

Chapter 43

Care of the Patient with an Integumentary Disorder

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Overview of Anatomy and Physiology

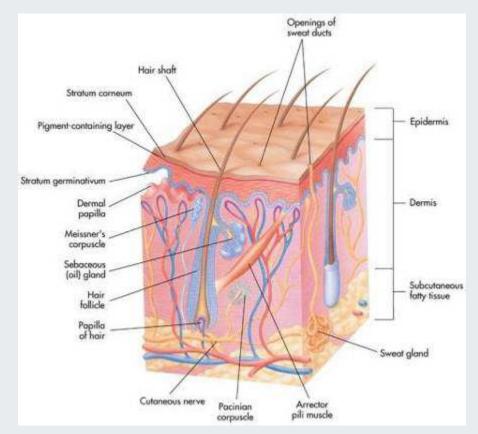
- Functions of the skin
 - Protection
 - Temperature regulation
 - Vitamin D synthesis
- Structure of the skin
 - Epidermis
 - The outer layer of the skin
 - No blood supply
 - Composed of stratified squamous epithelium
 - Divided into layers: Stratum germinativum, pigment-containing layer, stratum corneum

Basic Structure of the Skin

- Structure of the skin
 - Dermis
 - "True skin"
 - Contains blood vessels, nerves, oil glands, sweat glands, and hair follicles
 - Subcutaneous layer
 - Connects the skin to the muscles
 - Composed of adipose and loose connective tissue



Figure 43-1



(From Thibodeau, G.A., Patton, K.T. [2005], The human body in health and disease. [4th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Structures of the skin.

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Basic Structure of the Skin

- Appendages of the skin
 - Sudoriferous glands—sweat glands
 - Ceruminous glands—secrete cerumen (earwax)
 - Located in the external ear canal
 - Sebaceous glands—"oil glands"
 - Secrete sebum
 - Hair
 - Composed of modified dead epidermal tissue, mainly keratin
 - Nails
 - Composed mainly of keratin

- Inspection and palpation
 - Ask the patient about:
 - Recent skin lesions or rashes
 - Where the lesions first appeared
 - How long the lesions have been present
 - Recent skin color changes
 - Exposure to the sun without sunscreen
 - Family history of skin cancer
 - Observe the skin color
 - Assess any skin lesions

- Inspection and palpation (continued)
 - Assess for rashes, scars, lesions, or ecchymoses
 - Assess temperature and texture
 - Inspect nails for normal development, color, shape, and thickness
 - Inspect hair for thickness, dryness, or dullness
 - Inspect mucous membranes for pallor or cyanosis
 - Assess the ceruminous and sebaceous gland for overactivity or underactivity

- Assessment of dark skin
 - Degree of lightness or darkness is genetically determined
 - Melanocytes account for skin color
 - Lips and mucous membranes are easier to assess as the skin is thinner
 - Rashes may be difficult to see and will require palpation



- Primary skin lesions
 - Macule
 - Papule
 - Patch
 - Plaque
 - Wheal
 - Nodule
 - Tumor

- BullaPustule
- Pusiul
 Out
- Cyst
- Telangiectasia
- Scale
- Lichenification
- Keloid
- Vesicle

(See Table 43-1.)

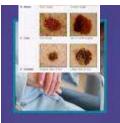
- Scar
- Excoriation
- Fissure
- Erosion
- Ulcer
- Crust
- Atrophy

