



## Solar Elastosis

## Senescent changes in areas of the skin not regularly exposed to sunlight manifest themselves clinically

*Histopathology* .

□

In skin not regularly exposed to sunlight, there is a progressive loss of elastic tissue

In the skin of the face exposed to the sun, especially in persons with fair complexions, hyperplasia of the

In patients with clinically evident solar elastosis of the exposed skin, staining with hematoxylin-eosin reveals

With elastic tissue stains, the areas of basophilic degeneration materialize as dark, coarse aggregates of

On staining with silver nitrate, the distribution of melanin in the basal cell layer may appear irregular in the

*Histogenesis.* Electron microscopic examination of areas of solar elastosis shows elastotic ma

can be seen around the elastotic fibers and also among the collagen fibrils. Collagen fibrils are diminished

Elastotic material is not regarded as a degeneration product of preexisting elastic fibers. Most current findings

The elastotic material that histochemically stains like elastic tissue resembles elastic tissue in its chemical composition.

elastotic material, like elastic tissue, has a much lower content of hydroxyproline than collagen (10). Mor

The irregular distribution of melanin in the epidermis observed in some patients with solar degeneration,

*Differential Diagnosis.* For a discussion of differentiation of solar elastosis from pseudoxanthoma elastici

## Localized Expressions of Solar Elastosis

Several clinically distinct forms of localized solar elastosis have been described. In the nuchal region, the

## ***Elastotic Nodules*      of                      *the Ears***

Elastotic nodules are most often seen on the anterior crus of the antihelix (15,16, 18) and occasionally on

*Histopathology.* Irregular elastotic fibers and clumps of elastotic material are seen in the background.

***Favre-Racouchot Syndrome (Nodular Elastosis with Cysts and Comedones)***

Favre-Racouchot syndrome is characterized by yellow plaques with multiple open and cystically dilated

*Histopathology.* Dilated pilosebaceous openings and large, round, cystlike spaces are lined by a

represent greatly distended hair follicles (. Both the dilated pilosebaceous openings and the cystlike spa

***Actinic Comedonal Plaques***

In actinic comedonal plaques, solitary nodular plaques with a cribriform appearance and comedone-like

*Histopathology.* Dilated corneocyte-filled follicular lumina are present within areas of elastotic, an





***Solar Elastotic Bands of the Forearm***

Solar elastotic bands of the forearm consist of soft cordlike plaques across the flexor surface of the forearm

*Histopathology.* Nodular collections of basophilic homogenous amorphous material underlying a

***Collagenous and Elastotic Marginal Plaques the Hands***

Collagenous and elastotic ~~degenerations~~ ~~of the hands~~ have been described by several names:

*Histopathology.* The reticular dermis displays an acellular zone of haphazardly arranged collagen

