## <u>Special Site Dermoscopy:</u> Onychoscopy (nail unit)

### Ashfaq A. Marghoob, MD Attending Physician



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center





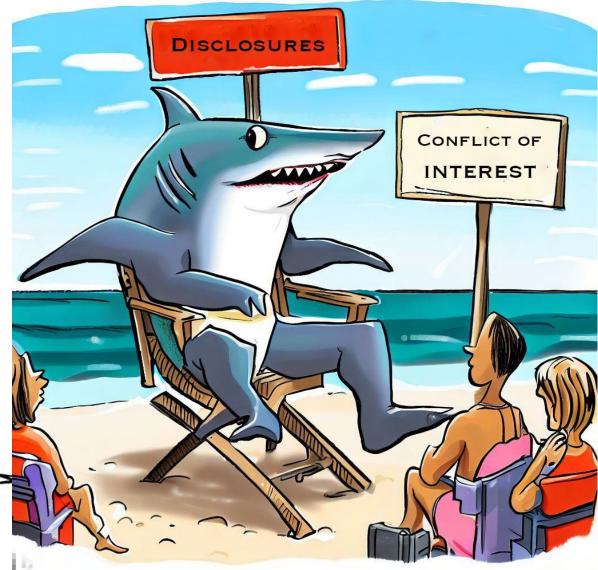


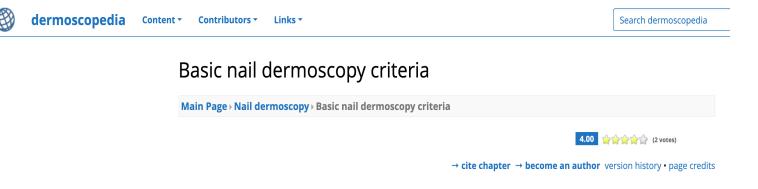
AMERICAN DERMOSCOPY MEETING

# Disclosures

- Canfield
- DermLite
- Heine
- FotoFinder
- Casio

Microsoft Bing AI image generator (no need for copyright)



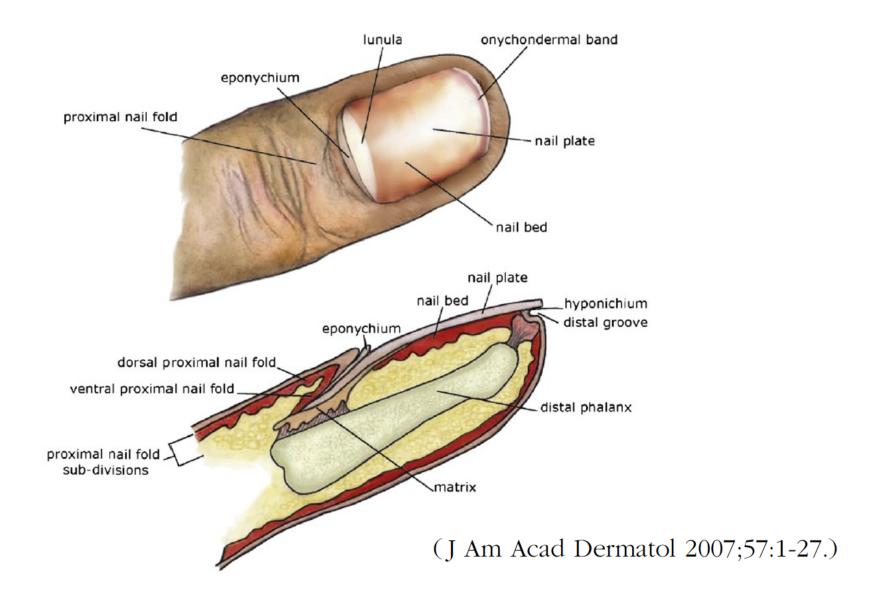


This chapter describes all dermoscopy criteria of nail dermoscopy

#### Diagnosis and management of nail pigmentations

Ralph Peter Braun, MD,<sup>a</sup> Robert Baran, MD,<sup>b</sup> Frederique Anne Le Gal, MD, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Stephane Dalle, MD,<sup>c</sup> Sandra Ronger, MD,<sup>c</sup> Roberta Pandolfi, MD,<sup>c</sup> Olivier Gaide, MD,<sup>a</sup> Lars Einar French, MD,<sup>a</sup>
Paul Laugier, MD,<sup>a</sup> Jean Hilaire Saurat, MD,<sup>a</sup> Ashfaq Ahmed Marghoob, MD,<sup>d</sup> and Luc Thomas, MD, PhD<sup>c</sup> Geneva, Switzerland; Cannes and Lyon, France; and New York, New York

Longitudinal pigmentation of the nail is very common. The differential diagnosis varies from subungual hematoma, to a fungal infection, to a melanocytic lesion (lentigo, nevus melanoma, etc.) to others. Often, dermatologists do not feel at ease with these pathologies and management is often not clear. In many cases, a biopsy is not helpful because an inadequate technique was chosen. The use of noninvasive techniques such as dermoscopy has been described to be useful for the preoperative evaluation and the management decision. Using these technique, one will be able to reduce the number of unnecessary surgeries and to choose the most adequate biopsy technique. In this article, we will review the management, including diagnosis as well as differential diagnosis of nail pigmentations and propose a new algorithm for the non invasive diagnosis of nail pigmentation. (J Am Acad Dermatol 2007;56:835-47.)



#### No Yes Free edge dermoscopy Onychomatricoma SCC or Onychpapilloma Melanocytic lesion Longitudinal pigmentation of thickening nail plate / pits, thinning of nail plate, splinter hemorrhage triangular distal onycholysis, nail plate and free edge subungual plug, splinter hemorrhage Hemorrhage Fungus Brown (melanocytic hyperplasia) Gray / tan (melanocytic activation) **Multiple Nails Brown irregular** Single Nail ٠ **Ethnic pigmentation Huchinson Sign** . Lentigo • Drug induced Onychodystrophia . ٠ Larger than 5 mm Inflammatory ٠ Before the age of 5 consider congenital nevus Lichen ruber planus ungualis ٠ ٠ **Frictional melanosis** ٠ Laugier Hunziker ٠ Nevus Melanoma **Other Lentiginoses** ٠

