PCDS
PRIMARY CARE DERMATOLOGY SOCIETY
Promoting Confident Dermatology Since 1994

What is an angioma?

An angioma is a common, benign (i.e. non-cancerous), skin growth made up of blood vessels. The most common angioma is a cherry angioma, also known as a Campbell de Morgan spot.

What do angiomas look and feel like?

- Often multiple
- Most common in adults, with the number of angiomas increasing from about the age of 40
- Can develop on any body surface but are most common on the trunk
- Cherry angiomas are bright red, other angiomas can be blue and/or purple. Occasionally, and especially if traumatised, an angioma can turn black
- Raised; smooth to touch
- Usually less than 1 cm in diameter

What causes angiomas?

The cause is not known.

Make an appointment at your GP surgery

Most angiomas do **NOT** need treatment. The only reasons for contacting your GP surgery are:

- If an angioma catches and bleeds on a regular basis, in which case treatment may be offered
- **If you develop a skin lesion that looks different to the others i.e. an 'ugly duckling'**

Treatment for angiomas

- Most do **not** need treatment
- Those that catch and bleed repeatedly may be treated by scraping off (curettage) using local anaesthetic
- Angiomas cannot be treated on the NHS for cosmetic reasons – if you choose to have them treated privately another option is laser

Helping with other skin conditions

If you, a family member, or friend have an undiagnosed skin condition; or you want to learn more about how to treat skin conditions, please visit www.pcds.org.uk – if you click the purple tile near the top of the homepage that reads ***Take a Tour*** you can learn how best to use this website.

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Donate to the Primary Care Dermatology Society (PCDS)

Up to 25% of patient visits to a GP surgery involve skin problems, but yet the vast majority of GPs and other Primary Care health professionals get very little training in skin conditions (Dermatology).

Skin diseases such as skin cancer and severe inflammatory skin conditions can be life threatening, and skin disease is the leading cause for psychological distress in patients, but yet compared with other specialties, dermatology gets much less financial support.

If you would like to help improve the well-being of patients with skin conditions then please consider donating to the PCDS, a charitable organisation, whose main aim is to increase the amount of education available to GPs, nurses, pharmacists, podiatrists, and others working in Primary Care through over 30 educational conferences a year and our website www.pcds.org.uk.

For more information please contact the PCDS as follows:
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