

Primary skin lesions

abscess	same as furuncle
boil	same as furuncle
bullae	elevated defined lesion $\geq 1 \text{ cm}^2$ containing serous fluid
carbuncle	coalescing furuncles
furuncle	a pustule $> 1 \text{ cm}^2$
macule	flat, non-palpable change in skin color, $< 1 \text{ cm}^2$
mass	synonymous with tumor, but better term since it does not imply malignancy
nodule	large papule $> 1 \text{ cm}^2$ extending into dermis
papule	elevated solid lesion $< 1 \text{ cm}^2$
pustule	elevated purulent containing lesion
tumor	an elevated firm mass larger than a nodule
vesicle	elevated defined lesion $< 1 \text{ cm}^2$ containing serous fluid
wheal	a raised transient irregularly shaped lesion due to edema

Secondary findings

crust	dried serum, sebum, blood, or pus on eschars or ulcers surface
cyst	closed cavity lined by epithelium
ecchymoses	large purpura
erosion	moist, demarcated depressed area; loss of epidermis
excoriation	superficial linear abrasion of the epidermis from scratching
exudate	fluid, cells & cellular debris resulting from inflammation
fissure	linear split through epidermis into the dermis
hardening	thickened skin with hypo or hyperpigmentation from prolonged irritant exposure
infarct	necrosis resulting from occlusion of blood vessels
iris	annular bulls-eye lesion
lichenification	epidermal thickening on an elevated plaque with accentuated skin markings, usually from chronic rubbing or scratching
livedo	lace-like pattern
maculosquamous	macule with fine superficial scale; not thick enough to be a plaque
necrosis	cellular death (skin cells)
papulosquamous	papules with fine superficial scale
petechiae	pinpoint purpura
plaque	raised flat lesion formed from a confluence of papules or nodules
poikiloderma	combination of atrophy, pigmentary change & telangiectasia
purpura	discoloration from bleeding into skin or mucous membrane
scale	sloughed epidermal cells in sheets; white, tan, yellow, or silver cuticular (thin, relatively large flakes), exfoliative (large, peeling sheets), follicular (keratotic plugs, spines, filament, or lichenoid scales), granular (like small grains), hystrix-like (quill-like), ichthyosiform (fish scale-like), keratotic (composed of horny masses), lamellar (thin, relatively large flakes), membranous (large, peeling sheets), pityriasiform (bran-like), psoriasiform (brittle plates in loose layers)
scar	fibrous tissue replacement of skin at site of injury or ulcer
sclerosis	induration, hardening from inflammation & increased connective tissue formation
sinus	communicating tract through the skin, frequently draining
stellate	star-like
sugillation	swollen bruises from injury
ulcer	depressed exudative lesion with loss of both epidermis & part or all of dermis
vegetation	multiple closely spaced projections in a papule or plaque

Configuration

acuminate	pointed
annular	ring-shaped
arciform	arc-shaped
asymmetrical	distributed unilaterally
atrophy	wasting of the epidermis leading to thin, transparent, or dermis leading to depression
confluent	merging together
corymbiform	grouped arrangement with central large lesion & surrounding small lesions
diffuse	widely distributed
discoid	coin-like
discrete	separate from other lesions
ecchymosis	collection of extravascular blood in dermis or subcutaneous tissue caused by trauma & resulting in a macular lesion
generalized	distributed diffusely
group	cluster of lesions
guttate	drop-like
gyrate	ring-spiral shape
hematoma	localized, deep collection of blood beneath the subcutaneous tissue
herpetiform	clusters of vesicles
iris lesion	concentric rings; bulls-eye
keloid	benign overgrowth of connective tissue following skin injury
linear	in a line
localized	limited areas of involvement which are defined clearly
nummular	coin-like
petechiae	purplish hemorrhagic pinpoint lesions
poikilodermatous	poorly marginated patches with telangiectasia and hyper and hypopigmented areas
polymorphous	occurring in several different forms
punctate	pointed or dotted
purpura	irregular, large macule with varied color; dark purple to brownish-yellow
reticular	lacy, network pattern
satellite	single lesion in close proximity to large group
serpiginous	snake-like
solitary	single lesion
striae	depressed bands of thin white shiny skin
symmetrical	even, bilateral involvement
telangiectasia	permanent dilatation of capillary vessels in the skin; form branching, fine, red lines
zosteriform	band-like distribution in a dermatomal distribution