

| fact sheet |

SEBACEOUS HYPERPLASIA

What is sebaceous hyperplasia?

Sebaceous hyperplasia is a benign condition in which the sebaceous glands, which secrete oil, become enlarged, creating whitish-yellow or skin-colored papules or lesions on the skin.

The face, chest, back and upper arms are where sebaceous glands are most concentrated, therefore these areas of the body are where sebaceous hyperplasia is most likely to occur.

What causes sebaceous hyperplasia?

Sebaceous hyperplasia is most likely to occur in people who have oily skin. This is often inherited.

Can sebaceous hyperplasia be dangerous?

The papules or lesions caused by sebaceous hyperplasia are benign. However, there is an association with non-melanoma skin cancer, which is caused by overexposure to the sun and tends not to spread to other areas of the body.

How common is sebaceous hyperplasia?

Sebaceous hyperplasia is most common among middle-aged or older adults. However, if the condition runs in the family, sebaceous hyperplasia may occur at puberty.



How can sebaceous hyperplasia be treated?

A local or topical anesthetic cream or injection is used to make the skin numb and vaporize the sebaceous hyperplasia with a CO₂/Erbium YAG laser. Healing usually takes about seven to 10 days and most patients will be able to return to work within one or two days following treatment. Gentle cleansing and application of a topical antibiotic ointment is all that is necessary during the healing process.

Results are very good and predictable even when numerous lesions are treated. If many lesions are present, several treatment sessions may be necessary for removal. Treatment may need to be repeated after a few years, to remove newly formed sebaceous hyperplasia.

How do I make an appointment?

Give us a call today at (801) 595-1600 to schedule a consultation. We are located at the south end of the Gateway Mall at 440 West 200 South, Suite 250, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.