

# GIANT EPIDERMAL CYST OF VULVA

## (A Case Report)

by

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Cystic lesions of the vulva are not rare. Bartholin's cyst and epidermal cysts rarely exceeding 2 cm in size, are some of the commonest varieties. Recently we have come across an exceptionally huge epidermal cyst arising from the labia which is very rare in occurrence. We have not come across such a huge epidermal cyst of labia on extensive search of the available English Literature, thus necessitating its placing on record.

### Case Report

B. D., aged 23 years, married female was admitted to the surgical unit III of Medical College, Rohtak on 25-7-75 with history of swelling over the vulva of 7 months duration. The swelling was progressively increasing in size with no history of pain at any time. There was no history of trauma or operations on the genitalia in the past.

She had an average build and was a moderately nourished female. Examination of the genitalia revealed a 10 x 5 cm oval swelling covered by normal skin arising from the anterior half of the right labium and completely covering the vagina. The swelling was tense cystic and not transilluminant. On lifting the swelling normal vagina and external urethral meatus could be seen (Fig. 1). Rest of the gynaecological examination was normal.

The swelling was excised through an elliptical incision. During dissection the cyst burst and

thick white pultaceous material came out. The cyst was excised completely restoring normal look of the genitalia. Postoperatively the patient made an uneventful recovery. Histopathological examination showed squamous epithelium lining the cyst wall (Epidermal cyst).

### Comments

The origin of epidermal cysts of labia is controversial. According to one theory, these cysts are said to arise from persistence in the dermis of embryonic tissue destined to become epithelium. Other authors believe that these arise from ducts of pilosebaceous glands after they are blocked. Cysts which occur due to traumatic inclusion of epithelial tissue in the dermis are not included in the epidermal cysts and are categorised as inclusion cysts. Epidermal cysts of vulva are usually multiple, about 5 mm in size, seldom exceeding 2 cm (Kaufman, 1969). Although some as large as 4 cm have been seen (Davis Carter, 1964).

### Summary

A case of epidermal cyst of vulva of a giant size is reported because of its unusual dimensions.

### References

1. Heiman, L., Gardner, Raymond, H. and Kaufman: Benign diseases of the vulva and vagina. The C. V. Mosby Company, 1969, page 70-71.
2. Davis Carter: Gynaecology and Obstetrics, W. F. Prier Co. Inc. 1964, Vol. II, Chapter 9, page 46.

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See Fig. on Art Paper X