# Skin

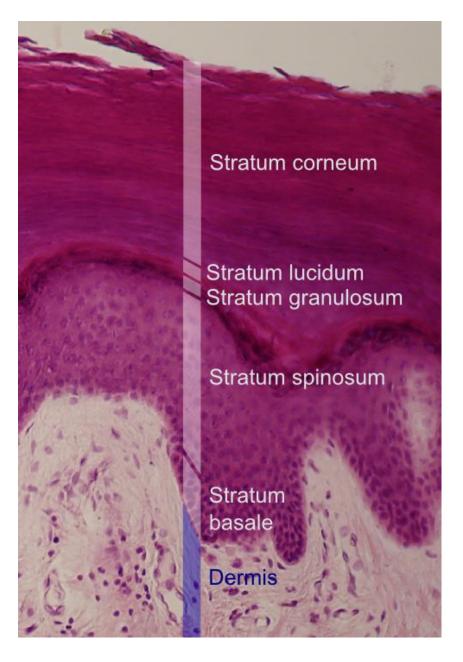
Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



### Skin

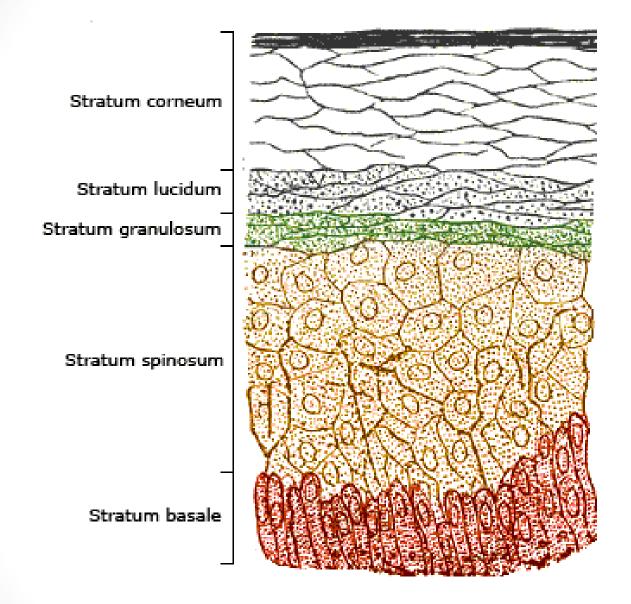
- Largest organ in the body
- Barrier against infection
- Prevents water loss
- Three layers
  - Epidermis: keratinocytes (squamous epithelial cells)
  - Dermis: connective tissue, vessels
  - Subcutaneous fat (also called hypodermis or subcutis)





Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



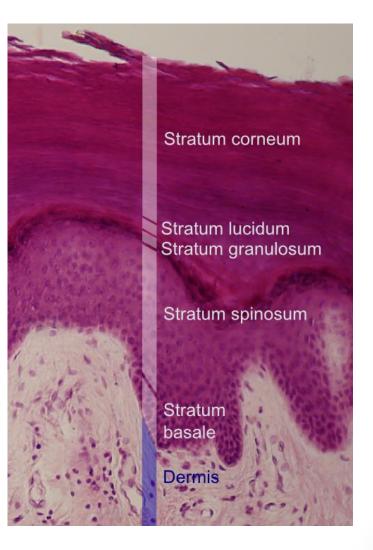


Wikipedia/Public Domain



# **Epidermal Layers**

- Stratum Basalis
  - Stem cells
- Stratum Spinosum
  - **Desmosomes** form spines
- Stratum Granulosum
  - Keratohyalin granules
  - Form keratin filaments

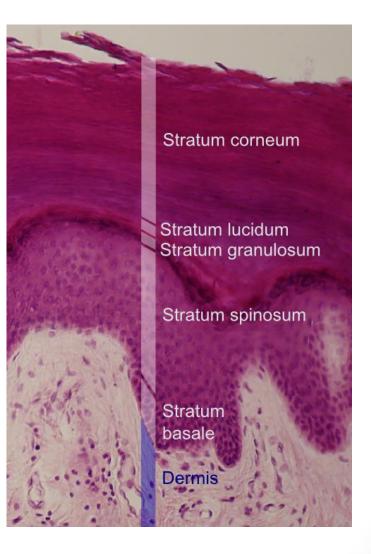


Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



# **Epidermal Layers**

- Stratum Lucidum
  - Clear layer of dead skin cells
- Stratum Corneum
  - Anucleated cells
  - Filled with keratin filaments

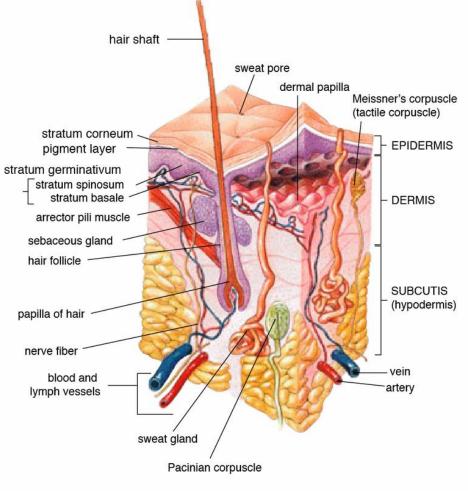


Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



### Dermis

- Connective tissue
- Blood vessels



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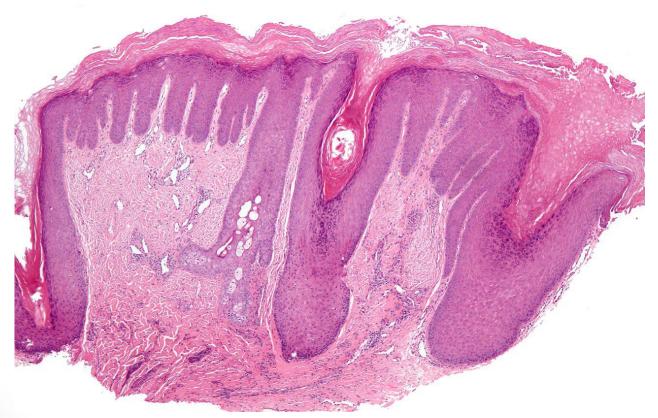
## Dermatopathology

- Terms used to describe microscopic findings
- Used in analysis of skin biopsies
- Hyperkeratosis
- Parakeratosis
- Hypergranulosis
- Spongiosis
- Acantholysis
- Acanthosis



# Hyperkeratosis

- Thickening of **stratum corneum**
- Excess quantity of keratin





Nephron/Wikipedia

## Hyperkeratosis

#### Psoriasis



Eisfelder/Wikipedia

Callus

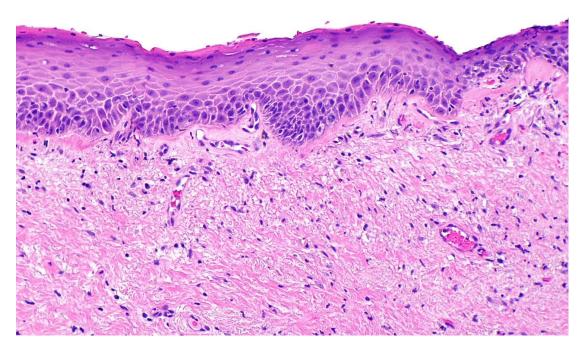


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### Parakeratosis

- Hyperkeratosis + **retained nuclei** in stratum corneum
- Indicates hyperproliferation
- Seen in skin diseases (psoriasis) and malignancies

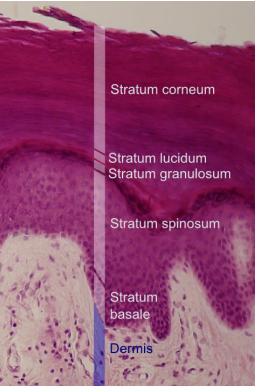




Nephron/Wikipedia

# Hypergranulosis

- Increased thickness of stratum granulosum
- Classic finding in lichen planus

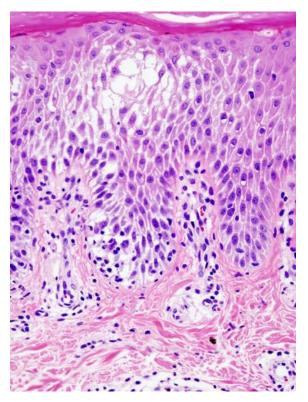


Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



# Spongiosis

- Fluid accumulation (edema) of epidermis
- Seen in eczema, many other skin disorders

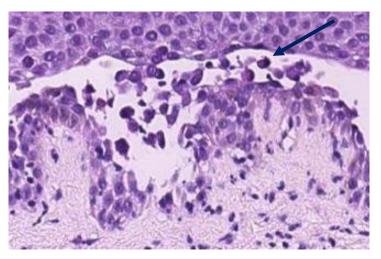




KGH/Wikipedia

# Acantholysis

- Loss of connections between keratinocyte
- Often loss of desmosomes
- "Rounded" keratinocytes
- Detached, floating freely in epidermis
- Key feature of **pemphigus vulgaris**

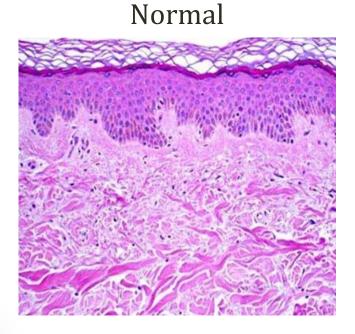




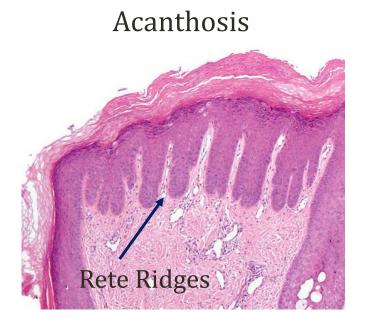
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### Acanthosis

- Diffuse epidermal hyperplasia
- Elongated rete ridges
- Spinous layer thickening



Public Domain



Nephron/Wikipedia



# Acanthosis Nigricans

- Nigricans = darkened
- Hyperpigmented (dark) plaques on skin
- Intertriginous sites (folds)
- Classically neck and axillae
- Associated with insulin resistance
  - Often seen obesity, diabetes
- Rarely associated with malignancy
  - Gastric adenocarcinoma most common



Madhero88/Dermnet.com



### **Skin Lesions**

#### Primary lesions

- Directly caused by disease process
- Described using standard terminology
- Macules, papules, vesicles, bulla

#### Secondary lesions

- Modification of primary lesion
- Or caused by trauma, external factors
- Scale, crust, erosion, fissure, ulcer



### **Macules and Patches**

- Flat lesions (not raised)
- Macule: <1cm
- Patch: >1cm

Freckle (macule)



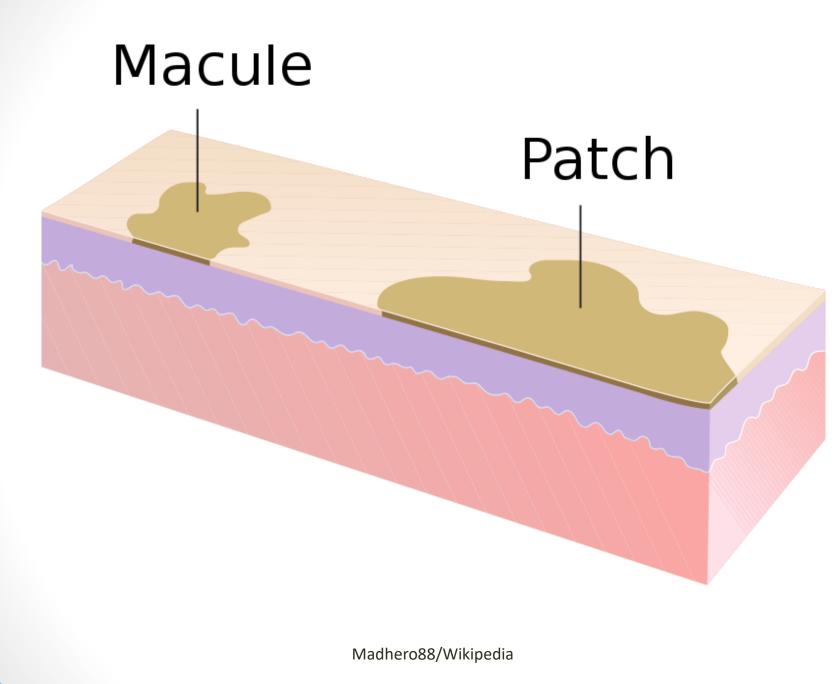
Loyna/Wikipedia

#### Stork Bite Birthmark (Patch)



Abigail Batchelder/Flikr







## **Papules and Plaques**

- Raised lesions
- Papule: <1cm</li>
- Plaque: >1cm

Mole/nevus (papule)