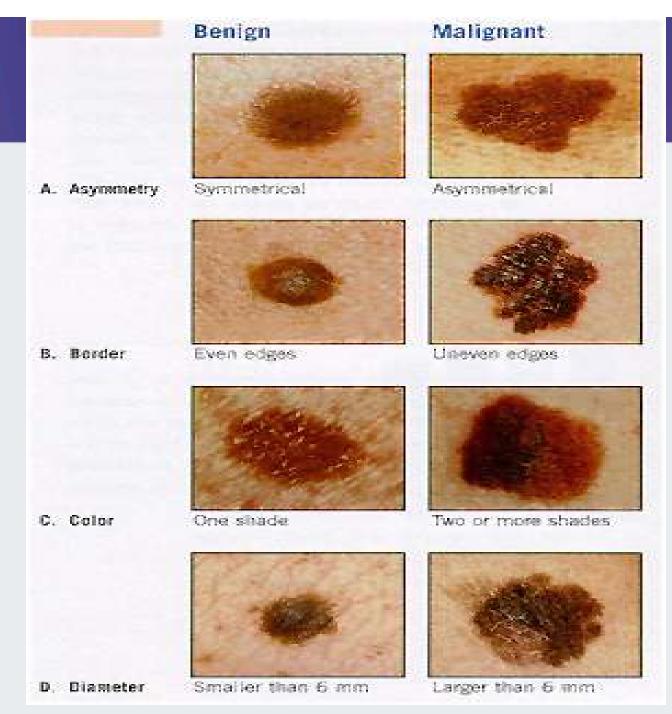
- Chief complaint assessment tool
 - P = Provocative and Palliative factors
 - Q = Quality and Quantity
 - R = Region
 - S = Severity of the signs and symptoms
 - T = Time the patient has had the disorder

- Identification of a potential malignancy
 - A = Asymmetrical lesion
 - B = Borders irregular
 - C = Color (even or uneven)
 - D = Diameter of the growth (recent changes)
 - E = Elevation of the surface









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Psychosocial Assessment

- May affect body image and self-esteem
 - Assess coping abilities
 - Nurse's attitude should be nonjudgmental, warm, and accepting
 - Provide consistent information
 - Include family in treatment plan
 - Provide positive feedback

- Herpes simplex
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Herpesvirus hominis
 - Type 1
 - Most common
 - Common cold sore
 - Type 2
 - Genital herpes
 - Transmission
 - Direct contact with an open lesion
 - Type 2—primarily sexual contact

- Herpes simplex *(continued)*
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Type 1
 - Vesicle at the corner of the mouth, on the lips, or on the nose—"cold sore"
 - Erythematous and edematous
 - Malaise and fatigue
 - Type 2
 - Various types of vesicles on the cervix or penis
 - Flu-like symptoms



Figure 43-2



(From Habif, T.P. [2004]. Clinical dermatology: a color guide to diagnosis and therapy. [4th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Herpes simplex.

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- Herpes simplex *(continued)*
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Culture of lesion
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Antiviral medications and analgesics
 - Comfort measures
 - Patient education

- Herpes simplex (continued)
 - Prognosis
 - No cure
 - Type 1
 - Lesions heal within 10 to 14 days
 - Recur with depression of immune system: physical and/or emotional stress
 - Type 2
 - Lesions heal within 7 to 14 days
 - Recur with depression of immune system

- Herpes zoster (shingles)
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Herpes varicella (same virus that causes chickenpox)
 - Inflammation of the spinal ganglia (nerve)
 - Occurs when immune system is depressed
 - Signs and symptoms
 - Erythematous rash along a spinal nerve pathway
 - Vesicles are usually preceded by pain
 - Rash usually in the thoracic region
 - Vesicles rupture and form a crust
 - Extreme tenderness and pruritus in the area



Figure 43-3



(Courtesy of the Department of Dermatology, School of Medicine, University of Utah.)

Herpes zoster.

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- Herpes zoster (shingles) (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Culture of lesion
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Analgesics, steroids, Kenalog lotion, corticosteroids, acyclovir (Zovirax)
 - Ativan and Atarax: decrease anxiety
 - Comfort measures
 - Patient teaching

- Pityriasis rosea
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Virus
 - Clinical manifestation/assessment
 - Begins as a single lesion that is scaly and has a raised border and pink center
 - Approximately 14 days later, smaller matching spots become widespread
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Inspection and subjective data from patient



Figure 43-4



(Courtesy of the Department of Dermatology, School of Medicine, University of Utah.)

Pityriasis rosea herald patch.

