

Notes on Breast Surgery

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Disorders of the nipple

- Congenital absence (athelia)
- Supernumerary nipples (polythelia)
- Nipple retraction
- Cracked nipple
- Papilloma of the nipple.
- Retention cyst of a gland of Montgomery.
- Chancre of the nipple
 Eczema
- Paget's disease
- Abnormal discharges

Congenital nipple disorders

- Absence of the nipple (athelia):
 - \Rightarrow rare
 - ⇒ usually associated with amazia
- supernumerary nipples (polythelia):
 - ⇒ not uncommon
 - \Rightarrow along the mammary (milk) line (ridge) \rightarrow from ant. fold of axilla to fold of groin.

Unilat. breast agensis



Abnormal nipple discharge

- Clear serous: physiological in pregnancy, duct papilloma, mammary dysplasia
- Blood-stained: ductectasia, duct papilloma, carcinoma
- Black or green: ductectasia
- Purulent: infection
- Milk: lactation, galactorrhoea

Nipple retraction

- Congenital (simple nipple inversion):
- \Rightarrow at puberty, unknown aetiology, 25% bilat.
- ⇒ problems with breast feeding & infection
- ttt: spontaneous resolution, simple cosmetic surgery, mechanical suction device
- Recent (acquired):
- ⇒ Benign: ductectasia, periductal mastitis, chronic abscess (slit-like retraction)
- ⇒ Malignant: (circumferential retraction)

Nipple discharge - ttt

- Exclusion of carcinoma (occult test, cytology, mammography)
- Simple reassurance
- Removal of the affected duct (microdochectomy) or ducts (cone excision of major ducts after Hadfield)