dr. Ilona J. Frieden.

The herpesvirus family contains an immune-compromised host, and consider the worst possible diagnosis, she advised at a meet-

Think of infection first, but don't stop there, because more than 25 other condi-
tions can cause vesicles and pustules on the skin. "This is something that pediatri-
cians call us about most often—children who have vesiculopustular eruptions," said Dr. Frieden, professor of dermatology and pe-
diatrics at the University of California, San Francisco.

Herpes simplex virus infection in neonates is rare but devastating. The les-
sions can look like typical herpes lesions

Vaccination Technique, Adolescents’ Weight Should Influence Choice of Needle Length

BY BRUCE K. DIXON
Chicago Bureau

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The Red Book makes needle length recom-

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born, or neoplastic-infiltrative diseases such as

cerebral toxoplasmosis. Among infections, the most common cause of "blueberry muffin babies" is cytomegalovirus, but any infection can be the cause, including par-

herpes simplex virus. "This is appropriate for adolescents weighing less than 132 pounds," she said. Langerhans cell histiocytosis can pro-
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