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Images in Pediatric Dermatology: Mimicking Molluscum Contagiosum

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Introduction

Molluscum contagiosum (MC) is common in childhood; in this 4-year-old black girl, her mother notes the peri-anal nodular lesions since a year and claimed it has increased recently. The mother had a history of common warts. On examination, multiple dispersed skin coloured flat papules/nodules noted around the anus (**Figure 1**). They were firm and hard. Differentials can be molluscum contagiosum, HPV induced lesions and perianal warts. I excised one and sent for biopsy which revealed a hyperkeratosis of epidermis only with no evidence of MC at all. This case warrants a careful examination and consideration for childhood abuse which was not the case here. Electrocautery removal was employed and the patient came for a follow up and so far content about the outcome.

This case shows that it is not always easily to differentiate the clinical manifestations presented from other skin lesions.



Figure 1 Multiple dispersed skin coloured flat papules/nodules noted around the anus.