



Tattoo Reactions

Clinically apparent inflammatory reactions to permanent tattoos, although uncommon, are now seen with

Reactions to "temporary" tattoos are rare. Usually comprised of black commercial henna, these tattoos a

Tattoos may also occur due to pigmented materials accidentally implanted in the skin, such as graphite,

Histopathology .

Permanent tattoos that are not clinically inflamed show irregularly shaped granu

Inflammatory reactions in clinically inflamed permanent tattoos may be either of the granulomatous or the allergic type. In the granulomatous reaction, the tattoo pigment is surrounded by a cellular reaction. The reaction may be of the sarcoid type or the foreign-body type. A tuberculoid pattern may also be seen. In the allergic reaction, the tattoo pigment is surrounded by a cellular reaction. The reaction may be of the sarcoid type or the foreign-body type. A tuberculoid pattern may also be seen.

Granulomatous reactions may be either of the sarcoid type or the foreign-body type . A tuberculoid pattern may also be seen.

Traumatic graphite tattoos show black granules free in the dermis and sometimes within histiocytes . Most of the granules are of the foreign-body type.

Electron microscopic examination of tattoos without an allergic reaction shows that most tattoo granules are of the foreign-body type.