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- Pityriasis rosea *(continued)*
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Usually requires no treatment
 - Moisturizing cream for dryness
 - 1% hydrocortisone cream for pruritus
 - Ultraviolet light may shorten the course of the disease



- Cellulitis
 - Common pathogens
 - Staphylococcus aureus
 - Haemophilus influenzae
 - Risk factors
 - Transmission of the infection



Cellulitis

- Clinical manifestations
 - Erythema
 - Pain
 - Tenderness
 - Vesicle formation
 - Enlarged lymph nodes



Bacterial Infections of the Skin

Cellulitis

- Assessment parameters
- Diagnostic tests
- Medical management
- Nursing interventions

Bac

- Impetigo contagiosa
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Staphylococcus aureus or streptococci
 - Common in children
 - Highly contagious
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Lesions begin as macules and develop into pustules
 - Pustules rupture—form honey-colored exudate
 - Usually affects face, hands, arms, and legs
 - Highly contagious—direct or indirect contact
 - Low-grade fever; leukocytosis

- Impetigo contagiosa (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Culture of exudate from lesion
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Antibiotic therapy
 - Medical management
 - Nursing interventions

- Folliculitis, furuncles, carbuncles, and felons
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Typically attributed to S. aureus
 - Folliculitis
 - Infected hair follicle
 - Furuncle (boil)
 - Infection deep in hair follicle; involves surrounding tissue
 - Carbuncle
 - Cluster of furuncles
 - Felons
 - Infected soft tissue under and around an area



- Folliculitis, furuncles, carbuncles, and felons *(continued)*
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Pustule
 - Edema
 - Erythema
 - Pain
 - Pruritus
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Physical examination
 - Culture of drainage



- Folliculitis, furuncles, carbuncles, and felons (continued)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Warm soaks two to three times per day (promote suppuration)
 - May require surgical incision and drainage
 - Topical antibiotic cream or ointment
 - Medical asepsis

Fungal Infections of the Skin

- Dermatophytoses
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Microsporum audouinii major fungal pathogen
 - Tinea capitis
 - Ringworm of the scalp
 - Tinea corporis
 - Ringworm of the body
 - Tinea cruris
 - Jock itch
 - Tinea pedis (most common)
 - Athlete's foot



Figure 43-7



(From Habif, T.P. [2004]. Clinical dermatology: a color guide to diagnosis and therapy. [4th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Tinea capitis.

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Fungal Infections of the Skin

- Dermatophytoses (continued)
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Tinea capitis
 - Erythematous around lesion with pustules around the edges and alopecia at the site
 - Tinea corporis
 - Flat lesions—clear center with red border, scaliness, and pruritus
 - Tinea cruris
 - Brownish-red lesions in groin area, pruritus, skin excoriation
 - Tinea pedis
 - Fissures and vesicles around and below toes

Fungal Infections of the Skin

- Dermatophytoses (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Visual inspection
 - Ultraviolet light for tinea capitis
 - Infected hair becomes fluorescent (blue-green)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Griseofulvin—oral
 - Antifungal soaps and shampoos
 - Tinactin or Desenex
 - Keep area clean and dry
 - Burow's solution (tinea pedis)



- Contact dermatitis
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Direct contact with agents of hypersensitivity
 - Detergents, soaps, industrial chemicals, plants
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Burning
 - Pain
 - Pruritus
 - Edema
 - Papules and vesicles



- Contact dermatitis
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Health history
 - Intradermal skin testing
 - Elimination diets
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Remove cause
 - Burow's solution
 - Corticosteroids to lesions
 - Cold compresses
 - Antihistamines (Benadryl)



- Dermatitis venenata, exfoliative dermatitis, and dermatitis medicamentosa
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Dermatitis venenata: Contact with certain plants
 - Exfoliative dermatitis: Infestation of heavy metals, antibiotics, aspirin, codeine, gold, or iodine
 - Dermatitis medicamentosa: Hypersensitivity to a medication
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Mild to severe erythema and pruritus
 - Vesicles
 - Respiratory distress (especially with medicamentosa)