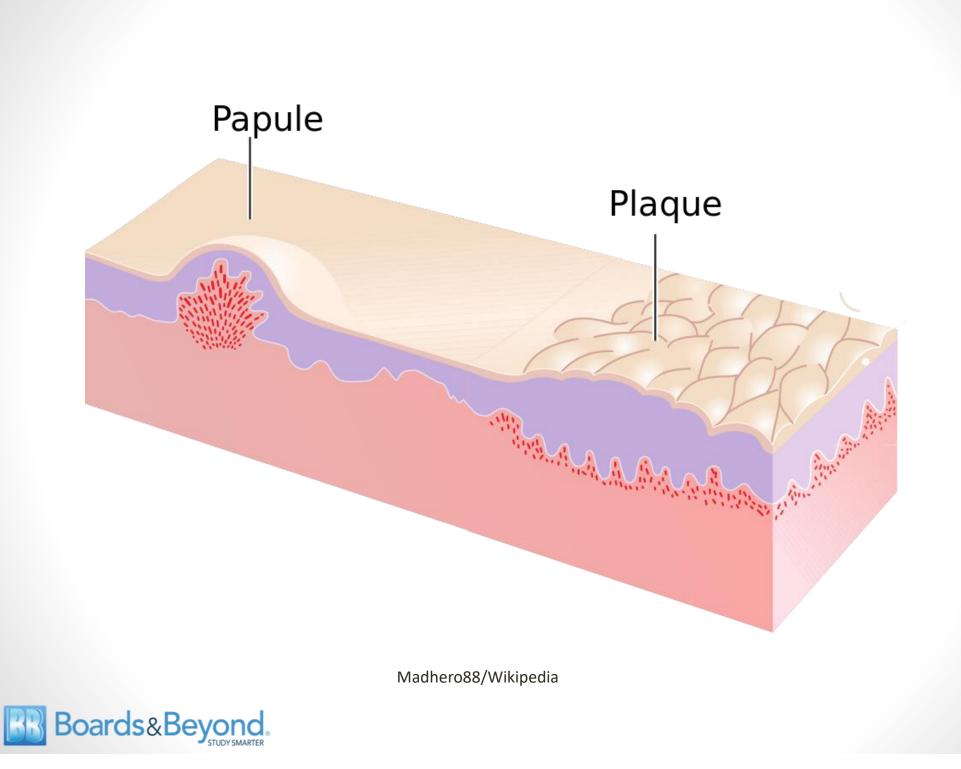
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#### Psoriasis (plaque)



James Heilman, MD/Wikipedia



# Maculopapular Rash

- Collection of small skin lesions
- Some flat (macules)
- Some raised (papules)
- "Morbilliform" looks like measles
- Common in many disorders
  - Drug rash
  - Scarlet fever
  - Syphilis
  - Rubella



Public Domain



### Vesicles and Bulla

- Fluid-filled lesions (blisters)
- Vesicle: <1cm
- Bulla (plural = bullae): >1cm

Chickenpox (vesicles)

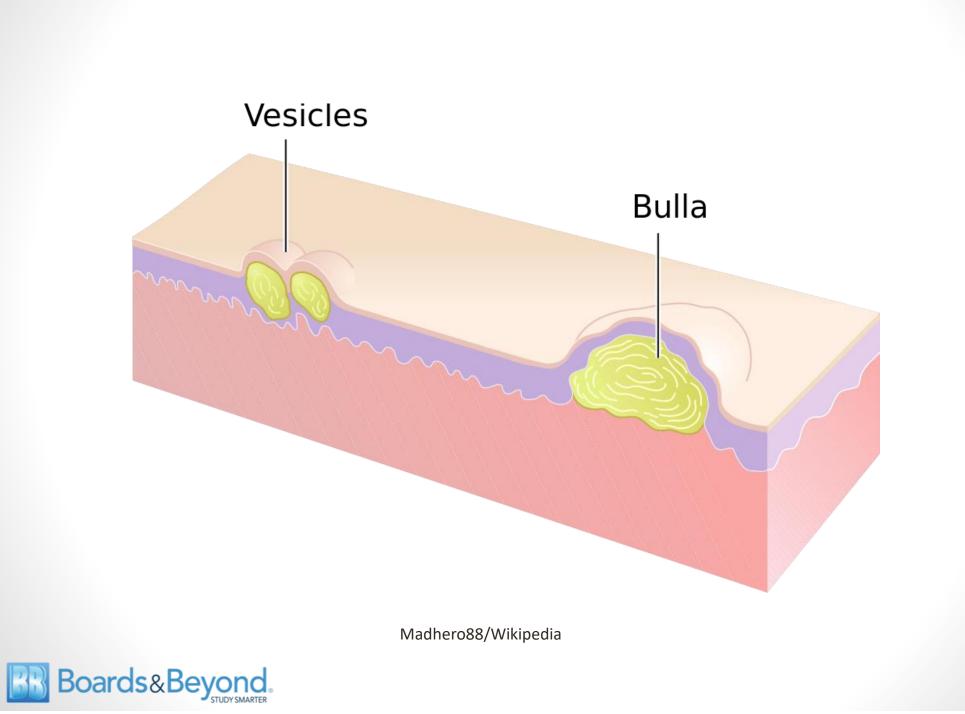


#### Bullous pemphigoid (bulla)





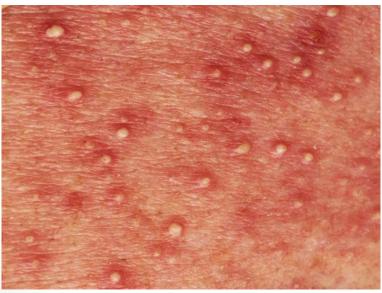
S. Murthy/Slideshare



### Pustule

- Pus-filled vesicle
- White center

#### Pustular psoriasis



Public Domain





Wikipedia/Public Domain



### Wheal

- Smooth, elevated papule or plaque
- Surrounded by erythema (redness)
- Itchy
- Caused by dermal edema
- Component of urticaria (allergic reaction)





Public Domain

### Scale

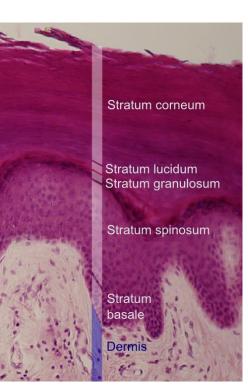
- Secondary lesion
- Peeling/flaking of stratum corneum

#### Psoriasis



Eisfelder/Wikipedia





Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia

### Crust

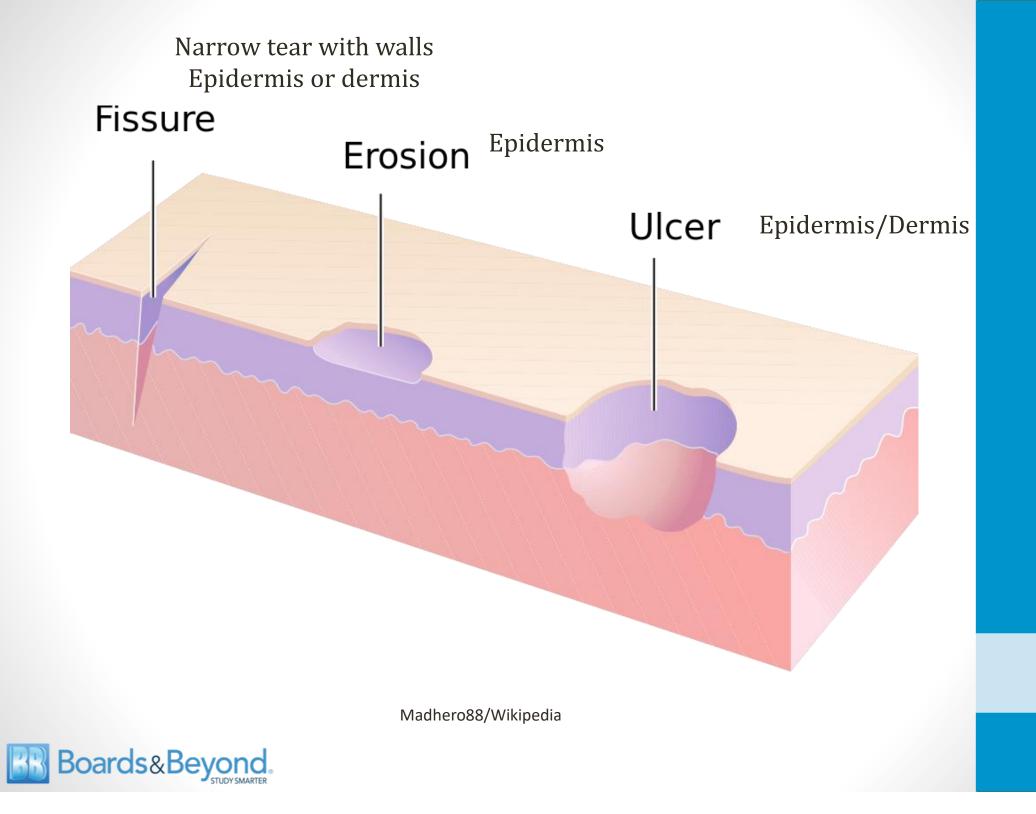
- Secondary lesion
- Dried exudate of skin lesion

#### Impetigo





CNX OpenStax/Wikipedia



# **Epithelial Cells**

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



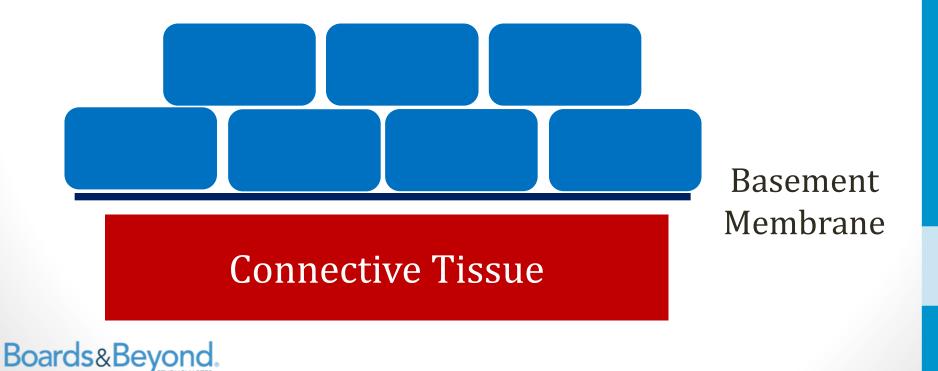
# **Epithelial Cells**

- Form the epithelium
- Line cavities/surfaces of body
- Skin, lung, GI tract
- Secrete substances (endocrine/exocrine glands)
- One of four types of animal tissue:
  - Muscle
  - Nerve
  - Connective



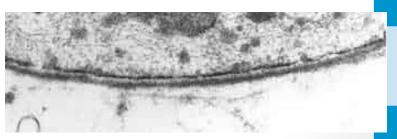
### **Basement Membrane**

- Fibrous, extracellular matrix of proteins
- Anchors epithelial cells to connective tissue



### **Basement Membrane**

- Two layers
- Basal lamina
  - Extracellular matrix secreted by epithelial cells
  - Contains laminin proteins
  - **Type IV collagen** (Goodpasture's/Alport syndrome)
- Reticular lamina (reticular connective tissue)
  - Reticular = like a net
  - Anchors basal lamina to connective tissue



#### Basal Lamina

Wikipedia/Public Domain



# **Cell Polarity**

- Sheets of epithelial cells bind together
- Different functions for each side of cell ("polarized")

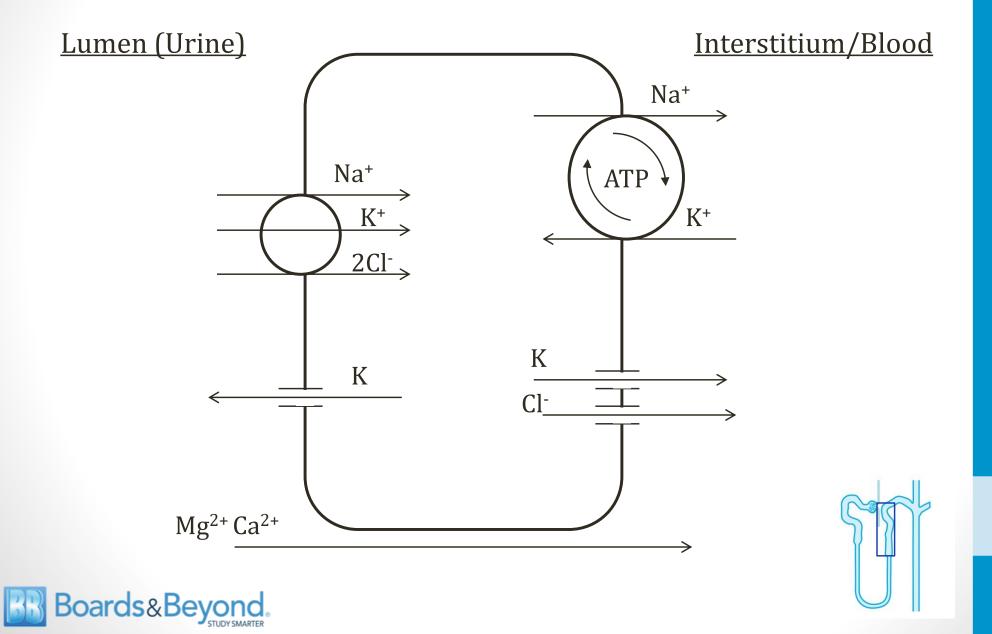


# **Cell Polarity**

- Side facing cavity/lumen: **apical** membrane
  - Lumen of blood vessel
  - Lumen of GI tract
  - Lumen of nephron
  - Outside of body
- Side away from cavity/lumen: **basolateral** membrane



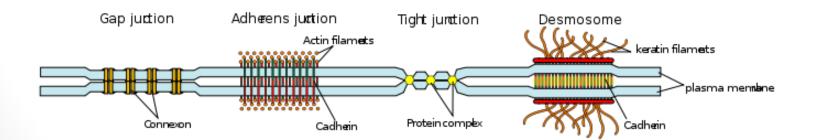
### **Tubular Epithelial Cells**



# **Epithelial Cell Junctions**

- Join plasma membranes of adjacent cells
- Four types:
  - Tight junctions
  - Adherens junctions
  - Gap junctions
  - Desmosomes

Boards&Beyond.

