

Naevus lipomatosus superficialis

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A woman in her 30s was referred to dermatology with a large non-tender growth on the buttock, that had been growing over the past 2 years. She was taking antiretrovirals for HIV with undetectable viral loads. Examination revealed a 5 x 4 cm pedunculated growth on the right medial buttock, inferior-lateral to the vulva (**Figure 1**), which was excised. Histopathology showed an unencapsulated mass of adipocytes involving the superficial and mid-dermis (**Figure 2**), confirming a diagnosis of naevus lipomatosus superficialis.

Naevus lipomatosus superficialis is a rare benign tumour (Hoffman and Zurhelle, 1921) characterised by adipocytes within the dermis. The pathogenesis of naevus lipomatosus superficialis is not known; fat deposition may occur as a result of degeneration of connective tissue. Diagnosis can be complicated as presentation can be heterogeneous. Although benign, excision may be needed as lesions can grow to a large size. This case highlights an unusual presentation of this rare entity and the importance of early recognition, particularly where excision is necessary.

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Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the patient for granting permission to publish this case.

Reference

Hoffman E, Zurhelle E. Ubre einen Naevus lipomatosus cutaneous superficialis der linken Glutaalgegend. *Arch f Dermat.* 1921;130(1):327–333. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01826150>



Figure 1. Macroscopic view of the pedunculated mass on the medial aspect of the right buttock.

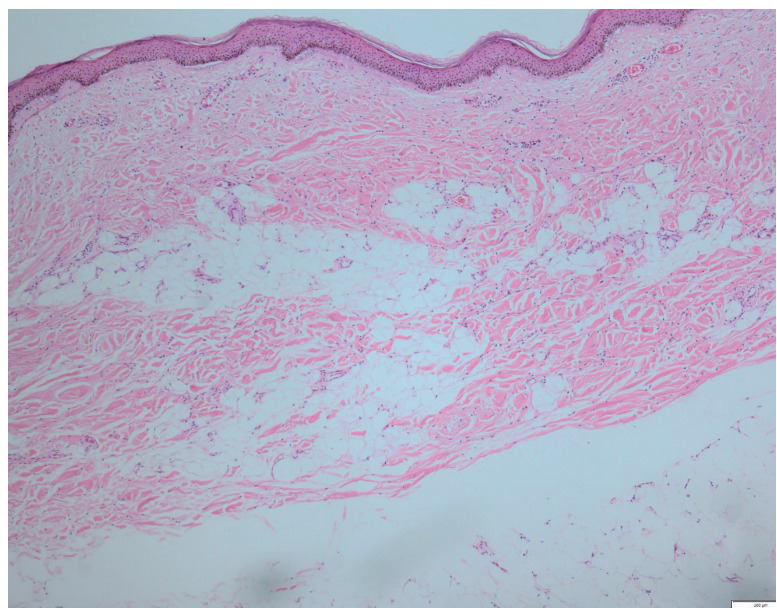


Figure 2. An unencapsulated mass of mature adipocytes in the dermis with a normal epidermis (haematoxylin and eosin x 40 magnification).