

differential diagnosis is needed. Kraus et al. [3] examined 27 cases of xanthogranuloma. The mononuclear and xanthoma cells and most of the Touton cells exhibited reactivity for fascin and CD68, although 26 of 27 were reactive for HLA-DR, 25 of 27 for factor XIIIa, 25 of 27 for CD45, and 21 of 27 for CD4. None of the cases showed reactivity for CD1a, CD3, CD21, CD34, or CD35 [3].

When the patient visited our clinic, we performed shave biopsy because we needed a more accurate diagnosis. Without an accurate diagnosis of xanthogranuloma, there is a greater chance of surgical excision. If surgical excision was performed, the patient would be left with a surgical scar and distortion of the nasal tip. Punch biopsy is very commonly used in the initial assessment of suspicious cutaneous lesions. Punch biopsy, however, is limited in diameter. It may not encompass the entire periphery of the lesion, preventing the pathologist from being able to assess key pathologic features such as symmetry, overall size, and circumscription. This partial sampling can lead to misdiagnosis. The most significant aesthetic problem of such a cutaneous mass is protrusion. Shave biopsy provides the advantage of partial removal without any extension of the lesion [5]. Therefore, we prefer shave biopsy over punch biopsy.

In conclusion, the clinical diagnosis of typical xanthogranuloma is easily made. However, as our case shows, xanthogranuloma can occasionally develop in an unexpected age group such as adolescents. For an accurate diagnosis, a histopathological examination is mandatory. This case illustrates a rare case of xanthogranuloma in adolescence, which was diagnosed based on histological findings, while invasive surgery, with its accompanying aesthetic compromise, was avoided.

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## Desmoplastic Fibroblastoma of the Finger Tip in an Adult

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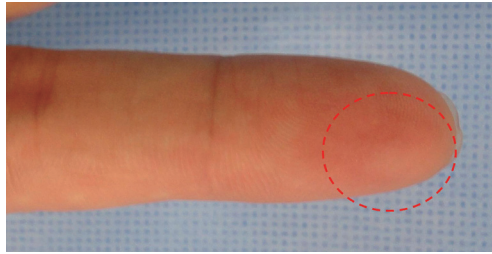
Desmoplastic fibroblastoma is a rare neoplasm characterized by spindle- to satellite-shaped fibroblastic cells that are sparsely distributed in a collagenous stroma. It was first described in 1995 by Evans [1], who reported seven cases of morphologically distinct, benign, fibrous, soft tissue tumors and gave this specific tumor type its name.

Since the characterization of this tumor by Evans, fewer than 100 cases have been reported in the English literature. Only 7.9% of 63 cases of desmoplastic fibroblastoma in one analysis were hand lesions. Furthermore, there is only one report of a finger lesion, which developed in the volar aspect of the metacarpophalangeal joint of the left little finger [2].

Clinically, desmoplastic fibroblastoma manifests as a painless, slow-growing mass of more than six months duration. It usually appears between the ages 25 to 83 years in the neck, forearm, shoulder, thigh, or feet. Most have been treated by surgical excision and neither local recurrence nor metastasis has been reported [3]. This paper presents a rare case of desmoplastic fibroblastoma of a finger with the clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical findings.

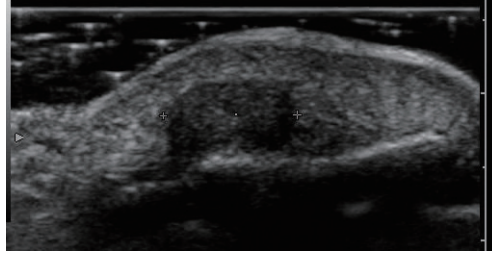
**Fig. 1.**

A nodular mass on the distal phalanx of the right index finger. About 1.0 cm sized, a well-circumscribed, firm, nodular and non-tender mass (red dot circle) of about 1.0 cm was palpated.



**Fig. 2.**

In a skin sonogram, a well-defined, slightly hypoechoic mass was observed distal to the insertion site of the flexor digitorum profundus tendon.



A 65-year-old male visited this clinic for the evaluation of a mass with hard swelling on his right index finger distal phalanx volar area. The mass had been growing slowly for 10 years. On physical examination, a 1.0 cm, well circumscribed, firm, nodular and non-tender mass was palpated (Fig. 1). There was no other specific medical history and the patient was otherwise in good health. A skin sonogram demonstrated a well-defined slightly hypoechoic mass located distal to the insertion site of the flexor digitorum profundus tendon (Fig. 2).

The mass was totally removed by surgical excision.

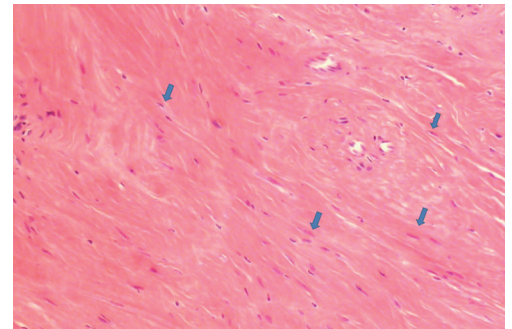
Gross examination revealed a well-demarcated, oval-shaped, fibroelastic mass, measuring 1.0 × 1.0 × 0.4 cm. Microscopically, the lesion was well delineated and paucicellular with a prominent collagenous background. The tumor cells had a spindle to stellate shape with thin elongated nuclei. No mitotic figures, calcification, cystic degeneration, infiltration of adipose tissue, or necrosis was found (Fig. 3). Special stains with Masson's trichrome and smooth muscle actin (SMA) were performed (Fig. 4). The collagenous nature of the stroma was confirmed using Masson's trichrome stain and the tumor cells were partially positive with alpha SMA staining. The final diagnosis was desmoplastic fibroblastoma. There was no clinical sign of recurrence for 6 months after excision.