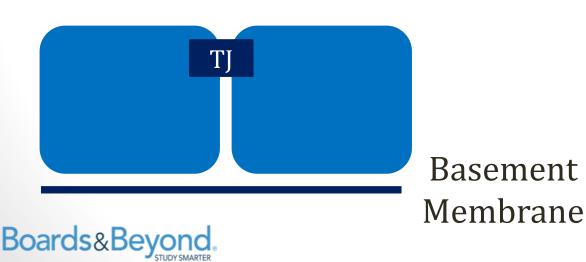


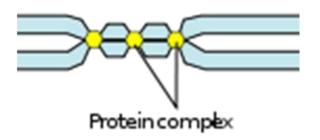
Wikipedia/Public Domain

# **Tight Junctions**

Occluding Junctions or Zonula Occludens

- Seals two cell membranes together
- Barrier to paracellular movement between cells
- Found near apical membrane
  - Most apical adhesion between cells
- Built from key proteins:
  - Occludin
  - Claudin





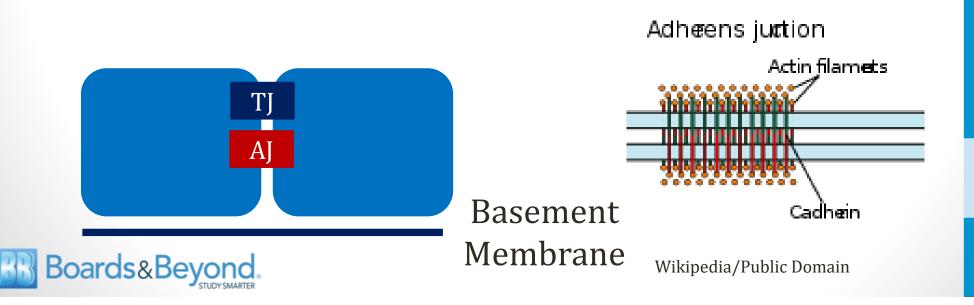
Tight junction

Wikipedia/Public Domain

# **Adherens Junctions**

Belt Desmosomes or Zonula Adherens

- Found below tight junctions
- Anchors cells to one another
- Forms belt around cells
- Cadherin
  - Cell membrane glycoprotein
  - Attach to *actin* filaments in cells



# Cadherin

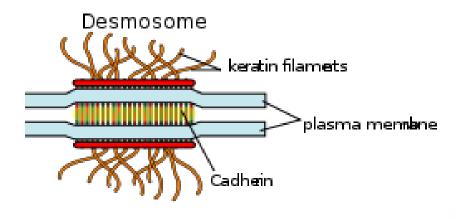
- Calcium-dependent adhesion (CAD) proteins
- Glycoproteins
- Many subtypes
- E-cadherin: lost in some forms of breast cancer



### Desmosomes

Spot Desmosome or Macula Adherens

- Macula = Latin for spot
- "Spots" of cell-cell attachment (not belts)
- Common in the skin
- Attached to intermediate filaments
  - Made of keratin
  - Found in cell cytoplasm
- Linked by cadherins

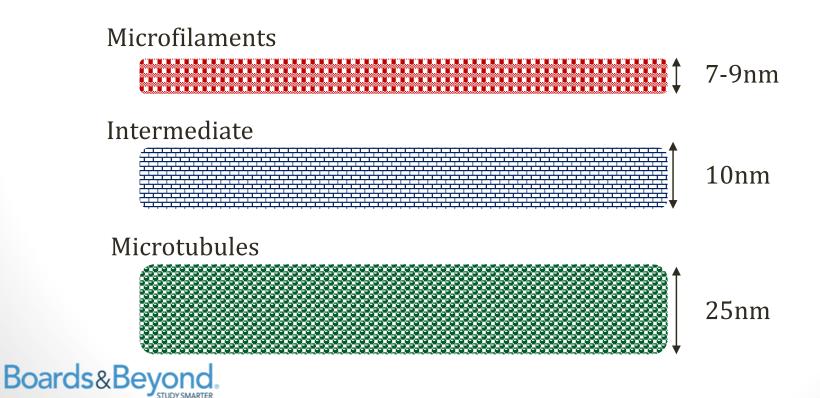


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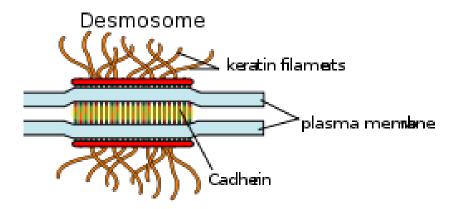
# Keratins

- Tough, fibrous structural proteins
- Found in hair, skin
- Also horns, claws, hooves
- Keratin monomers assemble intermediate filaments



### Hemidesmosomes

- Similar to desmosomes
- Contain intermediate filaments of keratin
- Linked by integrins
- Attach epithelial cells to basement membrane
  - Laminin (basal lamina), collagen



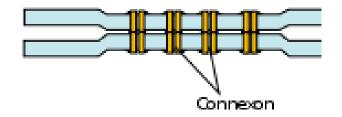
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# **Gap Junctions**

- Channel connections
- Connexins: protein molecules
- Form structure called connexon
- Allow small molecules to pass
- Too small for proteins, nucleic acids

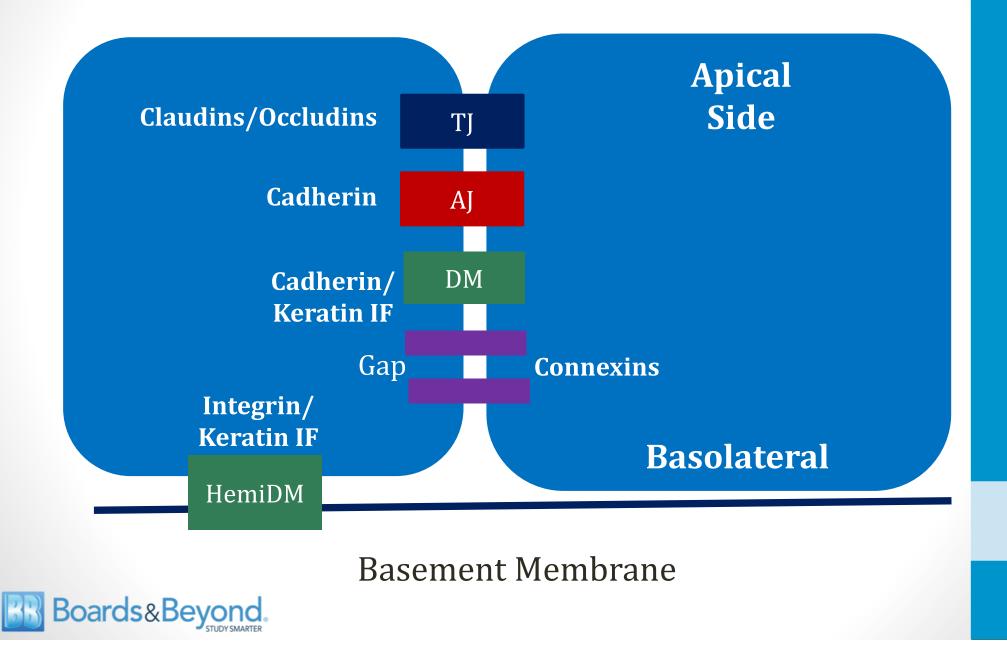
Gap juction



Wikipedia/Public Domain



# **Epithelial Junctions**



# **Epithelial Cell Types**

Cells	Location	Function
Simple squamous epithelium	Air sacs of lungs and the lining of the heart, blood vessels, and lymphatic vessels	Allows materials to pass through by diffusion and filtration, and secretes lubricating substance
Simple cuboidal epithelium	In ducts and secretory portions of small glands and in kidney tubules	Secretes and absorbs
Simple columnar epithelium	Ciliated tissues are in bronchi, uterine tubes, and uterus; smooth (nonciliated tissues) are in the digestive tract, bladder	Absorbs; it also secretes mucous and enzymes
Pseudostratified columnar epithelium	Ciliated tissue lines the trachea and much of the upper respiratory tract	Secretes mucus; ciliated tissue moves mucus

Boards&Beyond.

OpenStax College/Wikipedia

# **Epithelial Cell Types**

Boards&Beyond.

\*\*

Cells	Location	Function
Stratified squamous epithelium	Lines the esophagus, mouth, and vagina	Protects against abrasion
Stratified cuboidal epithelium	Sweat glands, salivary glands, and the mammary glands	Protective tissue
Stratified columnar epithelium	The male urethra and the ducts of some glands	Secretes and protects
Transitional epithelium	Lines the bladder, uretha, and the ureters	Allows the urinary organs to expand and stretch

# **Skin Disorders**

- Pemphigus vulgaris
  - Autoantibodies to desmosomes
- Bullous pemphigoid
  - Autoantibodies to hemidesmosomes



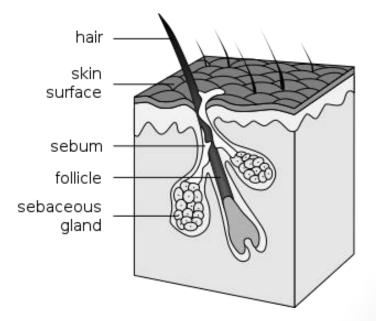
# Skin Disorders I

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



#### Inflammation of hair follicles and sebaceous glands

- Exocrine glands in skin in dermis
- Secrete oily substance called sebum
- Often contain hair follicles ("Pilosebaceous unit")
- Complex, multifactorial etiology



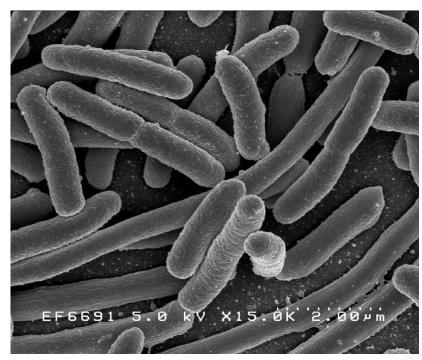
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- Sebaceous glands enlarge at puberty
  - ↑ androgens → ↑ sebum
  - Adolescent acne: men > women
  - Men with androgen insensitivity: no acne
  - Women with excess androgens (PCOS): acne
- Increased sebum and keratin
  - Keratinocytes line hair shafts  $\rightarrow$  keratin
  - Blocks ducts
  - Bacterial growth behind blockage



- Sebum: growth medium for bacteria
- Propionibacterium acnes
  - Cutibacterium acnes
- Anaerobic bacterium
- Normal skin flora







#### Comedones allow bacterial growth

- Comedo: debris blocking sebaceous duct (bumps on face)
- Comedone: plural of comedo
- Microcomedo: microscopic comedo (not visible)
- Lipid-rich environment for bacterial growth
- Bacteria use triglycerides in sebum as fuel
- Inflammation from bacterial proliferation



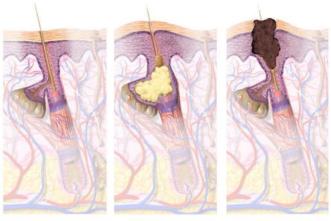
- Affects most hormone-responsive glands
  - **Face**, neck, chest, upper back



Wikipedia/Public Domain



- Multiple lesion types
  - Open comedos: blackheads
  - Closed comedos (by skin): whiteheads
  - Inflammatory lesions (papules/pustules)
- Scarring and hyperpigmentation may occur



Normal Skin Pore

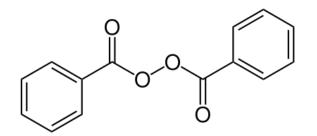
Whitehead Blackhead

BruceBlaus/Wikipedia



#### Treatment

- Benzoyl peroxide (topical)
  - Breakdown keratin, unblocks pores (comedolytic)
  - Bactericidal to *P. acnes*
- Antibiotics
  - Decrease *P. acnes* colonization of skin
  - Clindamycin and erythromycin
- Retinoids (vitamin A derivatives)