Brown regular band

## NB: This algorithm excludes

- Inflammatory conditions
  - LP
  - Psoriasis

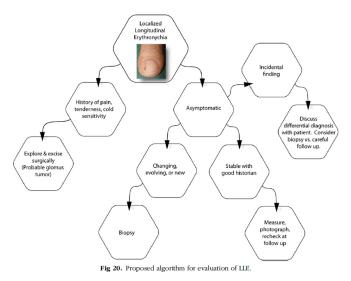
### • Erythronychia

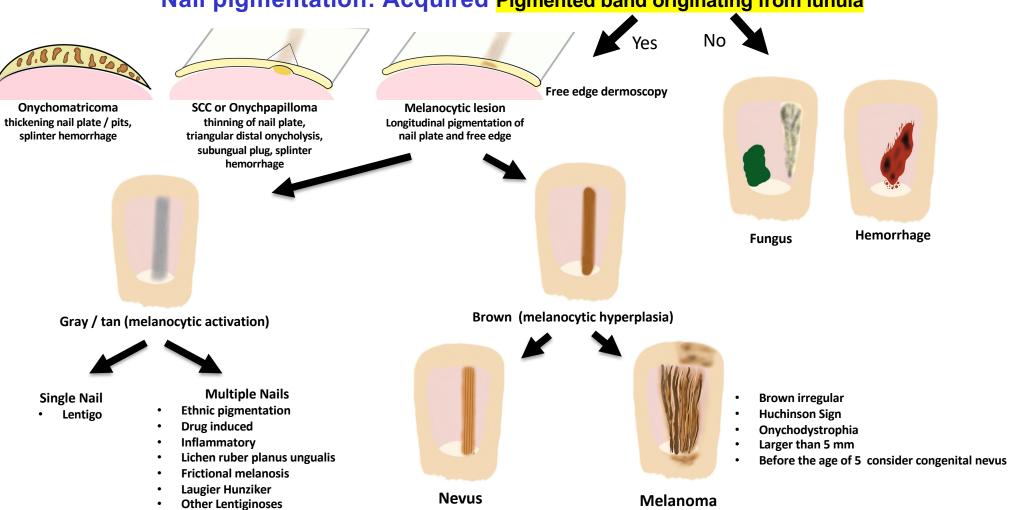
 Table I. Differential diagnosis of LLE

More common Onychopapilloma Glomus tumor Bowen's disease Wart Less common Wart Warty dyskeratoma Benign vascular proliferation (increased glomus bodies, cirsoid aneurysm) Lichen planus (isolated lesion) Nail melanoma Basal cell carcinoma

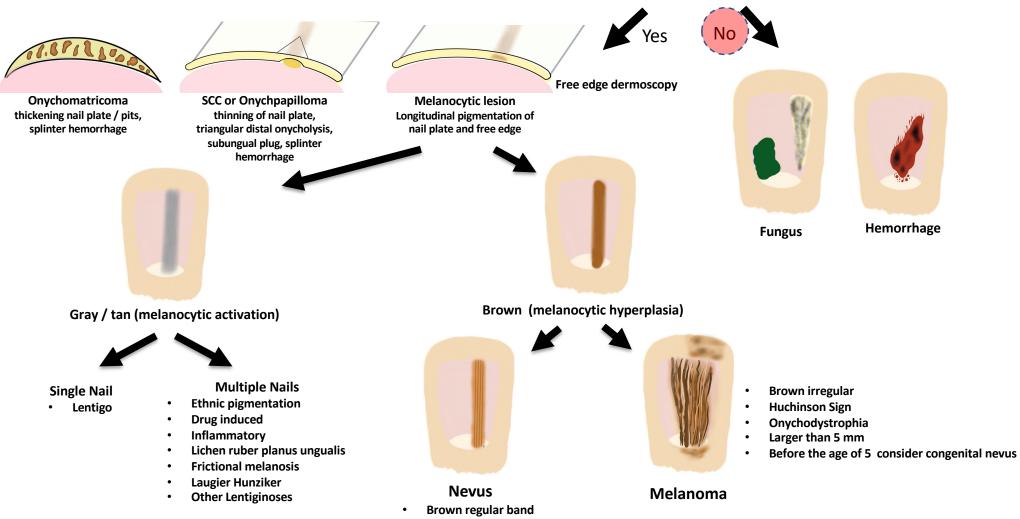
### Longitudinal erythronychia: Suggestions for evaluation and management

