

# Differential Diagnosis in Derm

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  - **Speakers Bureau/Honoraria:** none
  - **Consulting Fees:** none

# Disclosure of Commercial Support

- Potential for conflict(s) of interest:

- Dr. Andrei Metelitsa has no conflicts for this lecture

# Learning Objectives

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- Recognize common primary skin lesions
- Recognize cutaneous patterns

# Primary Lesions

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# Macule

- Flat (non-palpable), differs in color from surrounding skin
- <1 cm in diameter
- Often hypo- or hyperpigmented, but also other colors (e.g. pink, red, violet)



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# Patch – a large macule



*Courtesy, Julie V Schaffer, MD.*



# Papule



*Courtesy, Louis A Fragola, Jr, MD.*

- a solid raised lesion that has distinct borders and is less than 1 cm in diameter

# Plaque

- a solid, raised lesion greater than 1 cm



# Nodule



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- a raised solid lesion more than 1 cm
- Involves dermis and/or subcutaneous tissue

# Vesicle



- raised lesions less than 1 cm. in diameter that are filled with clear fluid

# Bullae

- circumscribed fluid-filled lesions that are greater than 1 cm





# Pustule



*Courtesy, Luis Requena, MD.*

- circumscribed  
elevated lesions that  
contain pus

# Wheal

- Transient elevation of the skin due to dermal edema
- Often erythematous rim



*Courtesy, Jeffrey P Callen, MD.*

# Tumor

- a solid mass of the skin or subcutaneous tissue; it is larger than a nodule.



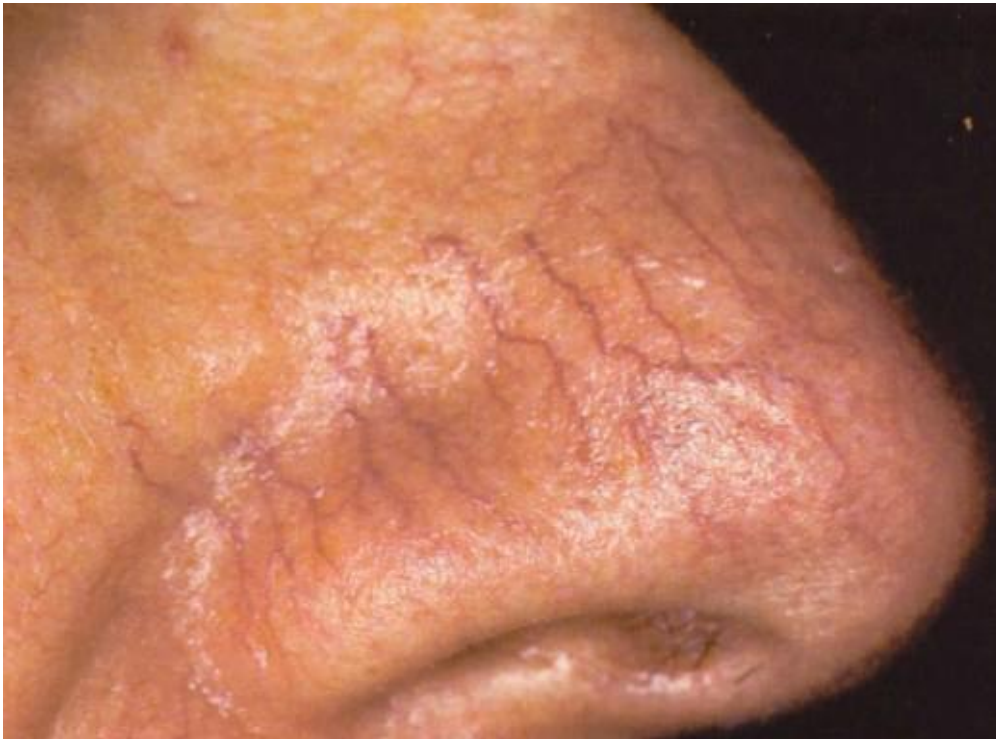


# Burrow

- linear lesions produced by infestation of the skin and formation of tunnels



# Telangiectasia



- permanent dilatation of superficial blood vessels in the skin

# Petechiae/Purpura



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- Red purple lesions that result from extravasation of blood into skin

# Secondary Lesions

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# Scale

- Hyperkeratosis
- Accumulation of stratum corneum due to delayed desquamation



*Courtesy, Julie V Schaffer, MD.*

# Crust

- Dried serum, pus, or blood
- May include bacteria





# Atrophy

- Epidermal – thinning of epidermis with wrinkling or shiny appearance
- Dermal - presents as depression



Courtesy, A Hernández-Martín, MD.