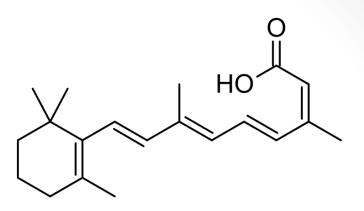


Benzoyl Peroxide



# Isotretinoin

Accutane



- 13-*cis*-retinoic acid
- Metabolites bind to nuclear receptors
  - Retinoic acid receptors (RAR)
  - Retinoid X receptors (RXR)
- Decreases keratin production in follicles
- Less follicular occlusion
- Highly *teratogenic*
- OCP and/or pregnancy test prior to Rx

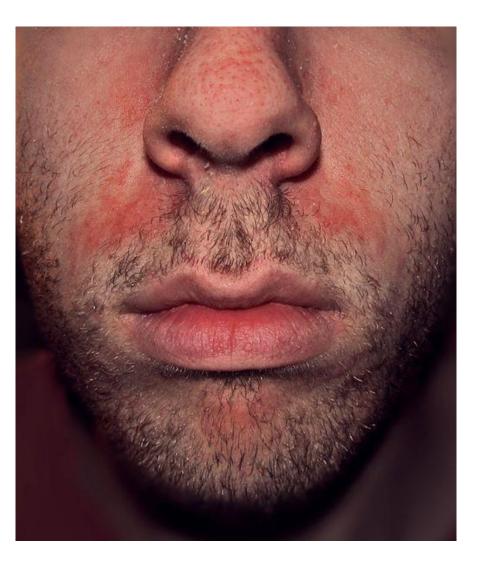


# Seborrheic dermatitis

- Red plaques with scale (flaky skin)
- Occurs on face and scalp
  - Areas with lots of sebaceous glands
- Poorly understood pathogenesis
  - No inflammation of sebaceous glands
  - Associated with fungal infection by Malassezia
- Treatment: topical antifungals and corticosteroids



### Seborrheic dermatitis





Roymishali/Wikipedia

# Melanocytic Nevus

Moles

- Benign neoplasm of melanocytes
- Tan/brown pigmented lesions
- Uniform color
- Often round or oval shape
- Usually <6mm</li>





Wikipedia/Public Domain

# Melanocytic Nevus

Moles

- Congenital
  - Present at birth
  - Often have hairs growing from lesion
- Acquired
  - Appear in childhood
  - Increase in number during adolescence
  - Peak count in 30s
  - Regress with age



# Melanocytic Nevus

#### Moles

- Rarely develop dysplasia ightarrow melanoma
  - Atypical features may warrant biopsy/removal
  - Not removed prophylactically for prevention

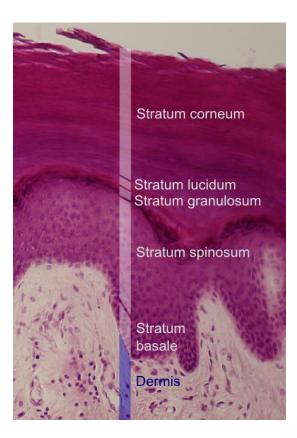


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# **Acquired Nevi**

- Junctional nevi
  - Growth along dermal-epidermal junction
  - Often found in children
- Compound nevi
  - Growth extends into dermis
- Intradermal nevi
  - Loss of junctional lesion
  - Found only in dermis
  - Common in adults



Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



# Pseudofolliculitis barbae

Razor bumps, shave bumps

- Inflammation from trapped hairs
- Associated with shaving
- Entrapment of recently cut, very short hairs
- Firm papules/pustules in area of beard growth
- Common in black men (up to 80%)
- 3% white men



Wikipedia/Public Domain



- Chronic inflammatory skin disorder
- Well-demarcated plaques
- Pink or salmon colored
- Silver-white scale
- Most commonly on extensor surfaces
  - Knees
  - Elbows





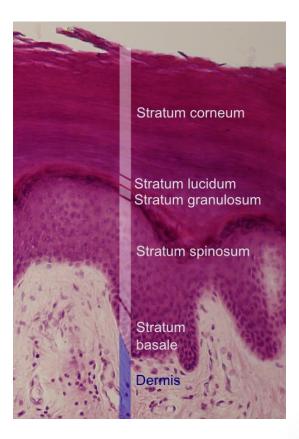
Jacopo188/Wikipedia



- Pathogenesis poorly understood
- Combination of genetic and environmental factors
- Believed to be autoimmune
- Strong association with HLA-C



- Acanthosis (thickening of epidermis)
- Parakeratotic scaling
  - **Retained nuclei** in stratum corneum
  - Indicates hyperproliferation
- Stratum spinosum
  - Increased in size
- Stratum granulosum
  - Thinned or absent
- Munro microabscesses
  - Neutrophils in stratum corneum



Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



#### Dermis blood vessels close to surface Scale breaks → bleeding (Auspitz sign)



Public Domain



- Most common type: plaque psoriasis
- Multiple other less common subtypes
  - Guttate psoriasis
  - Pustular psoriasis
  - Erythrodermic psoriasis
  - Inverse psoriasis



- Commonly involves nails
  - Nail pitting
  - Onycholysis (separation of nail from nailbed)
- About 1/3 of patients develop psoriatic arthritis
  - Seronegative spondyloarthritis
  - More common in patients with nail findings





Public Domain

### Rosacea

- Common skin disorder (3% population)
- Affects adults > 30
- Celtics and Northern Europeans: greatest risk
- Affects light-skinned individuals



#### Rosacea

- Inflammatory skin condition
- Complex, poorly understood pathology
- Chronic redness of nose and cheeks
- Papules and pustules
  - May look similar to acne but no comedones



M. Sand et al./Wikipedia



RicHard-59/Wikipedia



#### Rosacea

Other features

#### Facial flushing

- Often triggered by environmental stimuli
- Cold, heat, sun, hot drinks, spicy foods, alcohol

#### Phymatous rosacea

- Skin hypertrophy
- Thickened skin
- Most commonly on nose (rhinophyma)



Public Domain



#### Seborrheic keratosis

- Common benign tumors
- Proliferation of immature keratinocytes
- Occurs in older patients (>50)
- Arise spontaneously
- Commonly on trunk





#### Seborrheic keratosis

- Flat
- Well-demarcated
- Round or oval
- Dark, velvety surface
- "Stuck on"

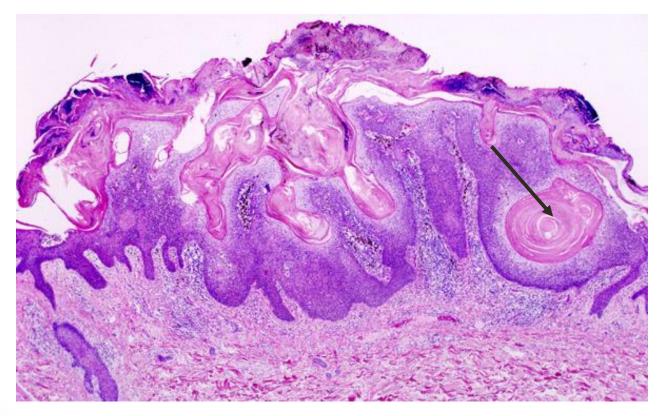


James Heilman, MD



#### Seborrheic keratosis

- Dark cells similar to basal skin cells
- Keratin-filled cysts ("horn cysts")





KGH/Wikipedia

### Leser-Trelat Sign

- "Explosive onset" of multiple itchy SK lesions
- Probably caused by cytokines
- Associated with malignancies
  - Gastric adenocarcinoma most common



James Heilman, MD



#### Verrucae

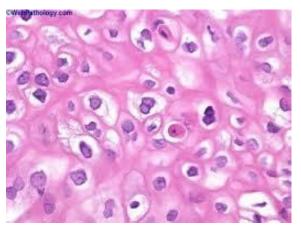
- Warts
- Cellular proliferation caused by HPV
- Many types
  - Verruca vulgaris (skin most common)
  - Verruca plana (skin flat wart)
  - Condyloma acuminatum (venereal warts)



### Verruca Vulgaris

**Cutaneous Warts** 

- Most common manifestation of HPV infection
- Transmitted by contact with virus
- Common on hands
- Epidermal hyperplasia
- Koilocytosis
  - Cytoplasmic clearing ("halos") around nucleus



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Wikipedia/Public Domain



# Skin Disorders II

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



### Erythema Nodosum

- Type IV hypersensitivity reaction
- Panniculitis
  - Inflammation of subcutaneous fat
- Often idiopathic
- Many triggers:
  - Infection (most commonly Strep)
  - Crohn's disease (may precede flare)
  - Sarcoidosis
  - Coccidioidomycosis



#### Erythema Nodosum

- **Painful**, red nodules
- Most commonly on shins







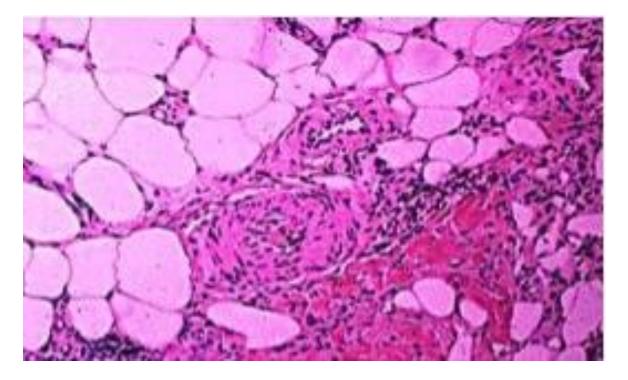
James Heilman, MD

## Erythema Nodosum

Pathology Findings

#### "Septal panniculitis"

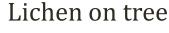
- Inflammation septa of fat between dermis and fascia
- Contrast with "lobular": inflammation of fat lobules



Specialclass/Sideshare



- Rare, chronic inflammatory skin disorder
- "Lichen" = tree moss
- "Planus" = flat
- Occurs in adults
- Unknown pathogenesis
- Resolves spontaneously over years
- Associated with hepatitis C







#### • 6Ps

- "Pruritic, Purple, Polygonal, Planar, Papules and Plaques"
- Itchy (often intense)
- Purple flat lesions
- Multiple, symmetric usually on arms/legs/wrists
- Wrists, ankles are common sites





James Heilman, MD

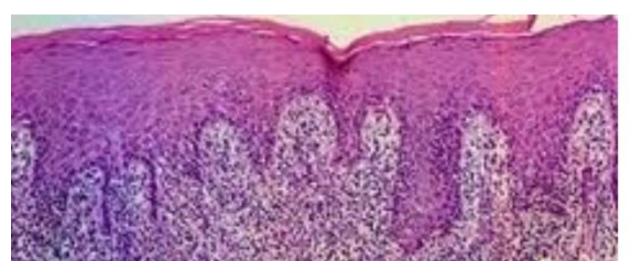
- Mucosal involvement
  - Mouth, tongue
  - Glans penis
- Wickham striae: white dots/lines
  - Caused by hypergranulosis (classic feature of LP)
  - Best seen on oral lesions





James, Candice, Mai/Wikipedia

- Lymphocytes at dermal-epidermal junction
- Hyperkeratosis
- Hypergranulosis
- "Sawtooth" pattern of rete ridges



G Salunkhe/Slideshare



#### Pityriasis Rosea

- Acute, self-limited skin rash
- Eruption of skin lesions
- Self-limited
- Resolves 2-3 months
- Usually no treatment required
- Cause unknown (possibly viral)



#### Pityriasis Rosea

- Begins with "herald patch"
  - Single red/salmon-colored lesion
  - Round or oval
  - Well demarcated
  - Chest, neck, or back
- Days later: Multiple lesions on trunk
  - Multiple similar, smaller lesions
  - Groups of lesions
  - Follow skin lines on back
  - "Christmas tree distribution"



James Heilman, MD / Wikipedia



#### Pityriasis Rosea



James Heilman, MD / Wikipedia



#### Burns

- 1<sup>st</sup> degree/superficial: epidermis only
  - Painful, red, blanch with pressure
  - No blisters
  - Heal within 7 days



- Blisters
- Painful, blanch with pressure
- Heal within 7 to 21 days



Snickerdo/Wikipedia



Bejinhan/Wikipedia



#### Burns

- 2<sup>nd</sup> degree/full thickness: epidermis, most dermis
  - Yellow or white
  - Painful to pressure only
  - Do not blanch
  - Heal with scarring



Wikipedia/Public Domain



#### Burns

- 3<sup>rd</sup> degree: entire epidermis and dermis
- 4<sup>th</sup> degree: skin and superficial fat



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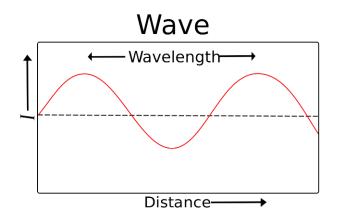


