



“What’s growing on my ear?”

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A 78 year-old man presented with a one-month history of a growing nodule with central crust on his ear. The lesion was asymptomatic and his nursing home was wondering whether he had skin cancer. The patient was otherwise well.

1. What is the most likely diagnosis?

- a) Basal cell carcinoma
- b) Squamous cell carcinoma
- c) Keratoacanthoma
- d) Wart
- e) Hypertrophic actinic keratosis

2. What is the main concern with this lesion?

- a) Local spread
- b) Metastases
- c) No medical concern, only cosmetic
- d) Spread to other people
- e) a & b



Figure 1. Nodule on the ear.

3. How would you treat this lesion?

- a) Cryotherapy
- b) Radiation
- c) Excision
- d) Laser ablation
- e) All of the above **Dx**

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Answers: 1-a ; 2-e; 3-e (excision is most common and preferred)