



CUTIS MARMORATA

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Cutis marmorata is a common vascular disorder, which commonly affects newborns. When the newborn is exposed to cold, a red and/or blue, lacy pattern appears on the skin. This condition should be distinguished from Cutaneous Marmorata Telangiectasia Congenita (CMTC), which is a more permanent vascular anomaly that does not disappear with rewarming of the skin.

Cutis Marmorata is considered a normal physiologic response of the newborn to cold. The disorder is due to an immature neurological and vascular system. It consists of an alternating constriction and dilation of blood vessels, and it occurs most commonly in the hands and feet.

While CM is a relatively benign disorder, persistent CM is associated with Down's (trisomy 21), Edward's (trisomy 18), and Cornelia de Lange syndromes. CM may also indicate poor perfusion in infants developing sepsis.

The mottled appearance of the skin in CM usually disappears when the newborn is warmed. The syndrome usually resolves within weeks, to months of its presentation. No formal treatment is necessary.

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