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- Dermatitis venenata, exfoliative dermatitis, and dermatitis medicamentosa (continued)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - All dermatitis
 - Colloid solution, lotions, and ointments
 - Corticosteroids
 - Dermatitis venenata
 - Thoroughly wash affected area
 - Cool, wet compresses
 - Calamine lotion
 - Dermatitis medicamentosa
 - Discontinue use of drug



- Urticaria
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Allergic reaction (release of histamine in an antigen-antibody reaction)
 - Drugs, food, insect bites, inhalants, emotional stress, or exposure to heat or cold
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Pruritus
 - Burning pain
 - Wheals



Urticaria





- Urticaria (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Health history
 - Allergy skin test
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Identify and alleviate cause
 - Antihistamine (Benadryl)
 - Therapeutic bath
 - Epinephrine
 - Teach patient possible causes and prevention



- Angioedema
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Form of urticaria
 - Occurs only in subcutaneous tissue
 - Same offenders as urticaria
 - Common sites: eyelids, hands, feet, tongue, larynx, GI, genitalia, or lips



- Angioedema (continued)
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Burning and pruritus
 - Acute pain (GI tract)
 - Respiratory distress (larynx)
 - Edema of an entire area (eyelid, feet, lips, etc.)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Antihistamines, epinephrine, corticosteroids
 - Comfort measures



- Eczema (atopic dermatitis)
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Allergen causes histamine to be released and an antigen-antibody reaction occurs
 - Primarily occurs in infants
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Papules and vesicles on scalp, forehead, cheeks, neck, and extremities
 - Erythema and dryness of area
 - Pruritus



- Eczema (atopic dermatitis) (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Health history (heredity)
 - Diet elimination
 - Skin testing
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Corticosteroids
 - Coal tar preparations
 - Reduce exposure to allergen
 - Hydration of skin
 - Lotions—Eucerin, Alpha-Keri, Lubriderm, or Curel three to four times/day



- Acne vulgaris
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Occluded oil glands
 - Androgens increase the size of the oil gland
 - Influencing factors
 - Diet
 - Stress
 - Heredity
 - Overactive hormones



- Acne vulgaris *(continued)*
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Tenderness and edema
 - Oily, shiny skin
 - Pustules
 - Comedones (blackheads)
 - Scarring from traumatized lesions
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Inspection of lesion
 - Blood samples for androgen level



- Acne vulgaris *(continued)*
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Topical therapies (benzoyl peroxide, vitamin A acids, antibiotics, sulfur-zinc lotions)
 - Systemic therapies (tetracycline, isotretinoin)
 - Keep skin clean
 - Keep hands and hair away from area
 - Wash hair daily
 - Water-based makeup



- Psoriasis
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Noninfectious
 - Skin cells divide more rapidly than normal
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Raised, erythematous, circumscribed, silvery, scaling plaques
 - Located on scalp, elbows, knees, chin, and trunk



Figure 43-10



(Courtesy of the Department of Dermatology, School of Medicine, University of Utah.)

Psoriasis.

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- Psoriasis (continued)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Topical steroids
 - Keratolytic agents
 - Tar preparations
 - Salicylic acid
 - Photochemotherapy: PUVA
 - Oral psoralen
 - Ultraviolet light



- Systemic lupus erythematosus
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Autoimmune disorder
 - Inflammation of almost any body part
 - Skin, joints, kidneys, and serous membranes
 - Affects women more than men
 - Contributing factors
 - Immunological, hormonal, genetic, and viral



- Systemic lupus erythematosus (continued)
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Erythema butterfly rash over nose and cheeks
 - Alopecia
 - Photosensitivity
 - Oral ulcers
 - Polyarthralgias and polyarthritis
 - Pleuritic pain, pleural effusion, pericarditis, and vasculitis
 - Renal disorders
 - Neurological signs (seizures)
 - Hematological disorders



Figure 43-11



(From Habif, T.P., et al. [2005]. Skin disease: diagnosis and treatment. [2nd ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) flare.

