

# **Dermato Surgery**

## **Procedures to Treat Benign Conditions**

Many skin tumors and growth are benign and can be diagnosed based on their clinic appearance and history. These lesions can arise from the epidermis, the dermis, or the subcutaneous tissues. This chapter provides a detailed discussion of the most common benign skin lesions and their treatment options.

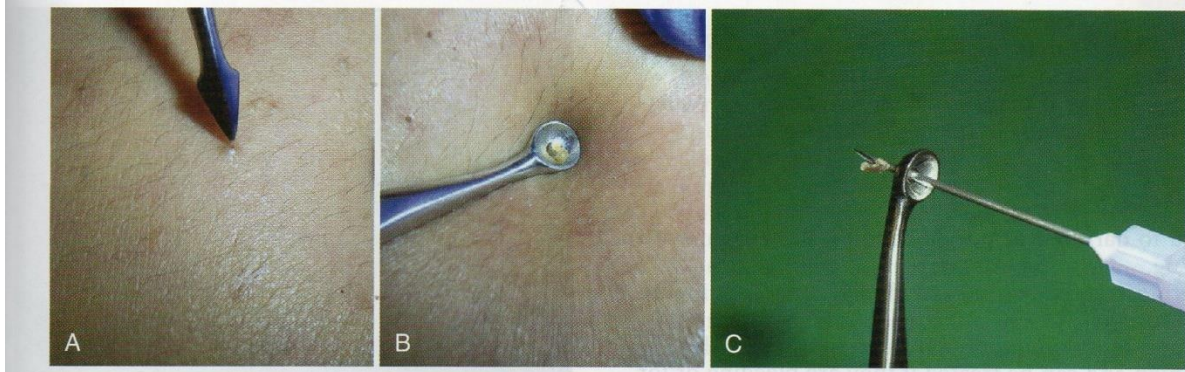
### **SKIN TAGS (ACROCHORDONS)**

#### **Diagnosis**

- Flesh – Colored, raised lesions, often pedunculated
- Common on the neck, axillae, inguinal regions, and under the breasts
- More common in persons with obesity, diabetes, or impaired glucose tolerance
- Some persons develop hundreds of skin tags in conjunction with acanthosis nigricans

#### **Treatment**

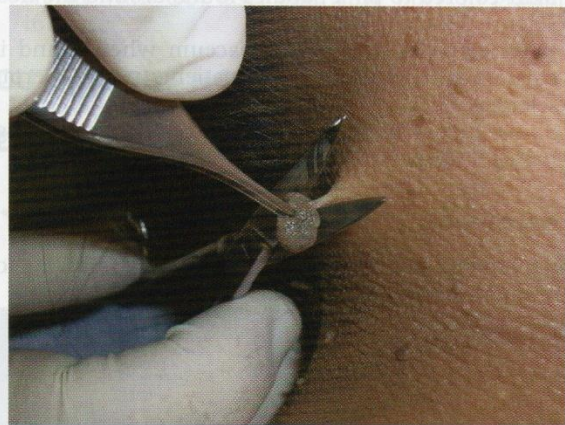
Treatment is done for cosmetic reasons or if the skin tags are getting caught in or irritated by clothing or jewellery



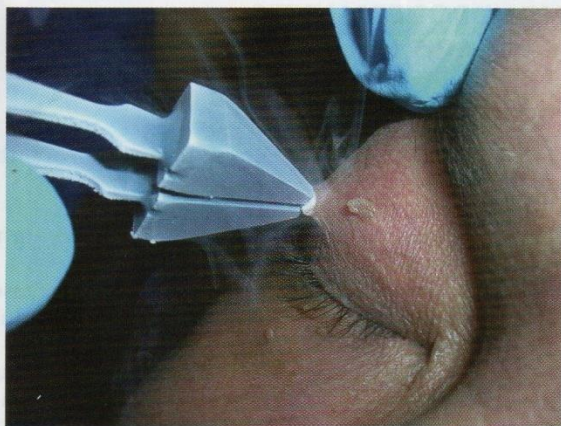
**FIGURE 33-1** Acne surgery: (A) Pierce the comedone with the sharp side of the comedone extractor. (B) Press the comedone extractor against the skin and until the pilosebaceous material comes out. (C) The comedone extractor can be used multiple times and can be cleaned between uses with a 21-gauge needle. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



