

## Dermatosis Papulosa Nigra

Dermatosis papulosa nigra is a unique skin condition seen primarily in persons of color. It appears as small, dark bumps and most commonly affects the face, neck, chest and back.

The cause of dermatosis papulosa nigra is uncertain. There is a strong genetic basis for the disorder, and oftentimes the lesions can be seen in several members of the same family. Under the microscope the lesions are a type of keratosis that is harmless. Dermatitis papulosa nigra is not a skin cancer and it will not turn into a skin cancer.

The condition is chronic, with new lesions appearing over time. Bill Cosby and Morgan Freeman are two famous people with this condition.

Generally speaking, no treatment is necessary other than for cosmetic concerns. In certain circumstances if the lesions are symptomatic (painful, inflamed, or itchy), the lesions can be treated via a minor in-office surgical procedure. Dr. Crutchfield will review treatment options with you and recommend the one that is most appropriate for your condition. If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to call our office.

For more helpful information concerning skin conditions, visit our web site [www.crutchfielddermatology.com](http://www.crutchfielddermatology.com).