

	Systemic
	Subacute cutaneous
	Discoid
	Dermatomyositis
	Herpes simplex
	Lichen planus actinicus
	Acne vulgaris (aestivale)

Polymorphous Light Eruption The most common type of photosensitivity disease is *polymorphous light eruption* (PMLE). Many affected individuals may never seek medical attention because the condition is often transient, becoming manifest in the spring with initial sun exposure but then subsiding spontaneously with continuing exposure, a phenomenon known as “hardening.” The major manifestations of PMLE include (often intensely) pruritic erythematous papules that may coalesce into plaques in a patchy distribution on exposed areas of the trunk and forearms. The face is usually less affected. Whereas the morphologic skin findings remain similar for each patient with subsequent recurrences, significant interindividual variations in skin findings are characteristic (hence the term *polymorphous*).

A skin biopsy and phototest procedures in which skin is exposed to multiple erythematous doses of UV-A and UV-B may aid in the diagnosis. The action spectrum for PMLE is usually within these portions of the solar spectrum.

Whereas the treatment of an acute flare of PMLE may require topical or systemic glucocorticoids, approaches to preventing PMLE are important and include the use of high-SPF broad-spectrum sunscreens as well as the induction of “hardening” by the cautious administration of artificial UV-B (broad-band or narrow-band) and/or UV-A radiation or the use of psoralen plus UV-A (PUVA) photochemotherapy for ~4 weeks before initial sun exposure. Such prophylactic phototherapy or photochemotherapy at the beginning of spring may prevent the occurrence of PMLE throughout the summer.

Actinic prurigo is a photo-induced pruritic eruption that shares similarities with PMLE and often occurs in the spring; however, it can persist throughout the summer and extend into the winter months.