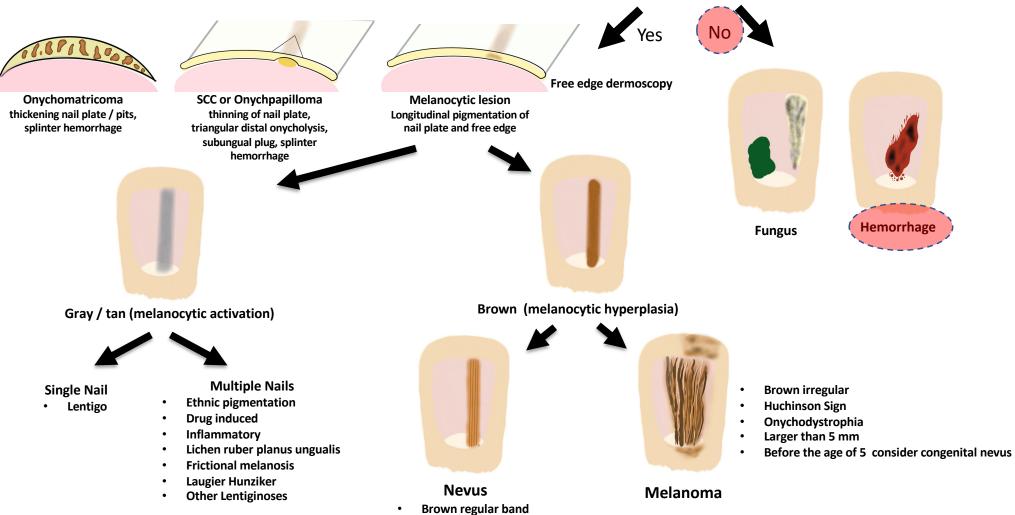
Nathaniel J. Jellinek, MD

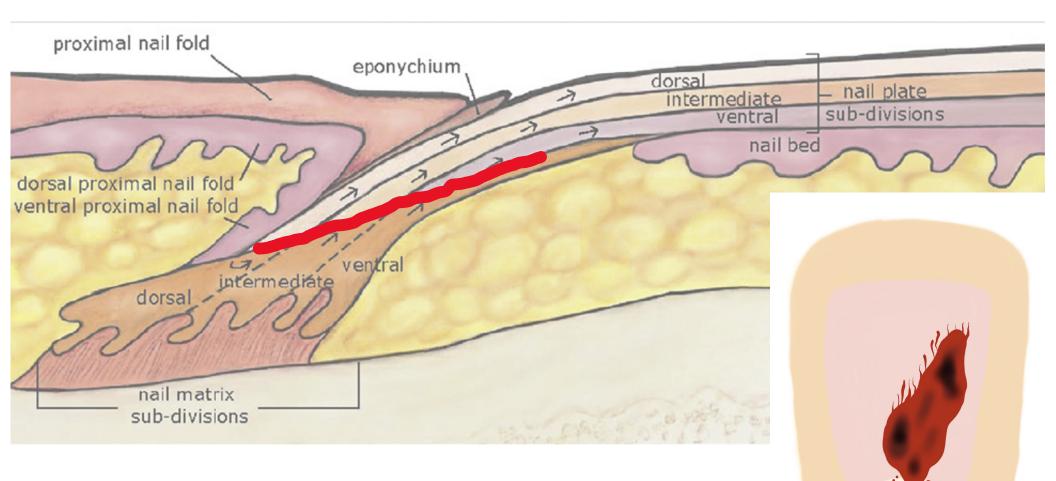




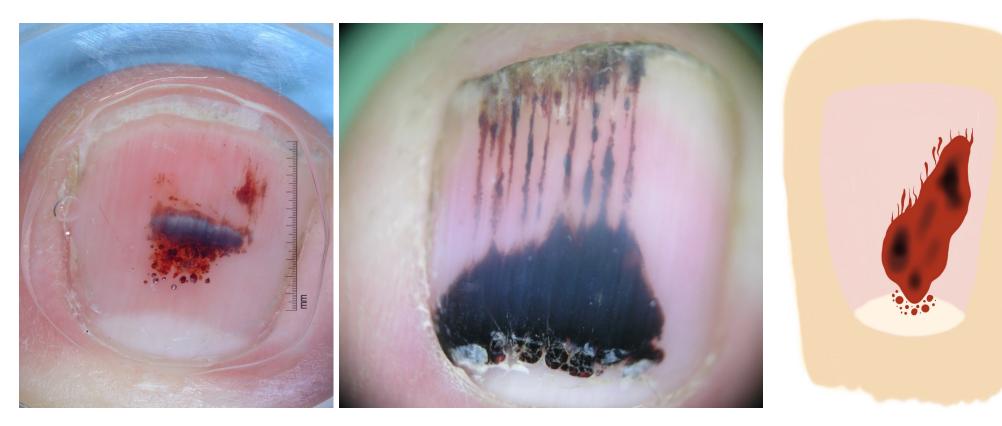
Brown regular band

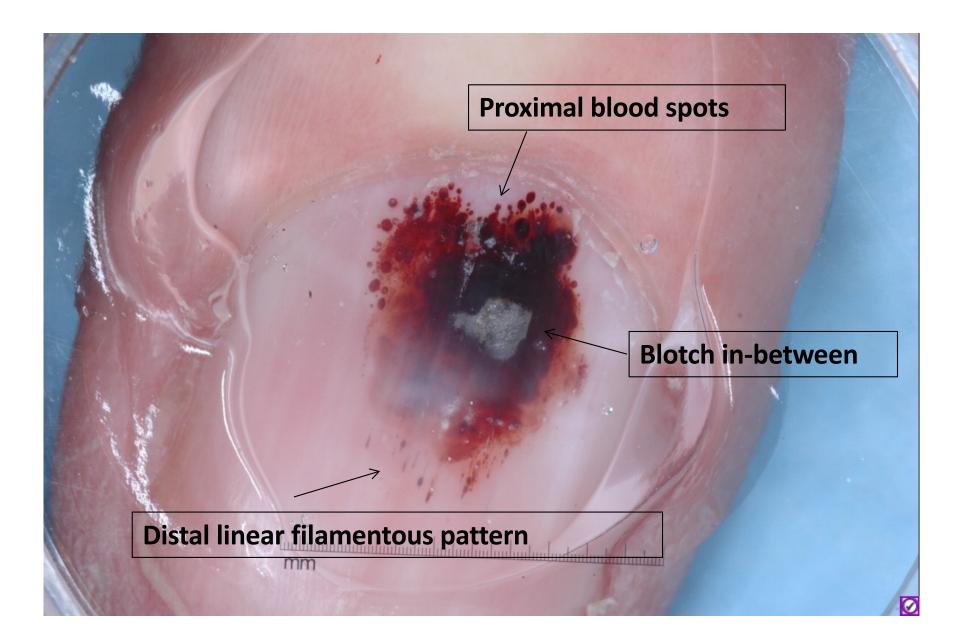






# Hemorrhage



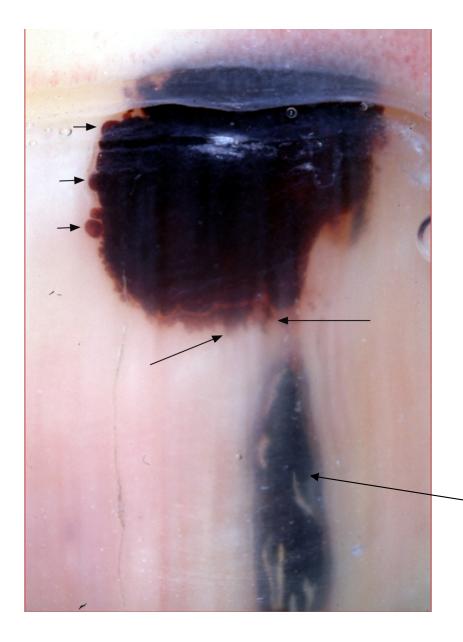




 insure there is noting underlying the blood or originating from the area of the matrix – just below cuticle (may require follow-up)

Caveat 1/2:





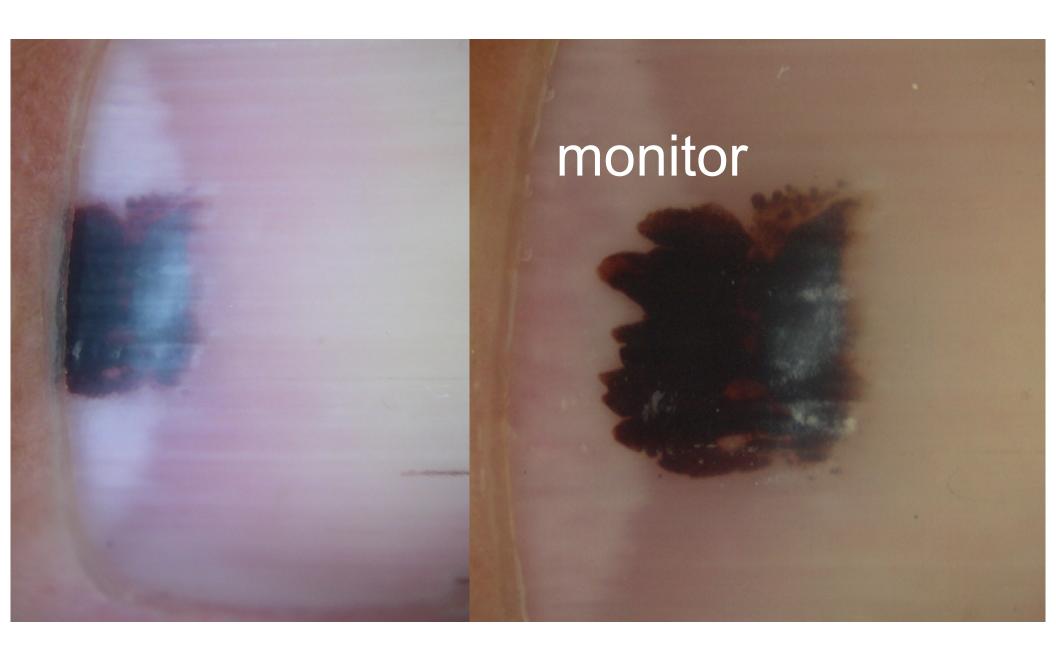
### Sub-ungual hemorrhage

Globular blood spots towards proximal end of nail plate (short arrows) together with blotch.

