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Pruritus is the medical term for itching, which is a sensation that prompts a person to scratch or rub their skin to alleviate discomfort. Pruritus can occur anywhere on the body and can be either acute (short-term) or chronic (long-term). It can also range in severity from mild to severe and can interfere with daily activities and sleep.

Pruritus can be caused by a wide range of factors, including skin conditions such as dermatitis, eczema, or psoriasis, as well as systemic conditions such as liver or kidney disease, diabetes, or certain types of cancer. It can also be a side effect of medications or a symptom of certain infections.

Treatment for pruritus depends on the underlying cause, but may include topical or oral medications to relieve itching, as well as management of any underlying medical conditions. In some cases, lifestyle changes such as avoiding irritants or using gentle skincare products may also help to alleviate pruritus.

Overall, pruritus can be a distressing and uncomfortable symptom, and it is important to seek medical attention if it is severe, persistent, or accompanied by other symptoms such as rash, fever, or swelling.

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