

### Hidrocystoma

A hidrocystoma is a type of a cyst. It is a benign growth of a sweat gland. They normally appear around the eyes or eyelids but can occur in other areas of the body. They usually measure from a few millimeters up to ½ inch. They appear as soft bumps that are skin-colored and often have a bluish tint. They occur in adulthood and persist indefinitely. They are benign and never turn cancerous. The cause of hidrocystoma is not known. They do not have a tendency to occur in families.

At times I cannot be 100% sure by looking at the growth if it is truly benign or not. In this case a small sample of the growth would be sent to the laboratory to prove the diagnosis.

Usually, hidrocystomas do not cause any symptoms. Since they are a growth, they usually persist. With time, they can slightly enlarge. They do not have a cancer potential and they cannot be spread by touching. Some patients are concerned about the visual appearance of the growths. There are various ways to remove hidrocystomas and I can discuss the options with you. The potential benefit of removal however, must be weighed against the potential for scarring that can result depending on the location and size.

Again, hidrocystomas are benign growths and in most cases, require no treatment. If you have any other questions regarding these lesions, please do not hesitate to ask before you leave the office.

