



PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

## MEDIAN RAPHE CYSTS MISDIAGNOSED AS GENITAL WARTS

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**Background:** Clinically they present as multiple, asymptomatic, mobile, cystic lesions, localized on the ventral line, between the urethral meatus and anus. In most cases they have been described since birth, although can become evident during childhood or, even adulthood. They are induced by incomplete fusion of the urethral or genital areas.

**Observation:** We present a 2-year-old healthy male child addressed to Dermatology for genital warts, previously treated with chemical topical agents and cryosurgery, without results. Clinical examination established the diagnosis of median raphe cysts and post-pone the invasive surgical therapy. Reassurance of the parents about the cause and benign nature of the lesions were needed, as well as close follow-up.

**Key message:** Cysts of the median raphe are rarely reported and frequently misdiagnosed as genital warts. Clinical picture and evolution should be criteria for differential diagnosis. Although surgery is the treatment of choice, by avoiding infectious complications and clarifying the diagnosis on histological examination, spontaneous regression is possible. In infancy, clinical close follow-up is mandatory before surgical excision.