'fillamentous linear pattern' at distal end (long arrows)

NB: Need to follow this to ensure there is no underlying malignancy causing bleeding

## free edge dermoscopy can help



#### **RESEARCH LETTER**

Histologic Evidence of Melanocytes Isolated to the Nail Matrix

Rashek Kazi, PhD Sara Moghaddam, MD Paul Chu, MD Ashfaq A. Marghoob, MD

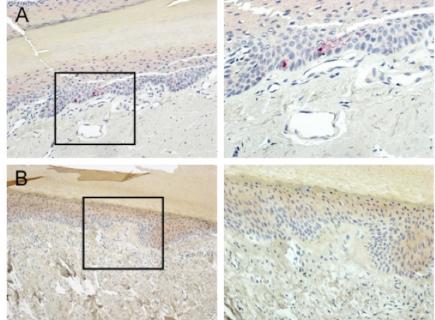


Caveat 2/2:

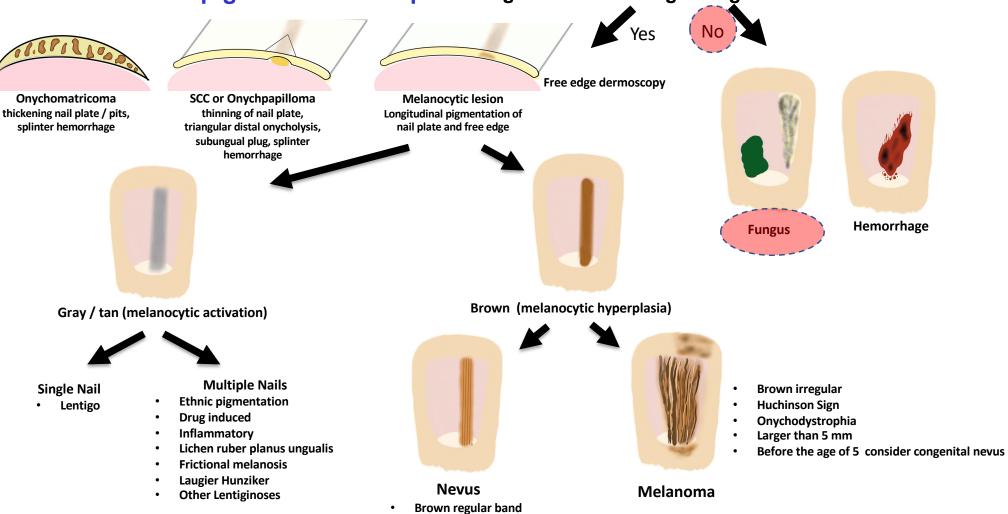
 Blood isolated to nailbed speaks against melanoma since there are no melanocytes in the nailbed.

### Histological confirmation of melanocyte populations in the nail matrix but not in the nail bed

Antibodies used were anti-tyrosinase (Cell Marque, 1:400 dilution), anti-MelanA (Dako, 1:800 dilution), anti-MTIF (microphthalmia-associated transcription factor) (Cell Marque, 1:2000 dilution), and anti-Sox-10 (Sry-related HMG-BOX gene-10) (Cell Marque, 1:50 dilution).



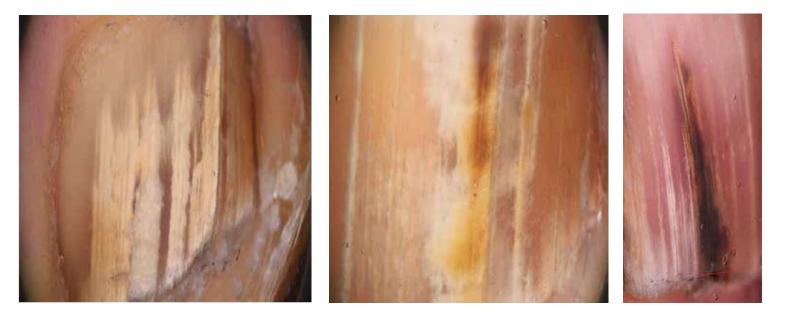
Anti-tyrosinase staining of nail matrix (A) and nail bed (B). Magnification for both A and B is (left) and (right).



### **Onychomycosis:** subungual hyperkeratosis & surface scale

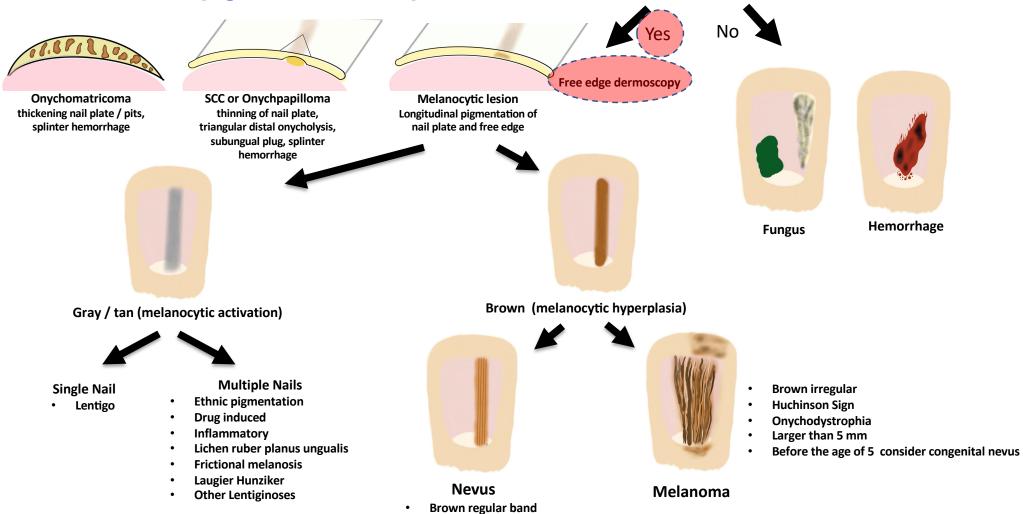
white-yellow color / multicolor / white cloudy areas

- jagged proximal edge with spikes
- non-longitudinal streaks and patches (islands)
- brown-black pigmentation with reverse triangle



