DORSAL UNGUAL PTERYGIUM

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Pterygium unguis also known as Dorsal pterygium [1] forms as a result of scarring between the proximal nail fold and matrix, with the classic example being lichen planus, though it has been reported to occur as a result of sarcoidosis and Hansen's disease [2]. Is a wing-shapes scar and always irreversible, consist of a gradual extension of the proximal nail fold over the nail plate which becomes fissurated because of the fusion of the proximal nail fold epidermis to the nail bed, its split portions progressively decrease in size as the pterygium widens, leaving two small nail remnants if the pterygium is central but when the involvement of the matrix and nail bed is complete produces onychatrophy. The causes of dorsal pterygium are: congenital, bullous dermatosis (cicatricial pemphigoid, Stevens Johnson syndrome), burns, dyskeratosis congenital, graf-versus host disease, lichen planus, onychotillomany, radiodermatitis, Raynaud’s disease and peripheral vascular disease. Lichen planus is the most common cause of dorsal pterygium [3]. Can affect finger and toenails, the most common affected are the big toenails.
Figure 3-8. Dorsal ungual pterygium
Figure 9-11. Dorsal ungual pterygium
Figure 12,13. Dorsal ungual pterygium

REFERENCES