

# Keloid disease and management difficulties

## Abstract

Keloids are benign skin tumor, they can be disabling. We report a case of a 41-year-old-man who suffered for multiple keloids and was treated successfully with surgery and brachytherapy.

Volume 7 Issue 2 - 2023

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**Received:** April 03, 2023 | **Published:** April 11, 2023

## Introduction

Keloids are benign skin tumors that can be spontaneous or post-injury. They can be multiple and sometimes very disabling, realizing keloid disease. We report a case of keloid disease to describe the clinical particularities and show the difficulties of therapies.

## Case report

A 41-year-old man consulted for multiple skin tumors pruriginous, evolving since childhood and secondary to vaccinations, folliculitis, scratch lesions, and scarred wounds. There was no similar family history. The clinical examination noted multiple keloids, 4 to 9 cm in diameter on the trunk, in particular on the chest, on the shoulders and arms, in closets on the legs, with a large keloid at the level of the neck from 16 to 18 cm. The rest of the exam was unremarkable. The patient was treated symptomatically for small lesions and endocheloid surgery followed by brachytherapy for the nuchal keloid. The outcome was good. (Figure 1-3)



**Figure 2** Result after two years: surgery and brachytherapy.



**Figure 1** Keloid scar on keloid folliculitis of the neck.



**Figure 3** Multiple keloids on the chest.

## Discussion

Keloids are debilitating skin lesions,<sup>1</sup> with significant aesthetic, physical impact, and psychological and social repercussions. The etiopathogenesis is unclear,<sup>2</sup> three theories are often discussed to explain physiopathogenesis: the theory of mechanical or neurogenic, the theory of genetics, and the cell theory. The epidemiology is very variable with a high incidence in subjects of phototype IV-VI.

Management of keloid disease is difficult<sup>3</sup> and often includes invasive and non-invasive approaches. At present, there is no satisfactory method or real consensus. It is more and more a therapeutic combination to reduce the rate of recurrences.

## Conclusion

The management of keloid disease is difficult, and the risk of recurrence is particularly high. Many treatments are still being evaluated, hope certainly lies in the results of molecular biology research, which will allow a better understanding of the physiopathogenesis of this disease.

## Acknowledgments

None.

## Conflicts of interest

Authors declare there is no conflict of interest.

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