

Skin Tags

What Is It?

- **Skin Tag**- a small skin growth that looks like a hanging mole. They are usually on the neck, underarms, and eyelids, under breasts and in groin folds. Some tags are very small and others may be as large as a fingertip. Tags are thought to occur where clothes rub, so often overweight individuals may be more prone to have. They usually occur in adults. Skin tags are benign and easily removed. They very rarely develop into cancer and protrude from the skin from a stalk.



Symptoms:

- **Skin Tags**- are unsightly; they look like a small wart or moles, are usually smooth tissue, flesh colored and raised or hanging from the skin.
- Depending on where the skin tags are, they may get caught on clothing, jewelry, etc. ,bleed and become irritated causing pain.
- Overall, tags are harmless, but unsightly, so are usually removed for cosmetic reasons.

Facts:

- **Skin Tags**- are a tumor, but rarely are associated with skin cancer.
- **Skin Tags**- are removed, usually by a dermatologist, in 3 ways:
 - **Freezing Method** – This may require anesthesia, may cause temporary discoloration to the skin
 - **Burning** – may require anesthesia and more than one treatment
 - **Scissors/Razor** – quick and complete with one treatment, may cause some bleeding.
- If Skin tags are large or irregular, they may be sent to pathology.



What Should I Do?

- **See Your Health Care Provider** about any changes in your skin, so that they can determine if it needs to be treated or removed.
- **Wear**- sunscreen when out in the sun to protect your skin from cancer.

