Lichen Sclerosus ET Atrophicus
Lichen sclerosus (LS) encompasses the disorders known as lichen sclerosus et atrophicus, balanitis xerotica obliterans (LS of the male glans and prepuce), and kraurosis vulvae (LS of the female labia majora, labia minora, perineum, and perianal region). Lichen sclerosus is an inflammatory skin condition that affects the skin of the body and can lead to atrophy and scarring. Extragenital lesions may occur with or without coexisting genital lesions.

Lesions of LS are characterized by white polygonal papules that coalesce to form plaques. Comedo-like plugs on the surface may be present, giving a characteristic appearance. Bullous and hemorrhagic changes may also occur, leaving a smooth, porcelain-white plaque. Solitary or generalized lesions may become bullous and hemorrhagic.
In male patients, involvement of the glans and prepuce often results in phimosis. Although the literature

In female patients, contiguous involvement of the labial, perineal, and anal areas has been described clin
Lichen sclerosus et atrophicus = اﻠﻀﻤورﻲ اﻠﺘﺼﻠﺒﻲ اﻠﺤزاﺰ

or "keyhole" lesions (165). Many cases of childhood LS in girls resolve by menarche (166). If lesions persist, atrophy of the skin, which rarely itches, there is often severe pruritus in the vulvar region.

The premalignant potential in LS has been debated extensively and remains ill defined. The most recent large...
Lichen sclerosus et atrophicus = اﻠﻀﻤورﻲ اﻠﺘﺼﻠﺒﻲ اﻠﺤزاﺰ

recognized by finding pale superficial dermal collagen, as compared with hypocellular compacted deep collagen.
Histopathology.

The salient histologic findings in cutaneous lesions of lichen sclerosus et atrophicus include:

1. Hyperkeratosis
2. Atrophy of the epidermis
3. Edema and homogenization of the collagen in the upper dermis
4. Inflammatory infiltrate in the mid-dermis
The hyperkeratosis is so marked that the horny layer is often thicker than the atrophic stratum malpighii, which may be ... irregular downward proliferation. In such proliferations, hydropic degeneration of the basal cells usually is pronounced.

Keratotic plugging of appendageal ostia is often associated with atrophy and disappearance of appendageal...
Beneath the epidermis is a broad zone of pronounced lymphedema. Within this zone, the collagenous fibers are swollen and disorganized, leading to a loss of the normal architectural framework of the dermis. This results in a thickening and tightening of the skin, characteristic of lichen sclerosus et atrophicus.
Except in lesions of long duration, an inflammatory infiltrate is present in the dermis. The younger the lesion, the more severe the infiltrate may be. The superficial and mid portion and lower dermis may appear swollen, homogeneous, and eosinophilic, thus appearing sclerotic (hence lichen sclerosus).

Cases of overlap of morphea and LS may be seen and demonstrate the histologic changes of both disorders in their respective locations of the dermis.
Pathogenesis. Changes in the dermal matrix have been detected in LS. Electron microscopy shows collagen fibrils lacking cross-striation, sometimes appearing as empty tubes, suggesting degeneration. Fibrinogen has been demonstrated in scleroderma and morphea, indicating a nonspecific change.
The frequent finding of human papillomavirus alterations in lesions of LS have lead some to consider LS changes in cases of other chronic vulvar dermatitides. It has been hypothesized that persistent antigen may lead to the presence of CD8/CD57-positive T cells, which may play a role in tissue remodeling and fibrosis through cytokine elaboration.
In the epidermis, intercellular edema separates epidermal cells that show degenerative changes. There

* Differential Diagnosis *
Very early lesions may resemble lichen planus because of the apposition of the inflammatory infiltrate to the basal layer of the epidermis.

Old lesions of lichen sclerosus et atrophicus with thickening and eosinophilia of the collagen bundles in the midportion of the dermis.
Lichen sclerosus et atrophicus = اﻠﻀﻤورﻲ اﻠﺘﺼﻠﺒﻲ اﻠﺤزاﺰ
Lichen sclerosus et atrophicus = اﻠﻀﻤورﻲ اﻠﺘﺼﻠﺒﻲ اﻠﺤزاﺰ