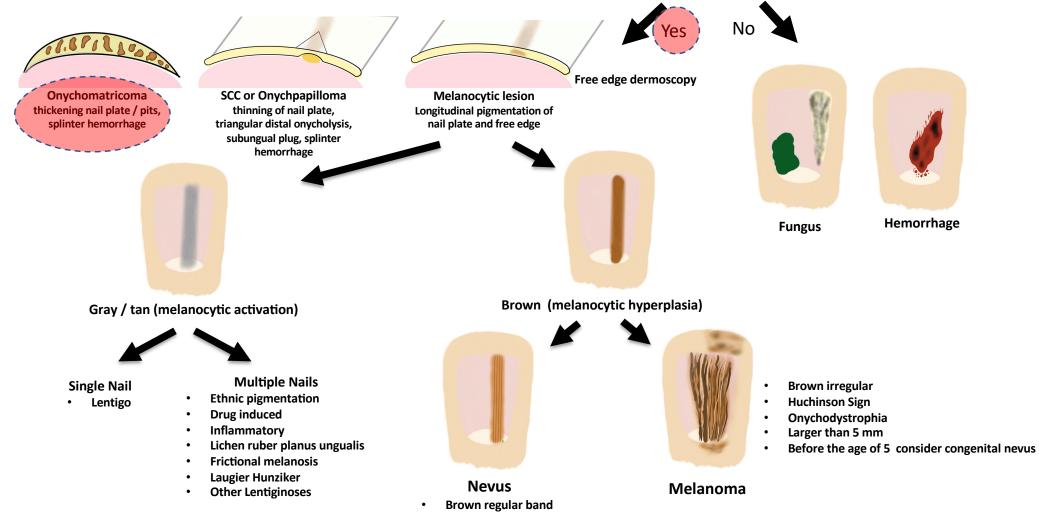
#### No Free edge dermoscopy Onychomatricoma SCC or Onychpapilloma Melanocytic lesion Longitudinal pigmentation of thickening nail plate / pits, thinning of nail plate, splinter hemorrhage triangular distal onycholysis, nail plate and free edge subungual plug, splinter hemorrhage Hemorrhage Fungus Brown (melanocytic hyperplasia) Gray / tan (melanocytic activation) **Multiple Nails** Single Nail **Brown irregular Ethnic pigmentation** Lentigo • **Huchinson Sign** . Drug induced . Onychodystrophia . Inflammatory ٠ Larger than 5 mm . Lichen ruber planus ungualis ٠ Before the age of 5 consider congenital nevus ٠ **Frictional melanosis** ٠ Laugier Hunziker ٠ Nevus Melanoma **Other Lentiginoses** ٠

Brown regular band





Dermoscopy of the free edge of the nail plate



### Features of onychomatrixoma

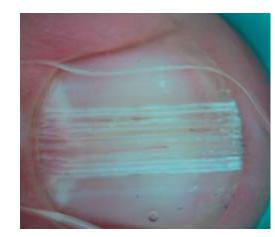
### Dermoscopic Features of Onychomatricoma: A Study of 34 Cases

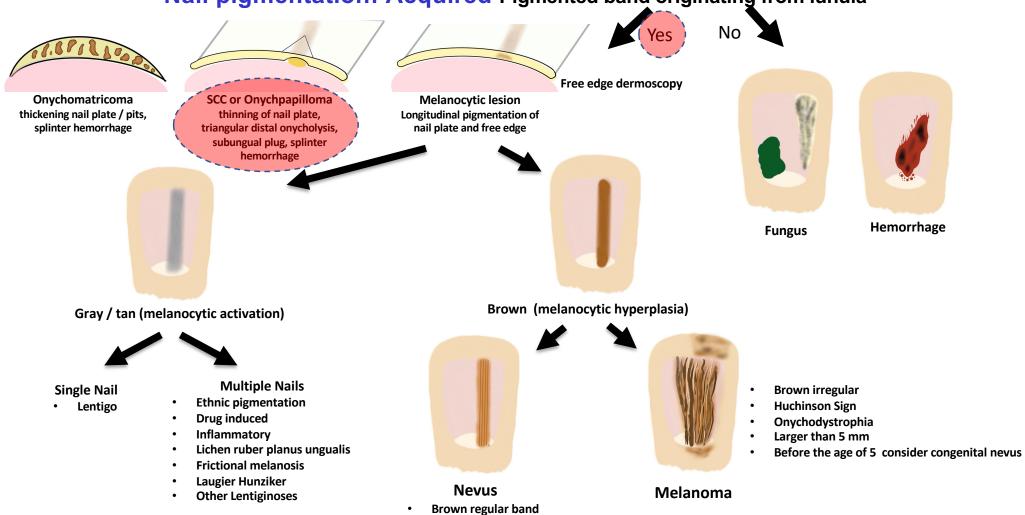
Cecile Lesort<sup>a</sup> Sébastien Debarbieux<sup>a</sup> Gerard Duru<sup>c</sup> Stephane Dalle<sup>a, b</sup> Nicolas Poulhalon<sup>a</sup> Luc Thomas<sup>a, b</sup>

- ✓ Leukonychia/xanthonychia
- ✓ Splinter hemorrhages
- 1. Parallel longitudinal white lines
- 2. Over-curvature of plate with thickening of plate & end-on pits / dots



image of onvchomatricoma. Dermoscopic enf:



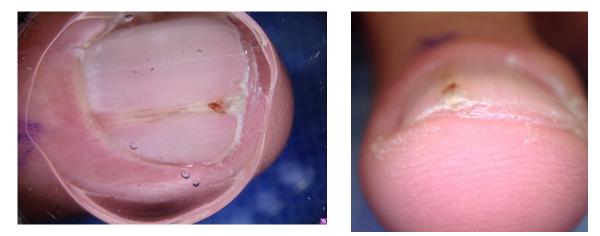


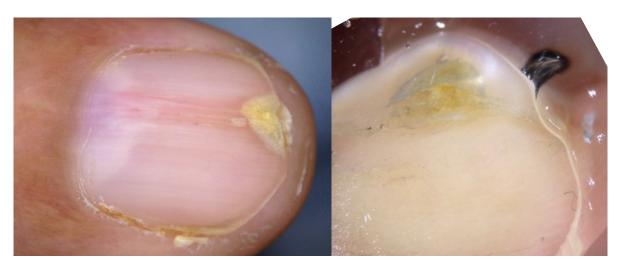
### Features of onychopapilloma

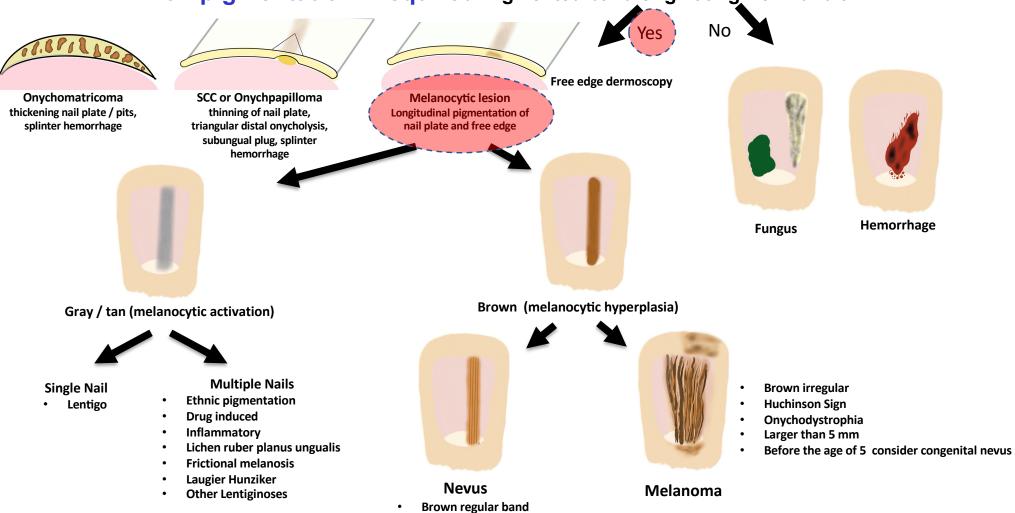
#### Clinical, dermoscopic, and pathologic features of onychopapilloma: A review of 47 cases

