

Pyogenic Granulomas

What are pyogenic granulomas?

Pyogenic granulomas are common, harmless growths of blood vessels on the surface of the skin.

People of any age can get them. We often do not know why they happen. Sometimes they are caused by injury, medicines, or happen in a birthmark made of blood vessels.

What do they look like?

Pyogenic granulomas look like a single, bright red, raised bump. They can be any size and often grow fast.

They bleed easily, so they may look crusted and can turn into wounds or sores.

How are they treated?

Pyogenic granulomas are often removed because they bleed easily. This can happen in the office or in the operating room, depending on the needs of your child.

A numbing medicine (local anesthetic) is injected into the skin, and the pyogenic granuloma is shaved off using a thin blade. The area is then heated with energy (cauterized) to prevent the pyogenic granuloma from coming back. After it heals, there will be a small scar.

Smaller pyogenic granulomas can sometimes be treated with a medicine put on the skin (topical), called Timolol. We will talk with you about that option if it is appropriate for your child. If this medicine does not work, we will review next steps that would be best for your child with you.

To Learn More

- Dermatology
206-987-2158
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.



Seattle Children's offers free interpreter services for patients, family members and legal representatives who are deaf or hard of hearing or speak a language other than English. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201. This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your healthcare provider.

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