

MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM





PATHOGENESIS

- Caused by DNA poxvirus.
- Spreads through fomites, autoinoculation, and skin-to-skin.
- Swimmers are regularly exposed to public pools with the virus.

CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- > Primarily occurs in young **school-aged children**.
- It presents with multiple small, skin-colored or pink, dome-shaped, umbilicated papules (75% are umbilicated).



MANAGEMENT

Watchful waiting is appropriate for the majority of patients as on average most lesions resolve by 13 months.

> First-line therapies include cantharidin (most common), cryotherapy, curettage.

Curettage Cryosurgery Electrosurgery

Physical destruction	
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Topical therapy



Alkali agent (eg: potassium hydroxide) Blistering agent (eg: cantharidin) Imiquidmod (promotes immune response) Retinoic acid Salicylic acid

PREVENTION

- ✓ Minimize shared items (eg: towels, toys).
- ✓ To prevent spread, wash hands, cover bumps, and avoid touching bumps.

Published February 2021

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