

# Histopathological changes in the skin

The same pathological processes take place in the skin as in other tissues: i.e. **regressive, progressive, inflammation, congenital developmental disorders, tumours, circulatory disorders, hyperemia, anemia, hypertrophy** and others. In addition, we find special pathological-anatomical changes here.

## Pathological-anatomical changes

- **Hyperkeratosis** – expansion of the stratum corneum, other layers narrowed, normal and expanded (developmental deviations, inflammation, tumours etc.).
- **Parakeratosis** – imperfect keratinization, flattened nuclei of keratinized cells preserved in the stratum corneum (in case of inflammation, psoriasis).
- **Dyskeratosis** – a disorder of keratinization, premature keratinization of cells, characteristic horn grains and bodies ("grains" and "corps ronds" are formed in their plasma; for example Darier's dyskeratosis, squamous cell carcinoma).
- **Acanthosis** – expansion of the malpighian part of the epidermis, by cell proliferation, usually accompanied by lengthening and expansion of interpapillary pins (reaction to inflammatory processes, in tumors, etc.).
- **Spongiosis**, intercellular edema – expansion of intercellular spaces (eczema, dermatitis).
- **Intracellular edema** – degenerative cell changes: cavitary, hydroptic, reticular, balloon or vacuolar degeneration (various inflammations).
- **Atrophy of the epidermis** – loss of various layers (especially the stratum spinosum).
- **Papillomatosis** – finger-like extension of papilla coria, often together with acanthosis, papillae can branch at the top (warts, papillomas).
- **Acantholysis** – dissolution of desmosomes, between the cells of a slit to a blister (mostly in pemphigus).



**Dyskeratosis of squamous cell carcinoma**

**Lichen ruber chronicus – acanthosis, hyperkeratosis, parakeratosis, spongiosis** are present

**Pemphigus vulgaris** – loss of keratinocyte cohesiveness (**acantholysis**) with the formation of fissures or blisters

## Links

### Related articles

- Histopathological changes in the skin/PGS
- Thick-type skin/histological specimen

### Source

- BENEŠ, Jiří. *Studijní materiály* [online]. ©2007. [cit. 2010]. <<http://jirben2.chytrak.cz/materialy/dermatovenerologie.doc>>.