Antonella Tosti, MD,<sup>a</sup> Samantha L. Schneider, MD,<sup>b</sup> Mae N. Ramirez-Quizon, MD,<sup>c</sup> Martin Zaiac, MD,<sup>d</sup> and Mariya Miteva, MD<sup>a</sup>

- ✓ Leukonychia/xanthonychia
- ✓ Splinter hemorrhages
- V-shaped distal notch with focal distal subungual hyperkeratosis (rest of nailplate is not dystrophic as in SCC)





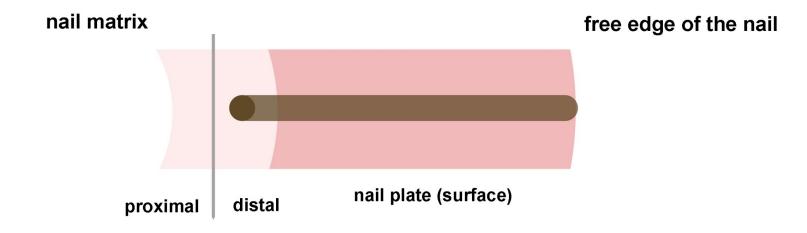


proximal nail fold	eponychium	→ dorsal intermediate	– nail plate
dorsal proximal nail fold ventral proximal nail fold	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	nail	bed
dorsal intermediate dorsal with and the second seco	ventral		
Origin in the dist Lower part in free			ee edge of the nail

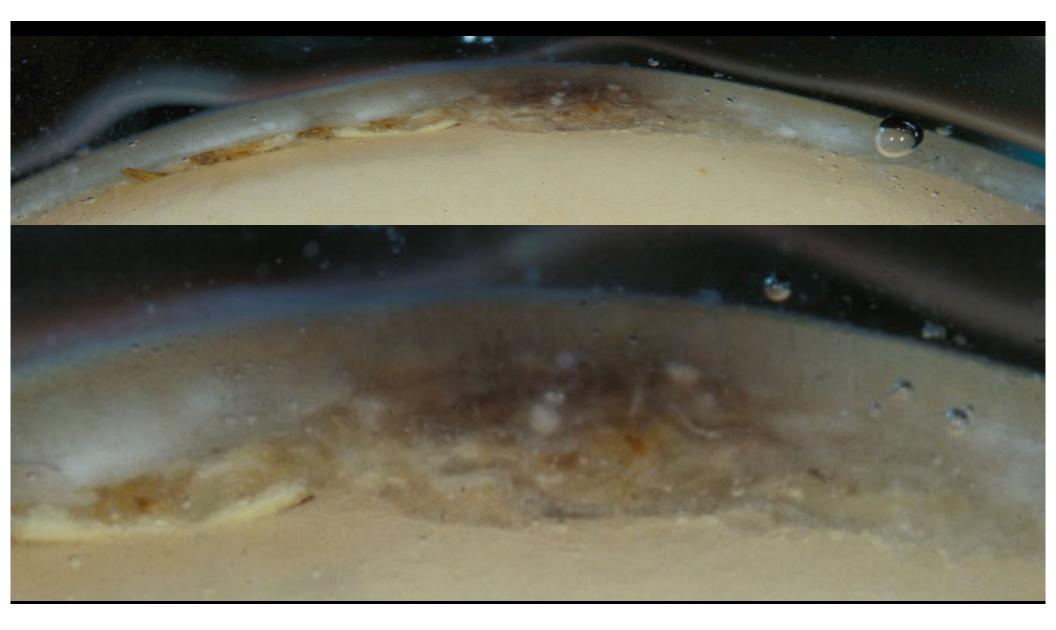
nail plate (surface)

distal

proximal





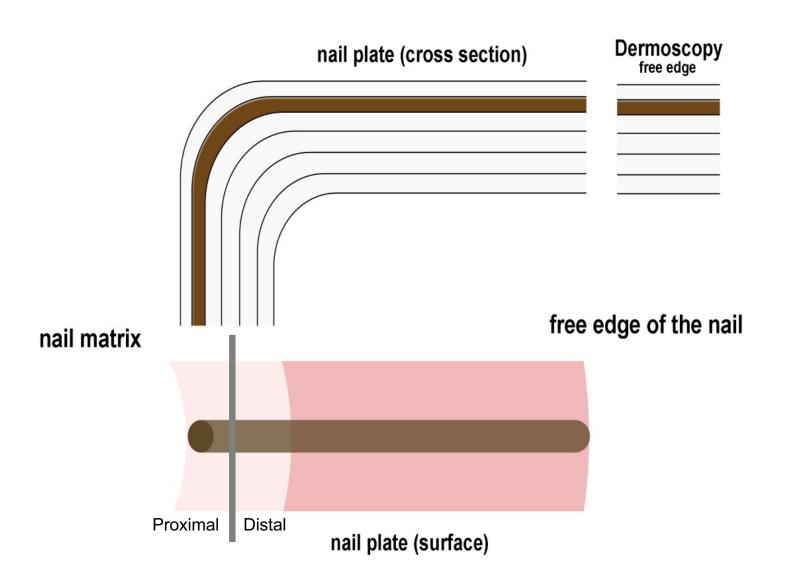


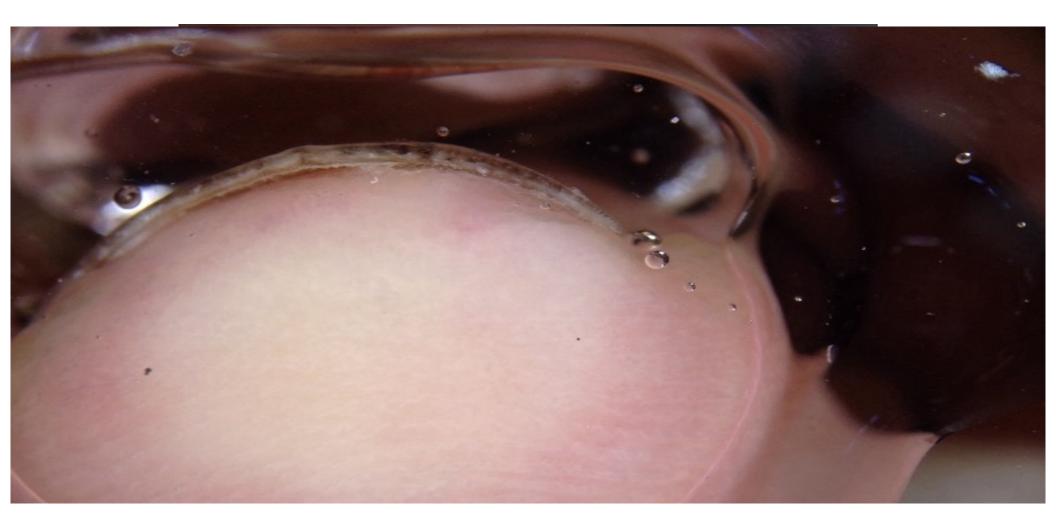
proximal nail fold	eponychium				
000100		2 7	intermediate ventral nail be	_ nail plate sub-divisions	
dorsal proximal nail fold ventral proximal nail fold	h				N
dorsal patermediáte Adorsal nail matrix	ventral				
sub-divisions		- UAU		1	90,00
Origin in the prox	ximal mat	rix			

