

# Rapidly growing cutaneous tumour of the hand: Orf

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Orf virus is a zoonotic parapoxvirus, principally associated with small ruminants (e.g., sheep and goats). Human Orf infections appear as ulcerative skin lesions after contact with an infected animal or contaminated fomite.

A 52-year-old man consulted our dermatology department for nodular lesion localized on the first finger of his left hand. The lesion started 15 days ago, a few days after the slaughter of a lamb on the occasion of the feast of Eid-el-Kebir. Physical examination revealed a shiny, red, dome-shaped, 1 cm in diameter and painless tumor (Fig. 1). General examination was otherwise unremarkable. Laboratory assessments (blood count, platelets, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C-reactive protein) were normal. Routine bacterial cultures were negative. The lesion healed spontaneously within 2 months. Thus, given the clinical appearance of the lesion and the clinical course, the diagnosis of orf was made.



**Figure 1:** A shiny, red, dome-shaped, 1 cm in diameter and painless tumor of the first finger of the left hand.

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