

DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCOPY OF SKIN COLOURED PAPULES; AN AID TO DIAGNOSING THE LITTLE BUMPS!

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Introduction: A variety of skin colored papules, present to the dermatology OPD everyday. Dermoscopy of skin tumors such as melanomas, basal cell carcinoma and other tumors is well established. However, dermoscopy of a range of commonly occurring skin colored papules, have been described only sporadically or not described at all. The dermatoscope serves as a very helpful tool in such conditions which might pose diagnostic challenges. Here in, we provide a review of the dermoscopic patterns of such skin colored papules.

Material and Methods: Seventy-five cases were taken for the present study, which included Molluscum contagiosum, Milia en plaque, Trichoepithilioma, lichen nitidus, keratosis pilaris and Eccrine hydrocystoma. The number of cases ranged from six to twenty in each case. HEINE® NC1 Dermatoscope was used for evaluation of all cases.

Results/Observations: Characteristic dermoscopic patterns of milia and keratosis pilaris effectively helped in the diagnosis of rare cases of eruptive milia and keratosis pilaris on the face. In case of trichoepithelioma, dermoscopy of each papule revealed in-focus arborizing vessels and multiple milia-like cysts amidst a whitish background.

Syringomas have been demonstrated to show ivory white homogeneous area, described as "cloud" pattern. We would like to add an important finding, that of, preservation of eccrine duct openings within the described homogeneous area, which we believe will help further in the diagnosis.

The highlight of the study was, the modest Molluscum, in which the dermoscopic findings of crown vessels with or without orifice helped in the diagnosis of many cases, especially those presenting at unusual sites and of unusual sizes.

Conclusion: Hence, whenever a doubt or 'the curiosity to know more' arises in the mind of an eager dermatologist, the dermatoscope serves as a promising tool to aid in the diagnosis of skin colored papules which we see almost every day.