Proximal Distal

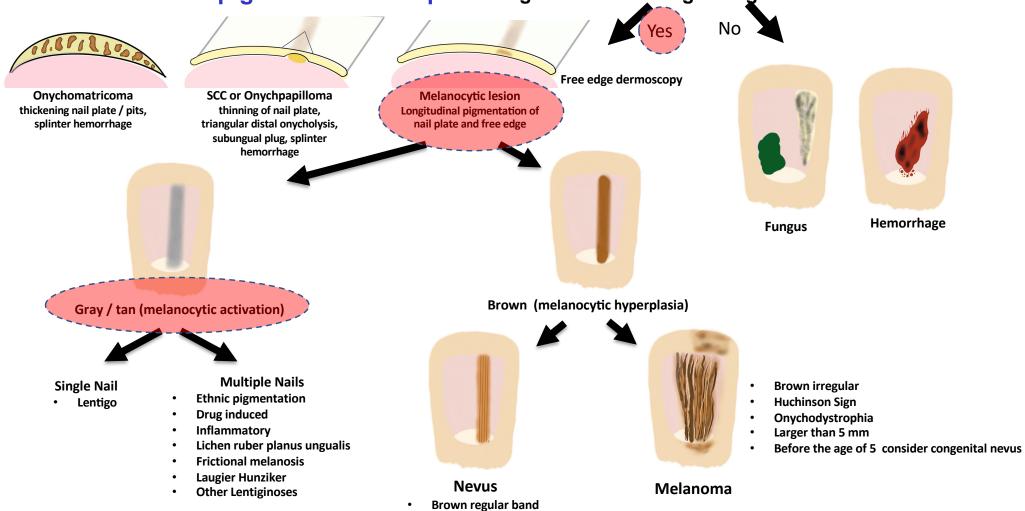
nail plate (surface)

Upper part in free edge





### Top of nail = proximal nail matrix

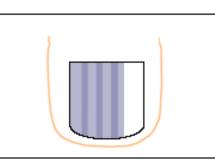


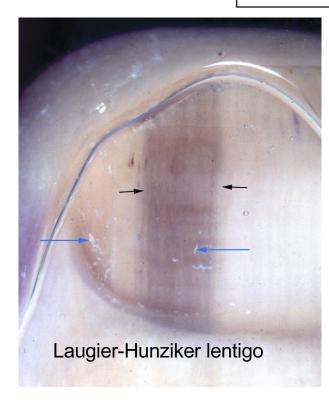
#### Nail pigmentation: Acquired Pigmented band originating from lunula

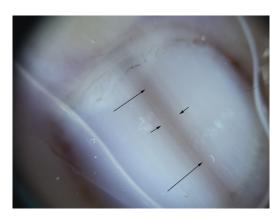
#### Features indicating non-melanocytic lesions

Homogeneous greyish lines and grey background:

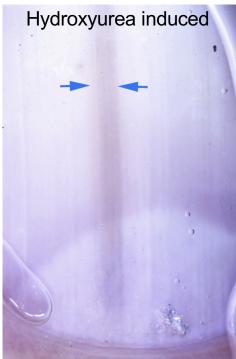
- Characteristic of nail apparatus lentigo,
- drug-induced nail pigmentation and
- 3. ethnic-type nail pigmentation

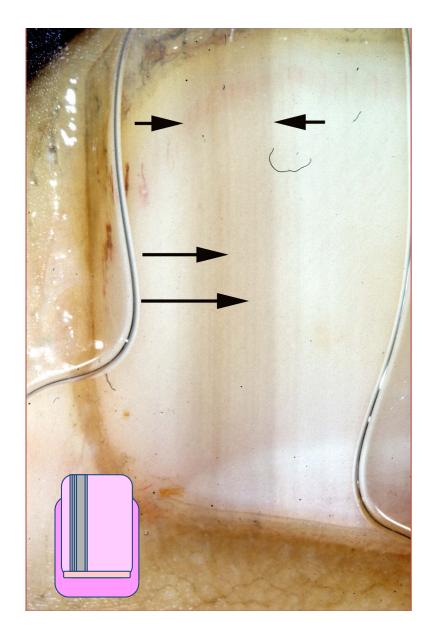






Ethnic pigmentation





### Nail apparatus lentigo

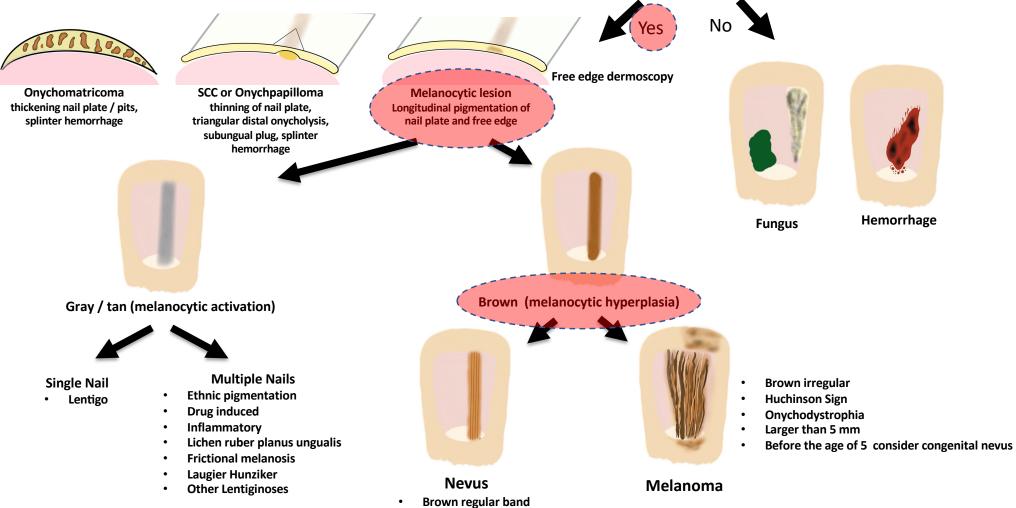
Gray homogeneous longitudinal band (between short arrows)

Thin overlying longitudinal lines (long arrows)



