Dermatofibroma

A Dermatofibroma is a common growth of the lower layer of the skin. It is made up of collagen and blood vessels, essentially a scar. It may appear as a firm, skin colored, or light red-brown bump that dimples when you pinch it.

These tumors are harmless, and it is not unusual to have more than one lesion. If they get bigger rapidly or become painful, you should have them checked. They do not go away on their own.

**TREATMENT:** The raised part of the lesion can be shaved off, leaving it flat with the surrounding skin. The deep portion of the tumor will remain and therefore the growth may come back.

Your dermatologist may remove the lesion by cutting around and underneath it and removing all of the tissue. He may then suture, or sew it closed. This will leave a scar and there is a slight risk of infection. The scar may be just as unsightly, itchy, and bothersome, as the initial Dermatofibroma.

Your dermatologist may also freeze it with liquid nitrogen. This may cause the area to blister and crust but usually heals with little or no scarring. Occasionally, there may be a permanent light or dark residual spot left at the sight. This treatment, however, may not cause the tumor to go away completely.

*Since Dermatofibromas are benign and usually not bothersome, no treatment is necessary.*