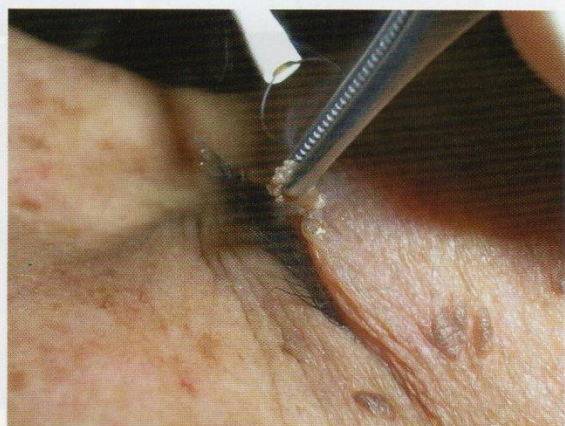
**FIGURE 33-2** Multiple skin tags (acrochordons) on the neck of a man with acanthosis nigricans. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



**FIGURE 33-3** Snip excision of a pedunculated acrochordon. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



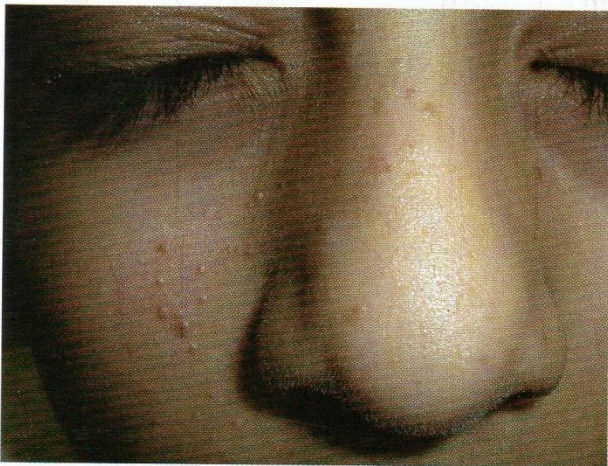
**FIGURE 33-4** Cryosurgery using the Cryo Tweezer on a skin tag indicated on the eyelid. Grasp the acrochordon and pull the eyelid away from the globe. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



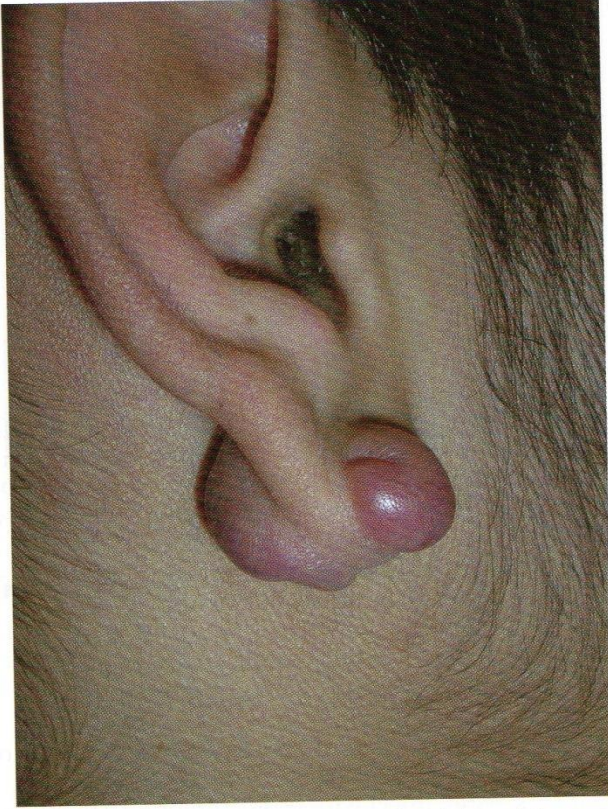
**FIGURE 33-5** Removing a skin tag from the eyelid using an electro-surgical loupe. This requires local anesthetic. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



**FIGURE 33-7** Multiple angiokeratomas on the scrotum. The patient requested removal, so after obtaining consent, lidocaine with epinephrine was injected for local anesthesia. The Hyfrecator was used to electrocoagulate the angiokeratomas. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



**FIGURE 33-6** Multiple angiofibromas on the face of a young child. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



**FIGURE 33-15** Keloids formed on both sides of the earlobe secondary to ear piercing. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)



**FIGURE 33-17** A large keloid developed at the site of an upper ear piercing. This was excised and the helix was sutured with an excellent cosmetic result. (Copyright Richard P. Usatine, MD.)

## Conclusion

The clinician will see simple multiple benign skin tumors in practice. It is important to realize that many, once diagnosed, do not require treatment or intervention. If a patient desire to have the lesion removed, there are usually multiple techniques to achieve removal with reasonable cosmetic results. Clinicians should consider their array of instruments, equipment and their own skills and practice flow to choose the appropriate technique for the individual situation. If the diagnosis is uncertain or malignancy is high in the differential diagnosis, do not hesitate to remove the lesion and send for pathology

