

Hidrocystoma

What is a hidrocystoma?

A hidrocystoma is a benign overproduction of glands in the form of a cyst. It appears most commonly as a single, soft, dome-shaped bump in the eye area but can arise on other areas of the head, neck and trunk.

What causes a hidrocystoma?

The exact reason for its development is unknown although the current theory is that a blocked sweat duct could be a cause. It tends to appear during adulthood, grow slowly to a point and then persist indefinitely.

Symptoms

A hidrocystoma is entirely benign, and does not need to be removed. However some patients want it removed because it protrudes from the skin. Symptoms are usually mild or absent and vision is not affected.

Treatment

There are three ways to treat a hidrocystoma. The first is to leave it alone because it is benign and rarely changes. The second is to incise and drain it, but a hidrocystoma may recur after drainage. To decrease the chance of recurrence, the third way to manage hidrocystoma is to remove the entire cyst surgically which requires stitches.