Wikipedia/Public Domain



### Sunburn

- Delayed inflammatory response of skin
- Caused by ultraviolet radiation (UVR)
- Two forms UV radiation
  - UVB radiation: wavelength 280 to 320 nm
  - UVA radiation: wavelength 320 to 400 nm
- Both may cause sunburn
- **UVB range** most effective at causing sunburn





### Sunburn

- Damage to epidermis and dermis
- UV radiation  $\rightarrow$  DNA damage  $\rightarrow$  apoptosis
- "Sunburn cells": keratinocytes undergoing apoptosis
- Vasodilation
- Release inflammatory mediators
- Self-limited





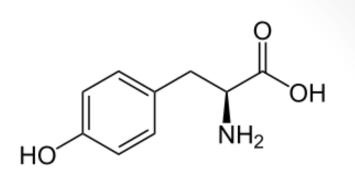
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## Pigment Disorders

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



### Melanin



Tyrosine

- Black/brown pigment
- Gives color to skin and hair
- Protects from ultraviolet radiation
- Formed from amino acid tyrosine



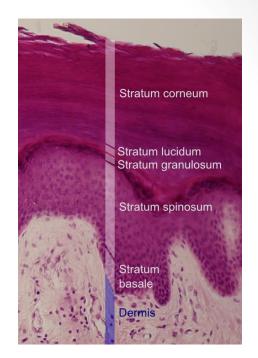


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#### Melanin

#### Synthesized in melanocytes

- Specialized secretory cells
- Derived from neural crest
- Found in basal layer of epidermis
- Synthesize melanin in melanosomes
- Melanosomes transferred to keratinocytes



Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



#### Freckles

- Small brown/dark macules (flat)
- Can darken on exposure to sun
- Increased amounts of melanin
- Normal melanocyte number/density





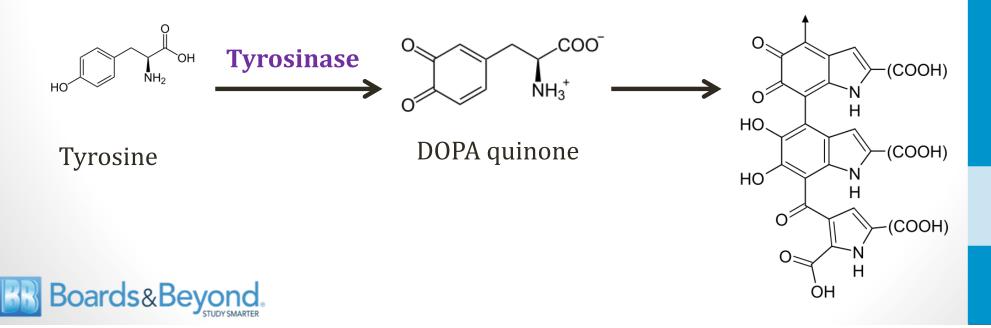
Loyna/Wikipedia

#### Albinism

Oculocutaneous Albinism (OCA)

- Family of genetic disorders
- Autosomal recessive
- Absent/reduced melanin synthesis in melanocytes
  - Normal *number* of melanocytes
- Most common forms: 
  ↓ activity tyrosinase

Melanin



#### Albinism

Oculocutaneous Albinism (OCA)

- Hypopigmentation of hair, skin, eyes
- White hair, pink skin color, blue eyes
- ↑ risk of sunburns
- ↑ risk of skin cancer
  - No UV light protection
  - Basal cell carcinoma
  - Squamous cell carcinoma
  - Melanoma



Muntuwandi/Wikipedia



#### Melasma

- Acquired *hyper*pigmentation
- Irregular areas of tan/dark macules on face
- Often symmetrical
- Sun-exposed areas of face
- Most common in women with dark complexions





Kylie Aquino/Flikr

#### Melasma

- Triggered by UV light in susceptible woman
- ↑ melanin synthesis
- Onset often with pregnancy or OCP
  - 1 estrogen
  - "Mask of pregnancy"
  - May resolve after pregnancy
- Cosmetic problem
- Treatment:
  - Sun protection
  - Skin lighteners: Hydroquinone (inhibits tyrosinase)



### Vitiligo

- Acquired, localized pigment disorder
- Autoimmune destruction of melanocytes
- Asymptomatic depigmented (white) macules/patches
- No clinical signs of inflammation (warmth)
- Treatment: steroids, immunosuppressants



James Heilman, MD/Wikipedia

### Vitiligo

- Dark skinned individuals
  - Obvious areas of depigmentation
- Light skinned individuals
  - Failure to tan in localized region
- Cosmetic problem



Boards&Beyond.

James Heilman, MD/Wikipedia

# Vascular

## Lesions

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



#### **Blood Blister**

- Traumatic bleeding in dermis
- Intact epidermis
- Many vascular tumors look similar
  - Diagnosis by patient characteristics
  - Single vs. multiple



Esinam/Wikipedia



#### Angiosarcoma

- Rare tumor of blood or lymph vessels
  - Sarcoma = tumor of mesenchyme origin
  - Angio = blood vessel (endothelial origin)
  - Lymphangiosarcoma = derived from lymph endothelium
  - Hemangiosarcoma = derived from vascular endothelium
  - Hemangioma = benign version
- Purple nodules or plaques
- Poor prognosis



Hai Trieu/Slideshare



#### Angiosarcoma

- Occur in liver
  - Associated with vinyl chloride exposure
- Occur in breast
  - Often following radiation therapy
  - Often in setting of lymphedema after mastectomy



#### Angiosarcoma

- Occur beneath skin
  - Usually head and neck (sun exposed areas)
  - Often scalp or face
  - Arise from **dermis**
  - Older, white males
  - Median age: 65 to 70
  - Male to female ratio: 2:1



#### **Bacillary Angiomatosis**

- Zoonotic infection by Bartonella
  - Bartonella quintana and Bartonella henselae
- End-stage HIV and AIDS patients
- Systemic infection  $\rightarrow$  blood vessels in skin
- Presents as numerous red/purple nodules
- Similar appearance to Kaposi sarcoma





#### Kaposi Sarcoma

- Common in HIV/AIDS
- Angioproliferation
- HHV-8 (Human Herpesvirus-8)
- Key differences from bacillary angiomatosis
  - Kaposi Sarcoma: Lymphocytes
  - BA: Neutrophils/lymphocytes





# Pyogenic Granuloma

Lobular capillary hemangioma

- Benign vascular tumor
- Blood vessel hyperplasia due to growth stimuli
- Most often on skin
  - Trunk, arms, legs, head, neck
  - Can be mucosal: lips, gums
- Classic stimuli: <u>pregnancy</u> and <u>trauma</u>
- Often bleed profusely
- Surgically removed





Makotosan/Wikipedia

# **Cherry Hemangioma**

- Benign capillary proliferations
- Common in middle-aged or elderly
- Develop with aging
- Usually multiple
- Classically on the trunk
- May bleed from trauma





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# Cystic Hygroma

- Congenital malformation (newborns)
- Large cyst containing lymph (benign)
  - Caused by obstruction of lymph drainage
- Classically develops on neck

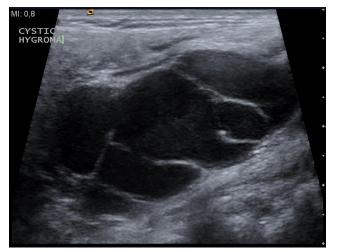


Timothyjosephwood/Wikipedia



# Cystic Hygroma

- Often identified on prenatal ultrasound
- Increased risk of fetal aneuploidy and malformations
  - Trisomy 21 (Down) and Turner syndrome (XO)
  - Cardiac and skeletal malformations
- Increased risk of miscarriage or fetal death
- Often found together with nuchal translucency



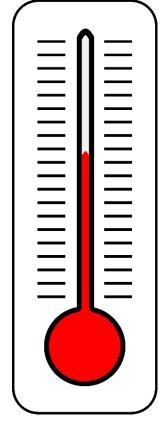


Nevit Dilmen/Wikipedia

#### **Glomus** Tumor

#### Glomus body

- Structure in dermis of skin
- Most numerous in fingers and toes
- Contains modified smooth muscle cells
- Regulates skin temperature
- Shunts blood away from surface in cold
- Preserves heat



Wikipedia/Public Domain



#### **Glomus** Tumor

- Benign growth of modified smooth muscle cells
- Occurs in fingers and toes
- Usually at tips/ends
  - "Subungual" = under nailbed
- Pink/purple papule or nodule
- Painful especially when exposed to cold
  - "Paroxysms of pain"
  - "Cold sensitivity"



#### Strawberry Hemangioma

- Benign hemangioma
  - Excess proliferation of blood vessels
- Appear in newborns
  - Common: Up to 10% Caucasian babies in some studies
  - Usually a single lesion
  - Usually not present at birth
  - Usually identified first few days/months after birth
- Involute within few years



Zeimusu /Wikipedia



#### Strawberry Hemangioma



Zeimusu /Wikipedia



# Nevus Simplex

Stork bite/Salmon Patch

- Capillary malformation (not a tumor)
- Common on eyelids or back (nape) of neck
- "Birthmark"
- Pink-red macule
- Up to 60 percent of infants
- Fade first few years of life





Wierzman/Wikipedia

#### Nevus Flammeus

Port Wine Stain

- Malformation of dermal capillaries and venules
- Slow/low blood flow
- Pink/red patches
- Often unilateral
- Blanch when pressed
- Do not regress
- Grow as child grows
- Sturge-Weber syndrome



Lee Health/Vimeo



# Skin Infections

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



# Impetigo

- Superficial skin infection
- Neutrophils collect beneath stratum corneum
- Macules  $\rightarrow$  papules  $\rightarrow$  rupture  $\rightarrow$  erosions
- Dried sebum  $\rightarrow$  "Honey-colored" crust
- Highly contagious



CNX OpenStax/Wikipedia



# Impetigo

- Impetigo contagiosa (non-bullous)
  - Traditional, most common form
  - Face and extremities
  - Caused by S. aureus
  - Also "Beta-hemolytic step" mostly S. Pyogenes (group A)
  - Honey crusted lesions



CNX OpenStax/Wikipedia



# Impetigo

- Bullous impetigo
  - Seen in children
  - Trunk commonly involved
  - S. aureus



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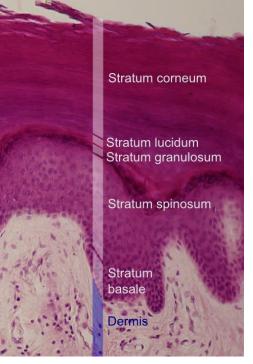
# S. Aureus Exfoliative Toxin

Exfolatin

- Destroys keratinocyte attachments
- Cleaves desmoglein 1 complex
  - Desmosome protein
  - Links keratinocytes together
- Affects stratum granulosum
- Leads to bullous impetigo



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Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



## Scalded Skin Syndrome

- Newborn disease
- Colonization of skin with S. Aureus
- *Diffuse* exfoliative toxin
- Classically occurs 3 to 7 days of age
- Fever, diffuse erythema
- Sloughing of skin
- Damage intraepidermal
- Heals completely with no scar
- Nikolsky's sign: skin slips off with gentle tug
- Treatment: antibiotics

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### **Erysipelas and Cellulitis**

- Bacterial skin infections that often overlap
- Differ mainly by layer of skin involvement
- Skin break/trauma  $\rightarrow$  bacterial entry
- Redness, warmth
- Sometimes fever
- Usually unilateral
- Most common on legs (lower extremities)
- Erysipelas also on face

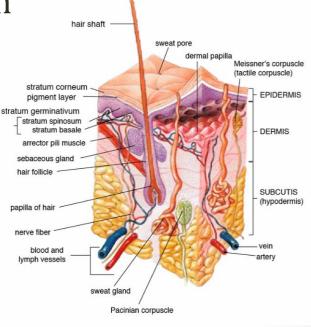


# Erysipelas

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#### Superficial dermis

- Young children and older adults
- Usually Group A strep (S. Pyogenes)
- Acute onset: fevers, chills, rash
- Clear demarcation rash/normal skin



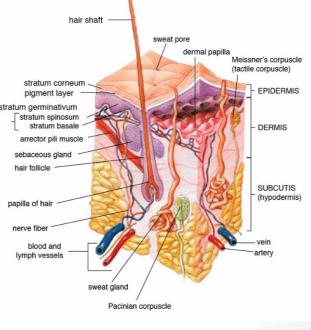
# Erysipelas





## Cellulitis

- Deep dermis
- Subcutaneous fat
- Middle-aged and elderly (rarely children)
- Group A strep (S. Pyogenes) or S. Aureus
- Slower onset
- Rash, focal pain, warmth over days
- Ill-defined, spreading border





