

PIGMENTED PURPURIC ERUPTION (PPE)

You have a pigmented purpuric eruption. This is a skin problem which tends to occur on the legs and produces red to brown discolored areas. It is usually not itchy or painful. It is not an indication of an internal problem. Its unsightly appearance is the usual reason why people seek treatment.

The exact cause of a pigmented purpuric eruption is unknown. It is a problem where the blood tends to leak from the very small blood vessels in the superficial layers of the skin. It is not an indication of a circulation problem with the larger veins and arteries in the legs. Because the blood leaks into the skin, it turns darker with time just like a "black and blue" mark does. The only difference is that the PPE condition produces pinpoint discolored areas which may merge.

Fortunately, treatment does tend to help this discolored skin condition. Various creams and/or pills are used depending on the severity of the skin condition. Your treatment will be based on the exact type of problem you have. If you have any other questions about this skin condition, please ask me before you leave the office.