

## Images in medicine

### Fordyce angiokeratoma

Theocharis Koufakis<sup>1,&</sup>, Ioannis Gabranis<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, General Hospital of Larissa, Larissa, Greece

<sup>&</sup>Corresponding author: Theocharis Koufakis, Department of Internal Medicine, General Hospital of Larissa, Larissa, Greece

Key words: Fordyce angiokeratoma, scrotum, papules

Received: 03/12/2014 - Accepted: 09/12/2014 - Published: 12/12/2014

**Pan African Medical Journal. 2014; 19:376 doi:10.11604/pamj.2014.19.376.5874**

This article is available online at: <http://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/article/19/376/full/>

© Theocharis Koufakis et al. The Pan African Medical Journal - ISSN 1937-8688. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

### Image in medicine

---

A 55 year-old Caucasian man, with Diabetes Melitus type 2 history, presented to our department with complaints of multiple, dark red papules located on the scrotum. The diagnosis of Fordyce angiokeratoma was clinically established. No special treatment was recommended, apart from patient's reassurance for the benign nature of this clinical entity. Fordyce angiokeratoma or angiokeratoma of the scrotum was first described in 1896 by John Addison Fordyce. Its etiology remains unclear, while its incidence is believed to increase with age. Genetic background of the disease has not been documented. Complications are generally uncommon, however bleeding of the papules can occur. Differential diagnosis mainly includes angiokeratoma corporis diffusum, malignant melanoma and nevomelanocytic nevus. In cases of diagnostic dilemma, dermoscopy can be useful, but biopsy of the lesion is the gold standard method for the establishment of the diagnosis. Specific treatment is unnecessary, still, excision, electrodesiccation

and laser therapy have been described in complicated cases or for aesthetic reasons.



**Figure 1:** Fordyce angiokeratoma on the scrotum