#### Cellulitis



Pshawnoah/Wikipedia



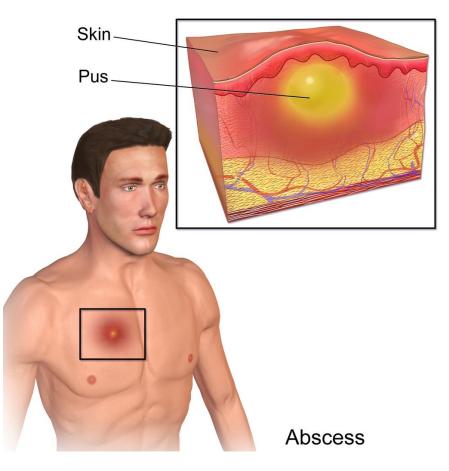
#### Skin Abscess

- Collection of pus (neutrophils, bacteria)
- Walled-off in **dermis or subcutaneous space**
- Usually S. aureus
- Red, painful nodule
- Tense, raised skin
- May complicate cellulitis/erysipelas
- Usually requires incision and drainage



#### **Skin Abscess**

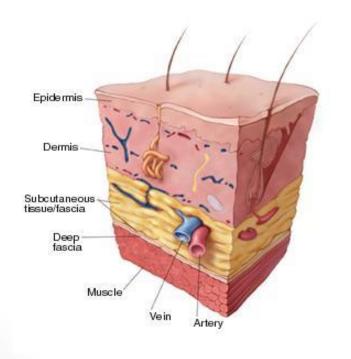




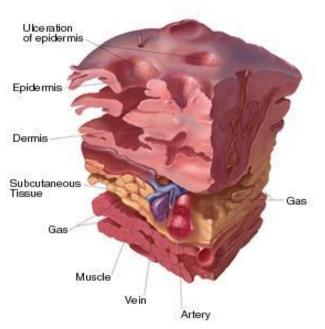
BruceBlaus/Wikipedia



- Infection of fascia
- Involves muscle fascia and subcutaneous fat
- Destruction (necrosis) of tissue above fascia



Boards&Beyond



Pousettet/Wikipedia

- Skin color changes: red-purple-blue-gray-black
- Bullae
- Pain and tenderness
  - May be "out of proportion to exam"
  - Apparently minor rash with exquisite tenderness
  - Patient may mistake infection for muscle injury
  - Eventually pain stops (anesthesia) from nerve destruction



- Crepitus
  - Crackling sound when skin is pressed
  - From gas under skin
  - Methane and CO2 from bacteria





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Piotr Smuszkiewicz/Wikipedia



- Often fulminant and deadly
- Infection spreads along muscle fascia
  - Poor blood supply  $\rightarrow$  uncontrolled spread
- Requires urgent surgical debridement





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- Type 1:
  - Polymicrobial
  - Often anaerobes (Bacteroides, Clostridium, etc.)
  - Strep, staph, others
  - Occurs in diabetics, immunocompromised, vascular disease
  - Usually occurs following surgery
- Type 2:
  - Group A strep (sometimes Staph)
  - Occurs in otherwise healthy people after skin injury



- Classic case:
  - Minor skin trauma
  - Or diabetic/immunocompromised after surgery
  - Redness/warmth (can be confused with cellulitis)
  - Pain out of proportion to exam
  - Fever, hypotension



# Blistering Disorders

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



#### Blisters

- Fluid-filled skin lesions
  - Separation of skin layers
  - Space filled with fluid
- May rupture
- Vesicle: <1cm
- Bulla (plural = bullae): >1cm
- Many causes
- Burns
- Friction



Frazzmatazz/Wikipedia



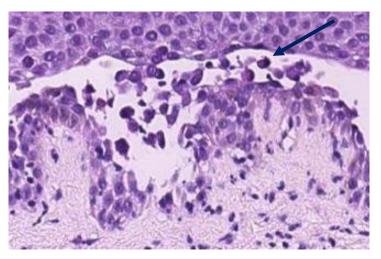
# Pemphigus

- Pemphig: from Greek word for blister
- Hallmark: acantholysis
  - Loss of connections between keratinocytes
- Involve mucous membranes (mouth) and skin
- Subtypes:
  - Pemphigus vulgaris (most common)
  - Pemphigus foliaceus
  - IgA pemphigus
  - Paraneoplastic pemphigus



# Acantholysis

- Loss of connections between keratinocytes
- Often loss of desmosomes
- "Rounded" keratinocytes
- Detached, floating freely in epidermis
- Key feature of **pemphigus vulgaris**

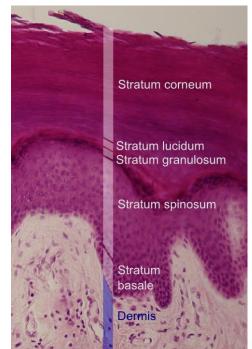




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# Pemphigus vulgaris

- Autoantibodies against desmoglein
  - Component of desmosomes
  - Type II hypersensitivity reaction
- Disrupts connections in stratum spinosum
  - Fluid collects above basal layer
- Occurs mostly in adults (30 to 60)
- Nikolsky's sign
  - Skin slips off with gentle tug
  - Also seen in Staph Scalded Skin (child)
  - Also seen in Stevens-Johnson syndrome



Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



# Pemphigus vulgaris

- Large, flaccid bullae that easily burst (not tense)
- Often few intact bullae, most rupture and scabbed
- Often presents first with oral bullae and ulcerations
  - Painful chewing/swelling



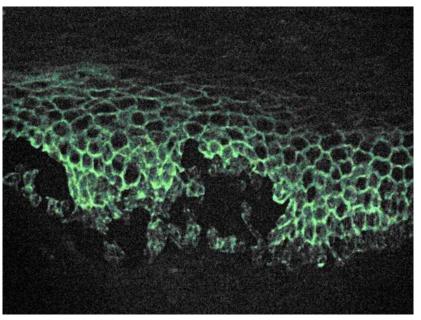


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# Pemphigus vulgaris

- Classic finding: (+) immunofluorescence for IgG
  - "Reticular" pattern: like a net
- Treatment: immunosuppressants
- Increased mortality: infection, side effects of Rx



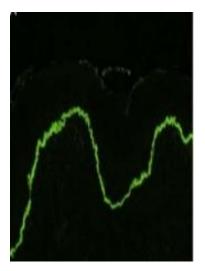


Emmanuelm/Wikipedia

- "Pemphigoid": looks like pemphigus
- Autoantibodies against hemidesmosomes
  - Bullous pemphigoid antigens (proteins)
  - BP180, BP230
  - Attach epithelial cells to the basement membrane



- Bullae are **subepidermal**, **nonacantholytic** 
  - Less fragile (flaccid) than pemphigus vulgaris
  - Numerous intact, tense bullae
  - Less ruptured bullae with scabs
- Biopsy: Eosinophils and lymphocytes
- Immunofluorescence: line at base of epidermis



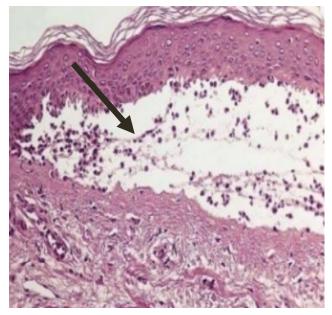


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#### Eosinophils in blister



Slideshare/Public Domain



- Occurs in the elderly (median age 80 in one study)
- Rarely involves mouth
- Absent Nikolsky's sign
- Treatment: immunosuppressants
- Also increased mortality
  - Less than pemphigus
  - Less bullae rupture  $\rightarrow$  less chance of infection



# Dermatitis Herpetiformis

- Skin condition associated with celiac disease
- Herpes-like lesions on skin
  - Papules/vesicles in bilateral groups ("herpetiform")
- Pruritic (itchy)
- Classically on extensors: elbows, knees



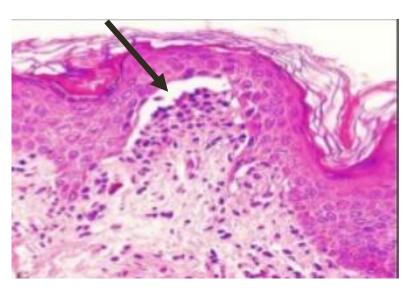


Madhero88/Dermet.com

# Dermatitis Herpetiformis

#### IgA deposition in dermal papillae

- Numerous, small lesions at tips of dermal papillae
- Occurs in individuals with genetic gluten sensitivity
- Antibodies triggered by gluten cross-react at skin
- Biopsy: microabscesses (spaces) at tips of papillae
- Neutrophils

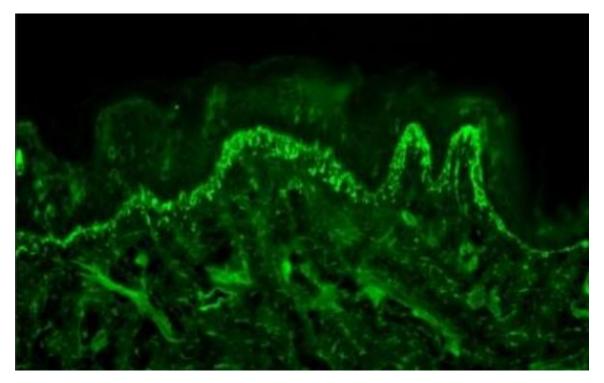






#### Dermatitis Herpetiformis

IgA Deposition at tips of dermal papillae on IF



Slideshare/Public Domain



# **Antibody Blistering Disorders**

	Antibodies	Target	Location
Pemphigus	IgG	Desmosomes	Stratum Spinosum
Bullous Pemphigoid	IgG	Hemidesmosomes	Basement Membrane
Dermatitis Herpetiformis	IgA	 (Gluten-related)	Dermal papillae



# Hypersensitivity Disorders

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



# **Allergic Skin Reactions**

- Urticaria = hives
- Urticaria = pruritic, raised wheals and angioedema
- Angioedema = deep mucocutaneous swelling

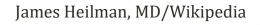




# Urticaria

- Allergic skin reaction
- Usually caused by mast cell degranulation
  - Type I hypersensitivity reaction
  - Antigen binding to IgE antibodies on mast cells
  - Histamine release
- No changes to epidermis
- *Dermal* edema
- Dilation of lymph vessels
  - For fluid drainage







# Urticaria

- Usually acute and self-limited
- Resolves within days/weeks
- May be treated with antihistamines and steroids
- May be a component of anaphylaxis
  - Wheezing
  - Mucosal swelling (lips/tongue)
  - Hypotension
  - Syncope



# **Atopic Dermatitis**

Eczema

- Chronic disorder with flares/remission
- Also a hypersensitivity disorder
  - Complex, incompletely understood pathogenesis
  - T-cells, cytokines
- Usually "extrinsic": reaction to environmental antigens
  - Less common form: intrinsic
- Usually occurs in children
- Red, pruritic (itchy) rash



Eisfelder/Wikipedia



# **Atopic Dermatitis**

#### Eczema

- Over 80% patients: 1 serum IgE levels
- 70% of patients: **family history** of atopic diseases
  - Commonly co-occurs with allergic rhinitis/asthma
  - "Atopic march"

#### Filaggrin

- Protein of stratum corneum
- Filaggrin deficiency impairs skin barrier
- Filaggrin gene mutations  $\rightarrow$  increased risk of eczema
- Skin dry and scaly
- Easy entry of allergens



# **Atopic Dermatitis**

#### Eczema

- Babies: face (cheeks) and scalp
- Children/adults:
  - Thickened ("lichenified") plaques
  - Skin flexures
  - Antecubital and popliteal fossae





Care\_SMS/Flikr

Gzzz/Wikipedia Boards&Beyond

#### **Contact Dermatitis**

- Similar clinical features to eczema
- *Localized* to area of skin contact with allergen
- Type IV hypersensitivity disorder



Wikipedia/Public Domain





Dr.khatmando/Wikipedia

#### **Contact Dermatitis**

- Classic causes (irritants)
  - Poison ivy
  - Nickel (jewelry)
  - Laundry detergents
- Treatment:
  - Remove irritant
  - Steroids



# Drug Rash

- "Non-immediate" reaction to drug
- Often seen with some penicillin antibiotics
- Maculopapular
- Itchy or may be non-pruritic
- Absence of fever, wheezing, joint pain
- Days or weeks after starting drug
- Type-IV (T-cell-mediated) mechanism

Romano A et al. **Diagnosis of nonimmediate** reactions to B-lactam antibiotics. Allergy 2004

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# Stevens-Johnson Syndrome

- Severe skin reaction
- Type IV hypersensitivity disorder
- May also involve mucous membranes
- Usually triggered by drugs
- Hallmark: necrosis of the epidermis
- Nikolsky sign
  - Skin slips off with gentle tug
  - Also seen in Staph Scalded Skin (child)
  - Also seen in Pemphigus vulgaris



# Stevens-Johnson Syndrome

- Prodrome
  - 1-3 days before skin findings
  - Fever
  - Flu-like malaise
- Lesions start on face/chest
- Spread symmetrically
- Red, tender skin
- Progresses to vesicles/bullae
- Sloughing of skin
- Mucosal lesions: 90% cases