# Lichenification

- Accentuation of normal skin lines (epidermis thickening)
- Usually due to chronic rubbing or scratching



*Courtesy, Julie V Schaffer, MD.*



# Erosion

- Epidermal partial loss



# Ulceration

- Full thickness loss of epidermis



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# Excoriation

- traumatized or abraded skin caused by scratching or rubbing

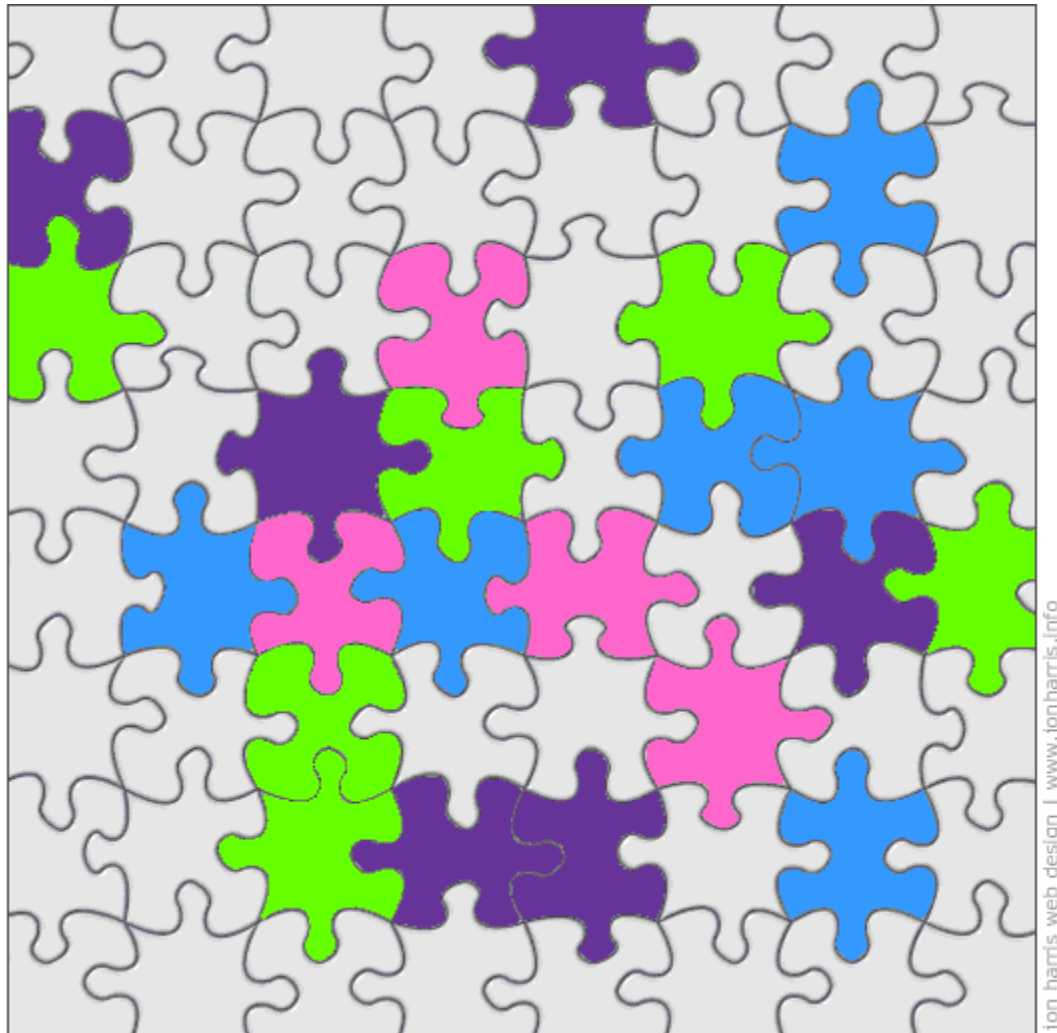


# Fissure

- linear cleavage of skin which extends into the dermis



# Patterns and distribution





# Papulosquamous

- 'Scaling papule'
- DDX: Psoriasis, pityriasis Rosea, PLEVA/PLC, lichen planus, pityriasis rubra, tinea, syphilis, mycosis fungoides



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# Photodistributed

- Exposed to the sun



# Erythrodermic

- Red, head to toe
- Fine desquamation
- DDx: psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, drug eruption, mycosis fungoides





# Annular

- Ring shape
- DDx: granuloma annulare, sarcoid, tinea, urticaria, nummular dermatitis, erythema multiforme, EAC, linear IgA