Desmoplastic fibroblastoma typically displays as a painless, mobile, firm and well-circumscribed subcutaneous mass that grows slowly with a duration of enlargement of more than 6 months. The tumors have ranged from 1 to 13.8 cm in size, with a mean size of 4.9 cm. There is no evidence of bone involvement except for a rare case with surface erosion [3].

Immunohistochemical stains are useful in diagnosis, which shows positivity for vimentin and variable expression for alpha smooth muscle actin. The lesion is usually negative for desmin, epithelial membrane antigen, S100, and CD34. A cytogenetically abnormal clone involving the 11q12 breakpoint has been

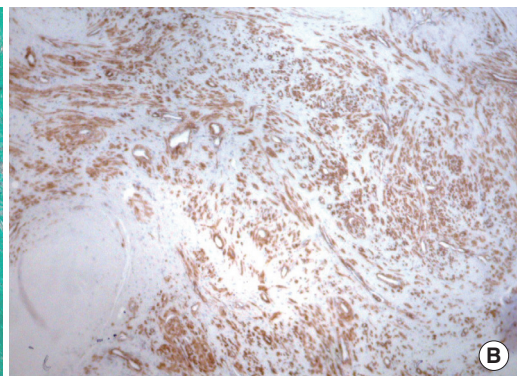
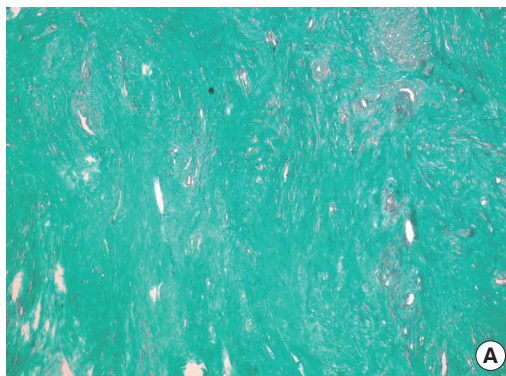
**Fig. 3.**

Collagenous fibroma showing scattered stellate-shaped and spindled fibroblasts (blue arrows) in a collagenous background (H&E, × 100).



**Fig. 4.**

(A) The collagenous nature of the stroma was confirmed through Masson's trichrome staining (× 40). (B) Tumor cells were partially positive for alpha smooth muscle actin staining (× 40).



detected in several cases [4]. In our case, immunohistochemical staining for vimentin was not performed. Positivity for vimentin implies that the tumor cells are of fibroblastic lineage. However, we were able to determine that with the satellite to spindle shape of cells.

Histopathologically, the tumors appear well-margined under low-power microscopic examination. The tumor cells are relatively stellate- and spindle-shaped fibroblastic cells separated by a densely fibrous to fibromyxoid matrix. These fibroblasts lack any atypical or hyperchromatic nuclei. Mitotic figures are very rare or absent, and tumor necrosis is not seen.

A wide variety of benign fibroblastic soft tissue tumors have been classified as fibroma. Among the entities included in this category are the nuchal fibroma, fibroma of the tendon sheath, sclerotic fibroma of the skin, and calcifying aponeurotic fibroma. Evens recently proposed an additional group--desmoplastic fibroblastoma. A general lack of awareness of this poorly recognized entity may lead to misdiagnosis of other soft tissue neoplasms because of the small number of reported examples. Miettinen and Fetsch [5] analyzed sixty-three cases of desmoplastic fibroblastoma from the files of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. Fifty-two of these cases were originally diagnosed as other tumors, including fibromatosis (n = 18), fibroma (n = 15), neurofibroma (n = 8), nodular fasciitis (n = 3), fibroma of the tendon sheath (n = 3), myxoma (n = 2) as well as chondroma, myofibroma, and myxoid lipoma (one case of each). The differential diagnosis of desmoplastic fibroblastoma includes benign, locally aggressive, and low grade malignant soft tissue tumors consisting of relatively uniform stellate- or spindle-shaped cells embedded in a myxocollagenous matrix, such as nodular fasciitis, fibromatosis, fibroma of the tendon sheath, nuchal fibroma, sclerotic fibroma of the skin, neurofibroma, solitary fibrous tumor, and low grade fibromyxoid sarcoma. Although desmoplastic fibroblastoma of the finger can be confused with fibroma of the tendon sheath, the latter is deeply attached to the tendon or tendon sheath. From a histological perspective, fibroma of the tendon sheath is more cellular and less homogeneous. It also differs from desmoplastic fibroblastoma because of a lobular growth pattern, with the lobules separated by cleftlike vascular spaces [3,5].

In conclusion, we present a rare case of desmoplastic fibroblastoma that developed on the finger with clinicopathologic and immunohistochemical features. Typically, this type of tumor has developed

as a firm, non-tender, slow growing mass in older males. Complete excision with functional preservation was performed and recurrence was not observed for 6 months after the operation. Despite a very small number of reported cases, desmoplastic fibroblastoma should be considered in a differential diagnosis for soft tissue tumors of the finger.

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## Apocrine Hidrocystoma of the Cheek

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Apocrine hidrocystomas commonly occur as a solitary cystic lesions and are very frequently located near the eye. They are thought to be benign skin