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- Systemic lupus erythematosus (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Antinuclear antibody
 - DNA antibody
 - Complement
 - CBC
 - Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
 - Coagulation profile
 - Rheumatoid factor

- Rapid plasma reagin
- Skin and renal biopsy
- C-reactive protein
- Coombs' test
- LE cell prep
- Urinalysis
- Chest x-ray film



- Systemic lupus erythematosus (continued)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - No cure; treat symptoms, induce remission, alleviate exacerbations
 - Pharmacological management
 - Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents, antimalarial drugs, corticosteroids, antineoplastic drugs, anti-infective agents, analgesics, diuretics
 - Avoid direct sunlight
 - Balance rest and exercise
 - Balanced diet



- Pediculosis
 - Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Lice infestation
 - Three types of lice
 - Head lice (capitis)
 - Attaches to hair shaft and lays eggs
 - Body lice (corporis)
 - Found around the neck, waist, and thighs
 - Found in seams of clothing
 - Pubic lice (crabs)
 - Looks like crab with pincers
 - Found in pubic area

- Pediculosis (continued)
 - Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Nits and/or lice on involved area
 - Pinpoint raised, red macules
 - Pinpoint hemorrhages
 - Severe pruritus
 - Excoriation
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Physical examination

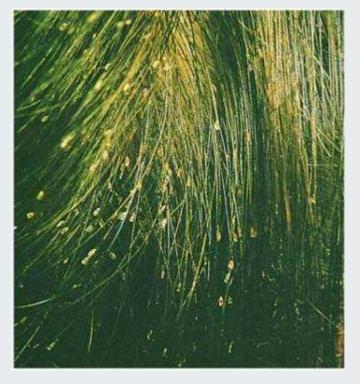








Figure 43-12

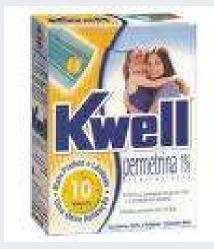


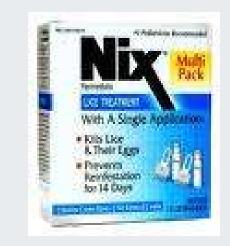
(From Baran R., Dawber, R.R., & Levene, G.M. [1991]. Color atlas of the hair, scalp, and nails. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Eggs of *Pediculus* attached to shafts of hair.

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- Pediculosis (continued)
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Lindane (Kwell); pyrethrins (RID)
 - Topical corticosteroids
 - Cool compresses
 - Assess all contacts
 - Wash bed linens and clothes in hot water
 - Properly clean furniture or nonwashable materials



Scabies

- Etiology/pathophysiology
 - Sarcoptes scabiei (itch mite)
 - Mite lays eggs under the skin
 - Transmitted by prolonged contact with infected area
- Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Wavy, brown, threadlike lines on the body
 - Pruritus
 - Excoriation







- Scabies (continued)
 - Diagnostic tests
 - Microscopic examination of infected skin
 - Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Pharmacological management
 - Lindane (Kwell), pyrethrins (RID), crotamiton (Eurax), 4% to 8% solution of sulfur in petrolatum
 - Treat all family members
 - Wash linens and clothing in hot water

Tumors of the Skin

- Keloids
 - Overgrowth of collagenous scar tissue; raised, hard, and shiny
 - May be surgically removed, but may recur
 - Steroids and radiation may be used
- Angiomas
 - A group of blood vessels dilate and form a tumor-like mass
 - Port-wine birthmark
 - Treatment: electrolysis; radiation



Figure 43-15



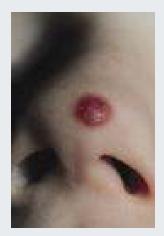
(From Zitelli, B.J., Davis, H.W. [2007]. Atlas of pediatric physical diagnosis. [5th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Keloids.