# Morbilliform



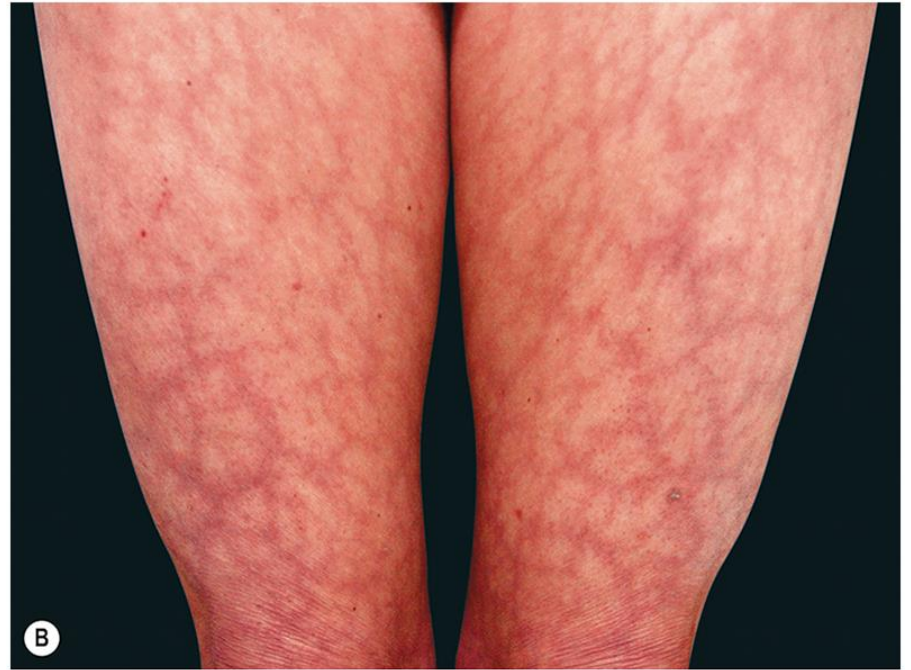
- a rash that looks like measles
- macular lesions that are red and are usually 2-10 mm in diameter but may be confluent in places

# Reticular



*Courtesy, Jeffrey P Callen, MD.*

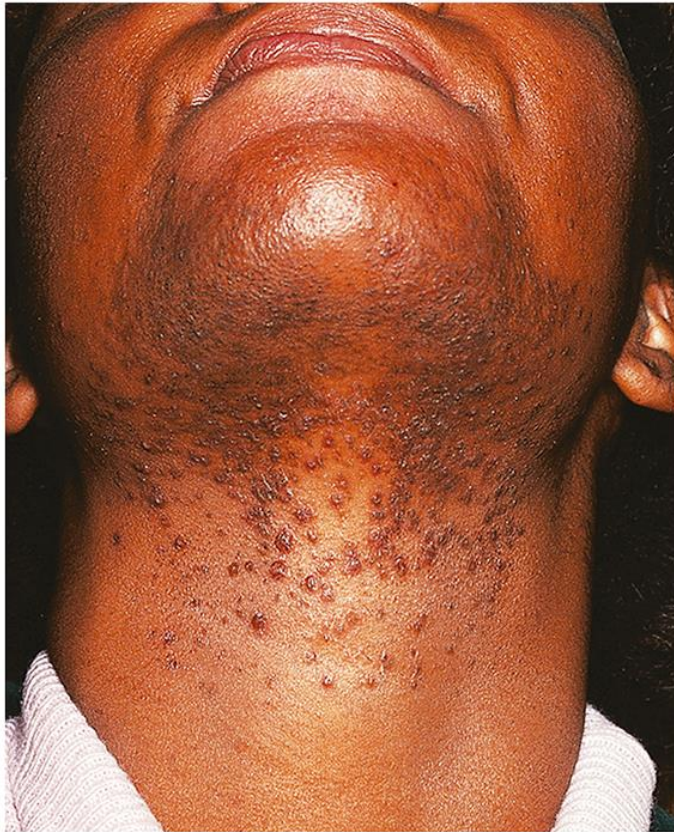
Erythema ab igne



*Courtesy, Jeffrey P Callen, MD.*

Livedo reticularis

# Folliculocentric



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- involve the hair follicle

# Clustered



- grouped



# Zosteriform



- dermatomal

# Discrete



- lesions tend to remain separate

# Eczematous



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- inflamed with a tendency toward clustering, oozing, or crusting
- 'boiling over'



# Targetoid



- Target like

# Linear



- in a line or band-like configuration

# Serpiginous

- as though following the track of a snake



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# Universalis



- affects the entire skin

# Koebnerized



- the appearance of lesions along a site of injury
- lichen planus, warts, molluscum contagiosum, psoriasis, vitiligo

# Satellite



- surrounded by numerous, smaller red macules located adjacent to the body of the main lesions



# verrucous



- warty

# ichthyosiform

- Fish-scales



# PEARLS

- Primary lesions – macule, patch, papule, plaque, nodule, vesicle, bullae, pustule, wheal
- Secondary lesions – crust, scale, fissure, excoriation, erosion, ulcer, atrophy
- Patterns of eruptions: photodistributed, linear, discrete, annular, papulosquamous, erythrodermic, morbilliform, reticular, follicular, targetoid