Dr. Thomas Habif/Wikipedia



# Stevens-Johnson Syndrome

- Toxic epidermal necrolysis
  - Severe form SJS (>30% skin)
- High mortality
  - SJS 1-5%; TEN 25-35%



Pixabay/Public Domain



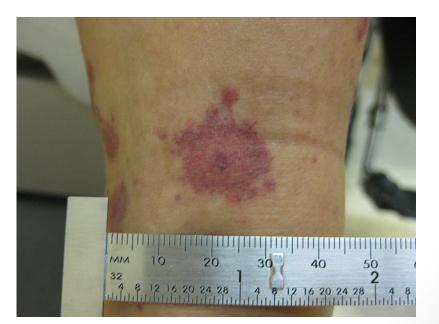
- Skin disorder associated with infections (90% cases)
  - Herpes simplex virus (most common)
  - Mycoplasma pneumoniae (often in children)
- Also associated with some drugs
  - Sulfa drugs
  - NSAIDs
  - Phenytoin
- Also some cancers and autoimmune diseases



- Pathogenesis unclear
- Most data from HSV-related cases
- Cell-mediated (type IV) autoimmune
- Triggered by viral antigens in keratinocytes



- Multiple lesion types (multiforme)
  - Macules, papules, vesicles
  - Lesions similar for one patient
  - May differ between patients
- Hallmark: "Target lesion"
  - Dark/dusky central area
  - Surrounding red rings





Kilbad/Wikipedia

- Symmetrical distribution
- Starts on "extensor surfaces of acral extremities"
  - Backs of hands, feet
  - Contrast with SJS: face
- Spreads to center ("centripetal spread")
- May involve mucous membranes
  - Mouth, eye, genitals
  - Erythema
  - Erosions (painful)
  - Bullae



James Heilman, MD /Wikipedia



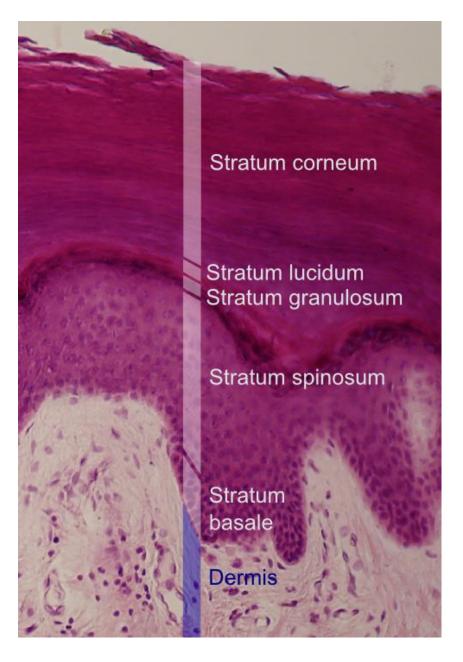
- Typical case
  - Oral or genital HSV eruption (or other trigger)
  - EM skin eruption occurs few days to 2 weeks later
  - Lesions evolve over 3-5 days
  - Resolve within 2 weeks (no treatment)
  - Rarely severe cases require steroids or other Rx



# Skin Cancer

Jason Ryan, MD, MPH





Mikael Häggström/Wikipedia



# Actinic Keratosis

Solar keratosis

- Premalignant skin lesions
- Caused by sun exposure
- Growth of atypical epidermal keratinocytes
- Can lead to squamous cell carcinoma
  - Increasing degrees of dysplasia  $\rightarrow$  malignancy





#### Actinic Keratosis

Solar keratosis

- Round, red/brown papules or plaques
- Sun exposed areas
- Biopsy: Hyperkeratosis, epidermal cell dysplasia
- **Parakeratosis**: retained nuclei in stratum corneum



Future FamDoc





Future FamDoc

#### Squamous Cell Carcinoma

- 2<sup>nd</sup> most common skin cancer
- Arises from squamous cells in epidermis
- Occurs in sun-exposed areas
  - Face, lip, ears, hands
  - DNA damage by UV light
- Occurs in older patients
  - Rare <45 years old
  - Common > 75 years old
- Less than 5% metastasize to regional nodes
- Rarely metastasize beyond nodes



#### Squamous Cell Carcinoma

- Red, scaling plaques with sharp borders
- More advanced lesions: ulcerate, keratin production
- May crust or bleed



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## Squamous Cell Carcinoma

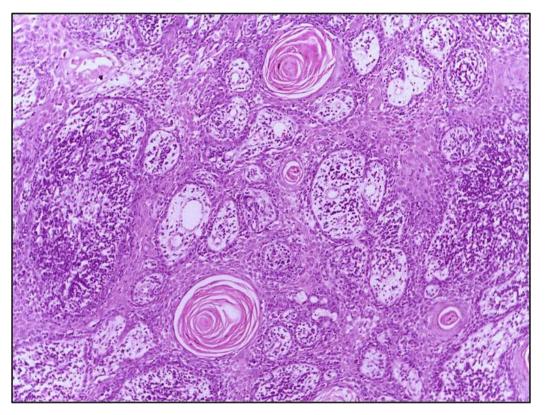
**Risk Factors** 

- Sun exposure
- Chronic immunosuppression
  - Organ transplant, HIV, long term glucocorticoids
- Chronic skin inflammation
  - Burns, chronic ulcers, draining sinus tracts
- Arsenic exposure
  - Found in contaminated drinking water



#### Squamous Cell Carcinoma Pathology

Classic finding: keratin pearls



Department of Pathology, Calicut Medical College



#### Keratoacanthoma

- Variant of SCC ("squamoproliferative tumor")
- Usually benign, self-resolving
- "Dome-shaped" nodule with central hyperkeratosis
- Classic feature: rapid growth (weeks)  $\rightarrow$  regression
- Removed surgically or followed for regression





Jmarchn /Wikipedia

#### **Bowen's Disease**

- Squamous cell carcinoma in situ
- Well-demarcated, scaly patch or plaque



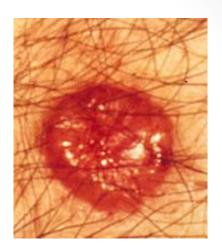
Klaus D. Peter, Gummersbach, Germany



- Most common skin cancer
- Slow growing
- Rarely metastasize
- Most found early and excised
- Occur in sun-exposed areas
- Lowest potential for recurrence or metastases
  - Basal < squamous < melanoma



- "Pearly" papules or nodules
  - May have telangiectasias on surface
  - Dilated blood vessels



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- May ulcerate with crust in center
- Borders may be "rolled" (rounded, thickened)



M. Sand et al./Wikipedia



Boards&Beyond.

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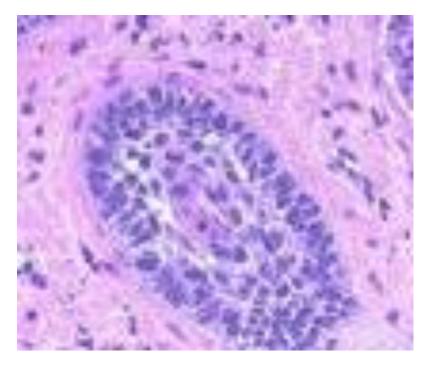
• Nests of "basaloid" dark cells in dermis



Ed Uthman, MD



- "Palisading nuclei"
- Cells at periphery of nests line up in parallel



Ed Uthman, MD



### **Superficial BCC**

- Special variant of BCC (~30% of BCCs)
- Light red to pink plaque
- Slight scale
- Most commonly occur on the trunk



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#### **Treatment SCC and BCC**

- Surgical excision
- Cryotherapy
- Electrosurgery
- Radiation therapy
- Topical chemotherapy
- High risk lesions excised
  - Larger lesions
  - Recurrent lesions
  - Lesions in specific locations
  - Immunosuppressed patients (SCC)



- Highly malignant form of skin cancer
- ABCDE
  - Asymmetrical
  - Irregular border
  - Color variation
  - Diameter > 6mm
  - Evolving over time



Wikipedia/Public Domain



Types

- Superficial spreading
  - Most common subtype
  - 75% of melanomas
- Nodular
  - 15 to 30% of melanomas
  - Aggressive subtype
  - Grow vertically
  - 50% melanoma deaths

#### Nodular



0x6adb015/Wikipedia



Types

- Lentigo maligna
  - Lentigo = small, flat, dark spot (large freckle)
  - Confined to epidermis
  - Lentigo maligna = growing dark spot confined to epidermis
  - Sometimes called "melanoma in situ"
  - Lentigo maligna melanoma = invasion of dermis
  - *Slow growing*  $\rightarrow$  years to develops
  - Spreads, darkens, becomes lumpy
  - Occurs in elderly



Public Domain



#### Lentigo maligna

Types

- Acral lentiginous
  - Least common type (<5%)</li>
  - Palms, bottom of foot, under nails
- Most common type dark-skinned patients
  - Asians
  - African-Americans

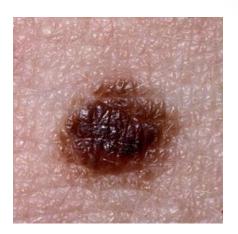




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**Risk Factors** 

- Sun exposure
  - Especially severe sunburns in childhood
- Nevi
  - 1/3 melanomas arise from dysplastic nevi
  - High number of nevi associate with melanoma risk
- Light-sensitivity of skin type
  - Light skin pigmentation
  - Freckles
  - Poor tanning ability



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Diagnosis

- Biopsy
- No single diagnostic feature
  - Nests of melanocytes
  - Atypical cells, irregular nuclear shape
- Tumor markers: **S100**
  - Calcium binding protein in nucleus
  - Highly sensitive (low specificity)





**Treatment and Prognosis** 

- Tumor cells initially grow radially
  - Spread along epidermis and upper dermis
- Eventually tumor shifts to vertical growth phase
  - Tumor cells invade downward in dermis
- 1 depth of tumor = 1 risk of metastasis
  - Breslow thickness
  - Distance from granular epidermis to deepest tumor cells



**Treatment and Prognosis** 

- Treatment: excision with wide margins
- Metastasis
  - Hematogenous and lymphatic
  - Lungs, liver, brain (most common causes of death)



Pixabay



Genetics

#### BRAF gene mutations

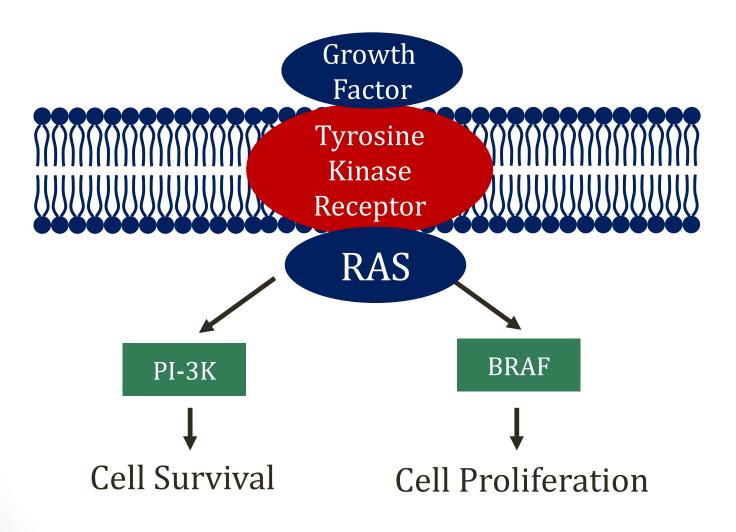
- Common (40 50%) in sporadic melanomas
- BRAF = proto-oncogene
- Triggers cell proliferation on RAS activation

#### • V600E mutation of BRAF gene

- 90% BRAF mutations = V600E mutation
- Treatable with BRAF inhibitors
- Vemurafenib and dabrafenib
- Increase survival in melanoma with V600E mutation



Genetics





# Neurocutaneous Disorders

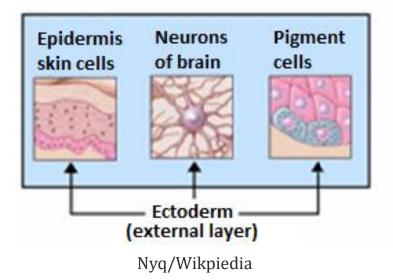
Jason Ryan, MD, MPH



#### Neurocutaneous Disorders

Phakomatoses

- Genetic disorders of skin, nerves and eye
  - Other structures sometimes involved (bones, kidneys)
- Structures derived from *ectoderm*
- Neurofibromatosis
- Tuberous Sclerosis
- Sturge-Weber syndrome
- von Hippel-Lindau disease





- Familial cancer syndrome
- Genetic disorder
- Autosomal dominant
- Mutations in NF1 or NF2 genes
  - NF1: Most common type
- Nerve tumors with skin and eye findings



NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

- Mutation of NF1
  - Tumor suppressor gene on chromosome 17
  - Encodes for neurofibromin (tumor suppressor protein)
  - Restricts RAS function
  - Mutation  $\rightarrow$  RAS overactivity  $\rightarrow$  uncontrolled growth
- Autosomal dominant with 100% penetrance
  - All gene carriers have disease
  - Children of affected individuals  $\rightarrow$  50% chance of disease
- Variable expressivity
  - Some patients: mild features
  - Other patients: severe features



NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

- Neurofibromas
  - Benign tumors
  - Develop on nerves
  - Often cutaneous nerves

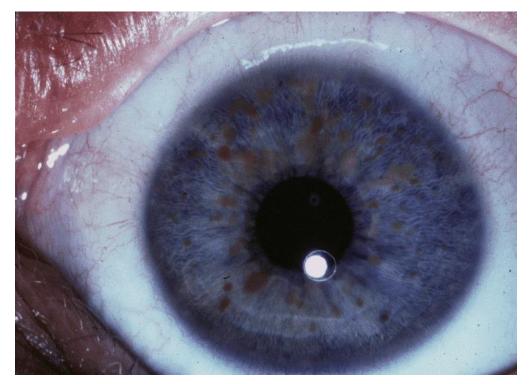


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NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

- Lisch nodules
  - Brown spots on iris



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NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

- Café-au-lait spots
  - "Coffee with milk"
  - Light brown macules
- Freckles
  - Not random
  - Clusters in skin folds
  - Axilla and groin



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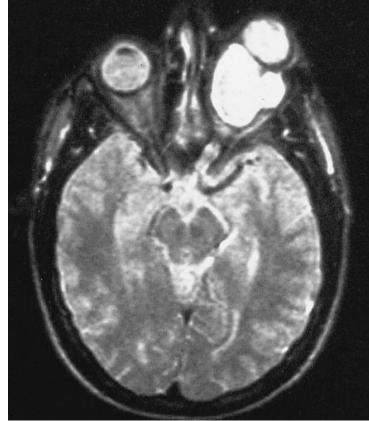
NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

#### Optic gliomas

• Usually develop by 3 years of age

#### Bone abnormalities

- Curvature of long bones
- Facial deformity of eye socket
- Scoliosis
- Intellectual impairment



Wikipedia/Public Domain



NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

#### Hypertension

- Renal artery stenosis
- Rarely pheochromocytoma

#### Malignant tumors

- Some neurofibroma become malignant
- Usually not skin lesions
- Peripheral nerve sheath tumors
- Occurs in adolescence or adulthood
- Presents as pain or sudden growth of neurofibroma



#### NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

#### Diagnostic criteria

- Six or more café-au-lait spots
- Two or more neurofibromas
- Freckles in axilla or groin
- Optic glioma
- Two or more Lisch nodules
- Bone lesions
- 1<sup>st</sup> degree relative with NF1



NF1/von Recklinghausen disease

- Birth to 2 years
  - Café-au-lait spots
  - Bone abnormalities
  - Optic gliomas
- Age 2 to 6
  - Lisch nodules
  - Developmental delay
- Adolescence (puberty)
  - Cutaneous neurofibromas



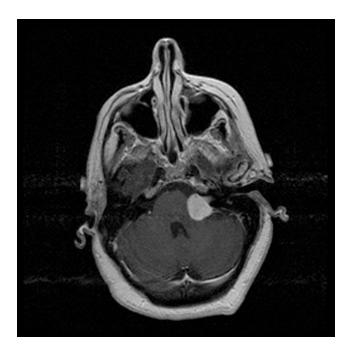
- Less common than NF1
- Also autosomal dominant
- Mutation of NF2 gene
- Major features: CNS tumors
- Bilateral schwannomas
  - "Acoustic neuromas"
  - Occur in almost all patients
- Meningiomas



#### Schwannoma

- Schwann cells: Glial (non neurons) of PNS
- Classically located to CN VIII
- Hearing loss, tinnitus, ataxia





Hellerhoff/Public Domain

#### **Tuberous Sclerosis**

- Familial cancer syndrome
- Hallmark: hamartomas
  - Benign malformation of cells/tissue
  - Resembles tissue of origin (skin, lung, spleen)
- Main clinical feature: seizures
  - CNS hamartomas



- Autosomal dominant with variable expressivity
  - De novo mutations: 80% cases (no family history)
- Mutation in TSC1 or TSC2 gene
  - TSC1: Hamartin
  - TSC2: Tuberin
- Proteins inhibit mTOR
  - Mechanistic target of rapamycin
  - Kinase
- Mutation  $\rightarrow$  mTOR overactivity  $\rightarrow$  cell growth
  - Especially cell size



- Widespread tumor formation
- Involves MULTIPLE organ systems
- Numerous hamartomas and other neoplasms
- Classic features
  - Seizures most common presenting feature
  - "Ash leaf spots": Pale, hypopigmented skin lesions
  - Facial skin spots (angiofibromas)
  - Intellectual impairment (mental retardation)



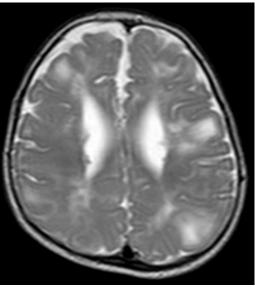
#### **CNS Tumors**

#### Cortical tubers

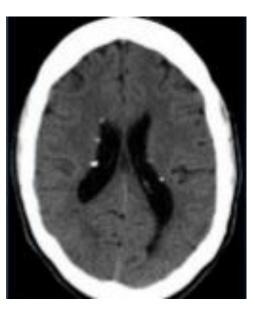
- Distorted cortex
- Seizures

#### Subependymal nodules

• Ependyma = lining of ventricles





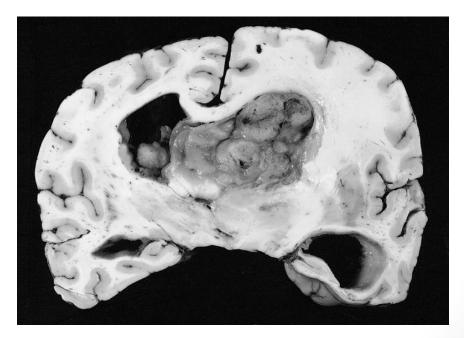


Hytham Nafady

Subependymal giant cell astrocytomas

- Low grade **astrocytoma**
- Usually occur at interventricular foramen
- May obstruct ventricles → hydrocephalus





Wikipedia/Public Domain



#### Angiofibromas

• Fibrous papules usually on face





Herbert L. Fred, MD and Hendrik A. van Dijk

#### Ash Leaf Spots

- Hypopigmented macules
- Usually oval or elliptical



Mohd Hanafi



#### Shagreen patches

- Connective tissue hamartoma
- Usually found on lower back
- "Orange peel" or "leathery" texture



K. Chinnasamy



#### **Ungual fibromas**

Fibromas beneath nailbeds



R. Verma/Public Domain



#### Rhabdomyomas

- Tumors of muscle cells
- Benign (do not metastasize)
- Classic cardiac feature of TS (90% cases)
- Sometimes detected prenatal
- Tumor embedded in ventricular wall
- Rare symptoms from obstruction, arrhythmia



#### **Renal Angiomyolipomas**

- Most frequent renal manifestation
- Multiple/bilateral
- Proliferation of epithelioid cells around vessels
- Growth and hemorrhage → pain
- May cause renin-dependent hypertension
- Risk of chronic kidney disease
  - Compression of normal renal tissue



#### Renal Angiomyolipomas



Hellerhoff/Wikipedia

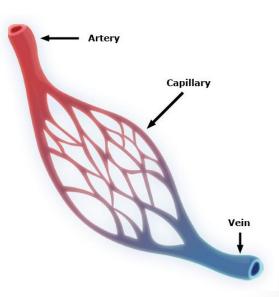


**Classic Case** 

- Child/infant
- Seizures
- Ash-leaf spots
- Angiofibromas



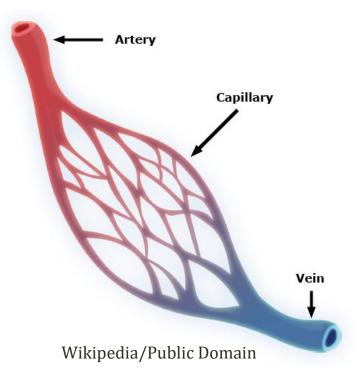
- Congenital vascular disorder of capillaries
  - Spontaneous gene mutation in early development
  - Not inherited
- Three classic features
  - Port-wine stain on face (birthmark)
  - Leptomeningeal angioma (brain tumor)
  - Increased ocular pressure (glaucoma)



Wikipedia/Public Domain



- Spontaneous mutation in GNAQ gene
- Occurs after fertilization (somatic mutation)
- Mosaicism (some cells normal, some mutated)
- Abnormal capillary formation/growth





Port-Wine Stain/Nevus Flammeus

- Malformation of dermal capillaries and venules
- Occurs on face in SWS
- Unilateral
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> trigeminal area
- Slow/low blood flow
- Pink/red patches
- Apparent at birth
- Does not regress
- Grows as child grows

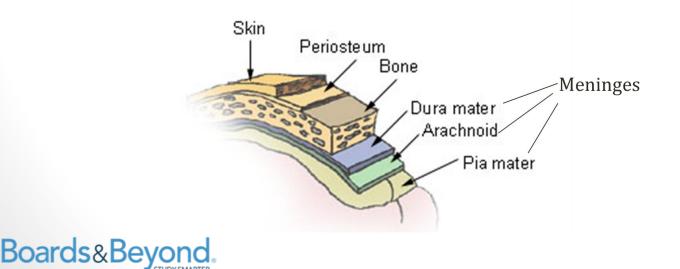


Lee Health/Vimeo



Leptomeningeal angioma

- Leptomeninges: pia mater and arachnoid
- Angioma: capillary-venous malformation
- Occurs on same side as port-wine stain
- May cause seizures (80% patients)
  - Often begin first 2 years of life
- May cause hemiparesis, headaches



Glaucoma

- In infancy or early adulthood
- Exact mechanism unclear
  - Abnormalities anterior chamber angle
  - Elevated venous pressure in episclera
  - Choroidal hemangiomas
- Causes vision impairment



Petr Novák, Wikipedia



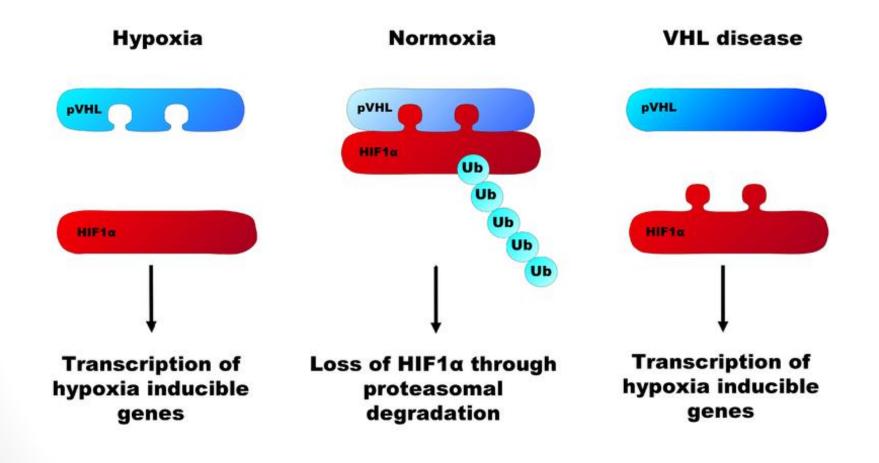
**Classic Case** 

- Newborn with port wine stain
- Seizures
- Glaucoma



- Genetic cancer syndrome
- Multiple benign/malignant tumors
- von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) gene
  - Chromosome 3
  - Codes for VHL tumor suppressor protein
- Ubiquitination of hypoxia-inducible factor
  - Post-translational modification
  - Addition of ubiquitin to proteins (small protein)
  - Tags proteins for destruction in proteasome
- Cells behave as if hypoxic  $\rightarrow$  blood vessel growth





Simon Caulton/Wikipedia



#### Multiple hemangioblastomas

- Clumps of capillaries ("angiomatosis")
- Bright red on gross examination
- Well-circumscribed, benign
- No invasion or metastasis
- Symptoms: compression of other structures, hemorrhage
- Occur in CNS
- Rarely occur sporadically outside VHL
- Classic locations: cerebellum, spinal cord, retina

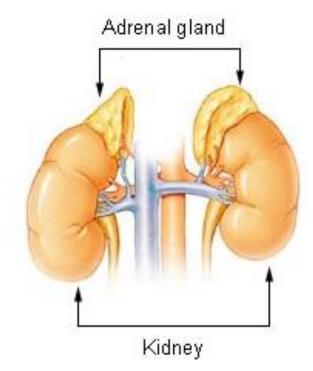




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- Renal cysts
- Renal cell carcinomas (bilateral)
- Pheochromocytomas



Wikipedia /Public Domain



- Requires "two hits"
  - One abnormal gene inherited (germline mutation)
  - Second spontaneous mutation  $\rightarrow$  disease
  - Similar to retinoblastoma, Li-Fraumeni, FAP
  - "Autosomal dominant"
- Onset usually late childhood to young adulthood
  - Takes years for second hit to occur

