



[Home](#) → [Medical Encyclopedia](#) → Cherry angioma

URL of this page: //medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001441.htm

Cherry angioma

A cherry angioma is a noncancerous (benign) skin growth made up of blood vessels.

Causes

Cherry angiomas are fairly common skin growths that vary in size. They can occur almost anywhere on the body, but usually develop on the trunk.

They are most common after age 30. The cause is unknown, but they tend to be inherited (genetic).

Symptoms

A cherry angioma is:

- Bright cherry-red
- Small -- pinhead size to about one quarter inch (0.64 centimeter) in diameter
- Smooth, or can stick out from the skin

Exams and Tests

Your health care provider will look at the growth on your skin to diagnose a cherry angioma. No further tests are usually necessary. Sometimes a skin biopsy is used to confirm the diagnosis.

Treatment

Cherry angiomas usually do not need to be treated. If they affect your appearance or bleed often, they may be removed by:

- Burning (electrosurgery or cautery)
- Freezing (cryotherapy)
- Laser
- Shave excision

Outlook (Prognosis)

Cherry angiomas are noncancerous. They usually do not harm your health. Removal usually does not cause scarring.

Possible Complications

A cherry angioma may cause:

- Bleeding if it is injured
- Changes in appearance
- Emotional distress

When to Contact a Medical Professional

Contact your provider if:

- You have symptoms of a cherry angioma and you would like to have it removed
- The appearance of a cherry angioma (or any skin lesion) changes

Alternative Names

Angioma - cherry; Senile angioma; Campbell de Morgan spots; de Morgan spots

References

Dinulos JGH. Vascular tumors and malformations. In: Dinulos JGH, ed. *Habif's Clinical Dermatology*. 7th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2021:chap 23.

Patterson JW. Vascular tumors. In: Patterson JW, ed. *Weedon's Skin Pathology*. 5th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2021:chap 39.

Review Date 10/14/2024

Updated by: Elika Hoss, MD, Assistant Professor of Dermatology, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ. Also reviewed by David C. Dugdale, MD, Medical Director, Brenda Conaway, Editorial Director, and the A.D.A.M. Editorial team.

Learn how to cite this page



A.D.A.M., Inc. is accredited by URAC, for Health Content Provider (www.urac.org). URAC's [accreditation program](#) is an independent audit to verify that A.D.A.M. follows rigorous standards of quality and accountability. A.D.A.M. is among the first to achieve this important distinction for online health information and services. Learn more about A.D.A.M.'s [editorial policy](#), [editorial process](#), and [privacy policy](#).

Health Content
Provider
06/01/2028

The information provided herein should not be used during any medical emergency or for the diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. A licensed medical professional should be consulted for diagnosis and treatment of any and all medical conditions. Links to other sites are provided for information only – they do not constitute endorsements of those other sites. No warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied, is made as to the accuracy, reliability, timeliness, or correctness of any translations made by a third-party service of the information provided herein into any other language. © 1997-2025 A.D.A.M., a business unit of Ebix, Inc. Any duplication or distribution of the information contained herein is strictly prohibited.

National Library of Medicine 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health