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Tumors of the Skin

- Verruca (wart)
 - Benign, viral warty skin lesion
 - Common locations: Hands, arms, and fingers
 - Treatment: Cauterization, solid carbon dioxide, liquid nitrogen, salicylic acid
- Nevi (moles)
 - Congenital skin blemish
 - Usually benign, but may become malignant
 - Assess for any change in color, size, or texture
 - Assess for bleeding or pruritus







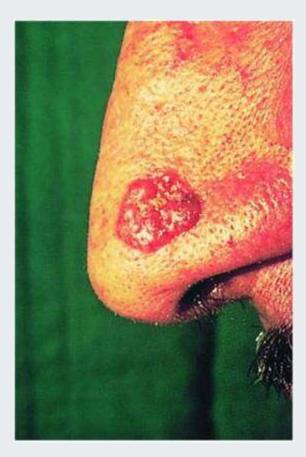


Tumors of the Skin

- Basal cell carcinoma
 - Skin cancer
 - Caused by frequent contact with chemicals, overexposure to the sun, radiation treatment
 - Most common on face and upper trunk
 - Favorable outcome with early detection and removal
- Squamous cell carcinoma
 - Firm, nodular lesion; ulceration and indurated margins
 - Rapid invasion with metastasis via lymphatic system
 - Sun-exposed areas; sites of chronic irritation
 - Early detection and treatment are important



Figure 43-16



(From Belcher, A. E. [1992]. Cancer nursing. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Basal cell carcinoma.

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Figure 43-17



(Courtesy of the Department of Dermatology, School of Medicine, University of Utah.)

Squamous cell carcinoma.

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Tumors of the Skin

- Malignant melanoma
 - Cancerous neoplasm
 - Melanocytes invade the epidermis, dermis, and subcutaneous tissue
 - Greatest risk
 - Fair complexion, blue eyes, red or blond hair, and freckles
 - Treatment
 - Surgical excision
 - Chemotherapy
 - Cisplatin, methotrexate, dacarbazine







Lentingo melanoma





Nodular melanoma



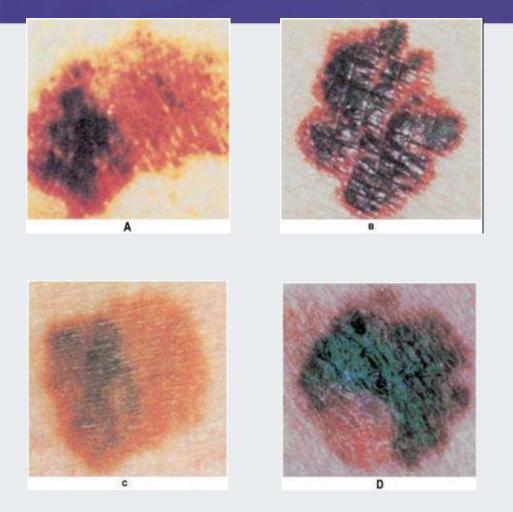


Acral Lentiginous melanoma





Figure 43-18



(From Habif, T.P. [2004]. Clinical dermatology: a color guide to diagnosis and therapy. [4th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

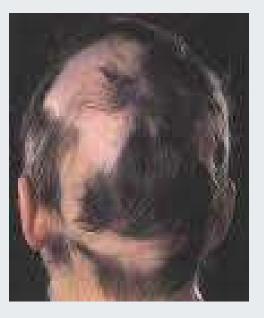
The ABCDs of melanoma.

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Disorders of the Appendages

- Alopecia
 - Loss of hair
 - Cause: Aging, drugs, anxiety, disease
 - Usually grows back unless from aging
- Hypertrichosis (hirsutism)
 - Excessive growth of hair
 - Causes: Heredity, hormone dysfunction, medications
 - Treatment: Dermabrasion, electrolysis, chemical depilation, shaving, plucking









Hirsutism



Disorders of the Appendages

- Hypotrichosis
 - Absence of hair or a decrease in hair growth
 - Causes: Skin disease, endocrine problems, malnutrition
 - Treatment: Identify and remove cause
- Paronychia
 - Disorder of the nails
 - Infection of nail spreads around the nail
 - Treatment: Wet dressings, antibiotic ointment, surgical incision and drainage



