Angioma-Cherry

Cherry angiomas are *benign* (not cancerous), fairly common skin growths. They appear as small, smooth, round, cherry-colored bumps. They vary in size from that of a speck to the size of pencil erasers. They are made up of a clump of blood vessels. They are most common after age 40 and are common skin changes which come with aging. The diagnosis is made on physical exam. The cause is unknown. They can occur almost anywhere on the body, but most commonly develop on the trunk. The size of the skin growth may vary. Although they are painless and harmless, cherry angiomas may bleed heavily if injured. They are not *contagious* (you cannot give this to another person). More angiomas will likely appear with age. Angiomas that have been surgically removed may reappear at the previously treated sites.

PREVENTION

There are no known preventive measures.

TREATMENT

Usually no treatment is needed for cherry angiomas. If their appearance is bothersome, angiomas may be removed by: traditional surgery, freezing the lesion (*cryotherapy*), *or* burning the lesion off using a special tool (*cautery*). Removing cherry angiomas may result in small white scars at the site.

Angiomas should be watched for changes. Concerns should be brought to your healthcare provider.

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