Hypotrichosis



Provide the second second



Paronychia





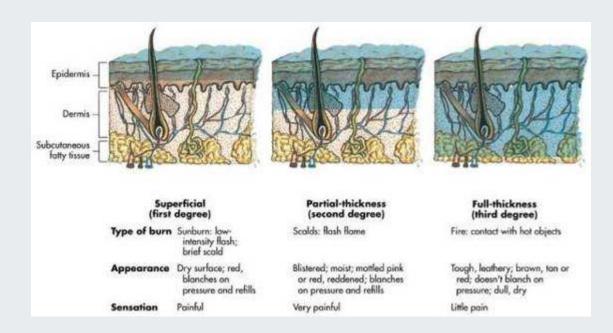
- Etiology/pathophysiology
 - May result from radiation, thermal energy, electricity, chemicals
- Clinical manifestations/assessment
 - Superficial (first degree)
 - Involves epidermis
 - Dry, no vesicles, blanches and refills, erythema, painful
 - Flash flame or sunburn



- Clinical manifestations/assessment (continued)
 - Partial-thickness (second degree)
 - Involves epidermis and at least part of dermis
 - Large, moist vesicles, mottled pink or red, blanches and refills, very painful
 - Scalds, flash flame
 - Full-thickness (third degree)
 - Involves epidermis, dermis, and subcutaneous
 - Fire, contact with hot objects
 - Tough, leathery brown, tan or red, doesn't blanch, dry, dull, little pain



Figure 43-19



(From Hockenberry MJ, Wilson D [2007]. Wong's nursing care of infants and children. [8th ed.]. St. Louis: Mosby.)

Classification of burn depth.

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- Medical management/nursing interventions
 - Emergent phase (first 48 hours)
 - Maintain respiratory integrity
 - Prevent hypovolemic shock
 - Stop burning process
 - Establish airway
 - Fluid therapy
 - Foley catheter; nasogastric tube
 - Analgesics
 - Monitor vital signs
 - Tetanus



- Medical management/nursing interventions (continued)
 - Acute phase (48 to 72 hours after burn)
 - Treat burn
 - Prevention and management of problems
 - Infection, heart failure, contractures, Curling's ulcer
 - Most common cause of death after 72 hours is infection
 - Assess for erythema, odor, and green or yellow exudate
 - Diet: High in protein, calories, and vitamins
 - Pain control
 - Wound care: Strict surgical aseptic technique



- Medical management/nursing interventions (continued)
 - Acute phase (continued)
 - Range of motion
 - Prevent linens from touching burned areas
 - CircOlectric bed
 - Clinitron bed
 - Topical medication: Sulfamylon; Silvadene
 - Skin grafts
 - Autograft
 - Homograft (allograft)
 - Heterograft







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Smoke inhalation

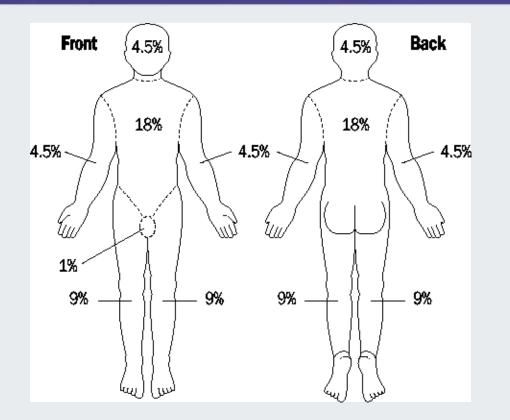


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Rule of 9's





- Medical management/nursing interventions (continued)
 - Rehabilitation phase
 - Goal is to return the patient to a productive life
 - Mobility limitations: Positioning, skin care, exercise, ambulation, ADLs
 - Patient teaching
 - Wound care and dressings
 - Signs and symptoms of complications
 - Exercises
 - Clothing and ADLs
 - Social skills



Nursing Process

- Nursing diagnoses
 - Anxiety
 - Pain
 - Knowledge, deficient related to disease
 - Infection, risk of
 - Trauma, risk for
 - Social interaction, impaired
 - Self-esteem, risk for situational low