### Ethnic-type pigmentation

Gray homogeneous longitudinal band



#### Nail pigmentation: Acquired Pigmented band originating from lunula

#### JAMA Dermatology | Original Investigation

#### Assessment of a Predictive Scoring Model for Dermoscopy of Subungual Melanoma In Situ

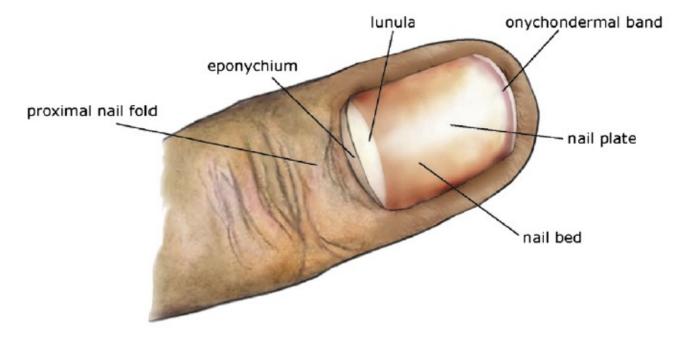
Jungyoon Ohn, MD; Gwanghyun Jo, MD; Youngjoo Cho, PhD; Sarah Lee Sheu, MD; Kwang Hyun Cho, MD, PhD; Je-Ho Mun, MD, PhD

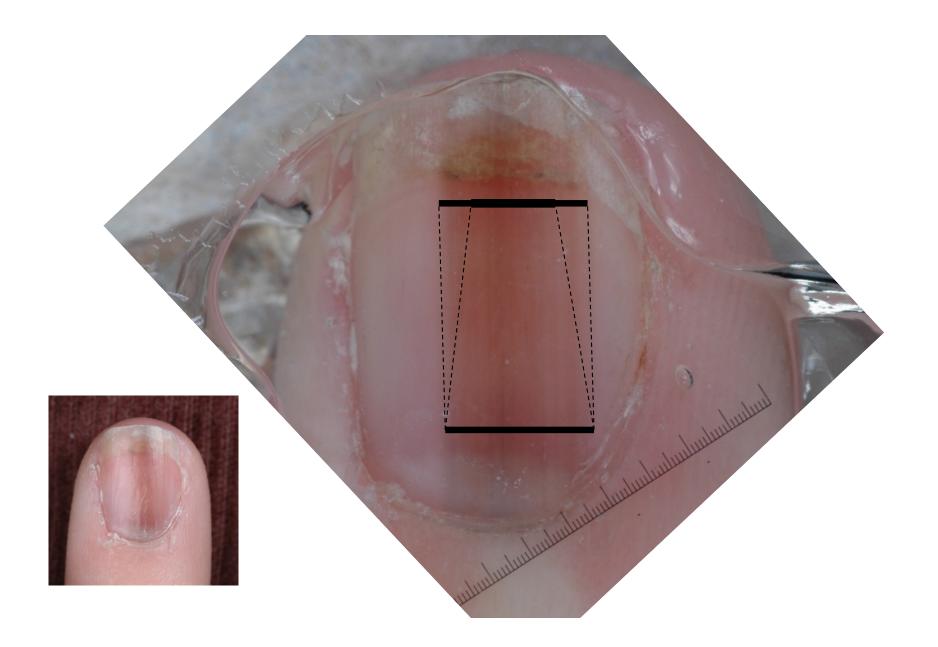
	No. (%)						
Dermoscopic Variable	SMIS (n = 19)	Benign LM (n = 26)	Sensitivity for SMIS	Specificity for SMIS	Overall Accuracy	OR (95% CI)	P Value
Width of pigmentation, mean (SD), mm	9.03 (3.96)	3.94 (3.07)					.001
≥3	17 (89)	16 (62)	0.90	0.38	0.60	5.31 (1.01-28.07) <sup>a</sup>	.05
≥6	16 (84)	4 (15)	0.84	0.85	0.84	29.33 (5.75-149.65) <sup>a</sup>	<.001
Pigmentation							
Multicolor	17 (89)	11 (42)	0.90	0.58	0.71	11.59 (2.21-60.89) <sup>a</sup>	004
Unicolor	2 (11)	15 (58)	0.11	0.42	0.29	0.09 (0.02-0.45) <sup>a</sup>	.004
Pattern							
Asymmetry	18 (95)	9 (35)	0.95	0.65	0.78	34.00 (3.88-297.70) <sup>a</sup>	.001
Border fading	14 (74)	6 (23)	0.74	0.77	0.76	9.33 (2.37-36.70) <sup>a</sup>	.001
Triangular pattern	4 (21)	1 (4)	0.21	0.96	0.64	6.67 (0.68-65.37)	.10
Dots or globules	2 (11)	1 (4)	0.11	0.96	0.60	2.94 (0.25-35.06)	.39
Hutchinson sign <sup>b</sup>	8 (42)	1 (4)	0.42	0.96	0.73	18.18 (2.02-163.52) <sup>a</sup>	.01
Nail plate dystrophy	4 (21)	2 (8)	0.21	0.92	0.62	3.20 (0.52-19.67)	.21

Abbreviations: LM, longitudinal melanonychia; OR, odds ratio; SMIS, subungual befined as periungual pigmentation of the nail fold or hyponychium. melanoma in situ.

<sup>a</sup> Indicates ORs that are significantly different.

# General examination should focus on the following

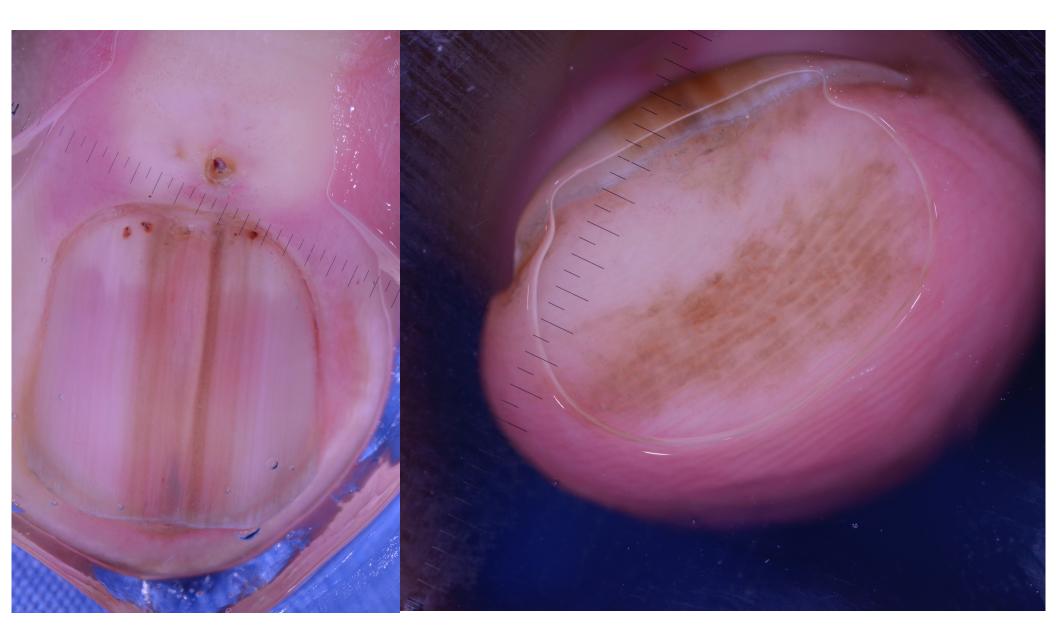


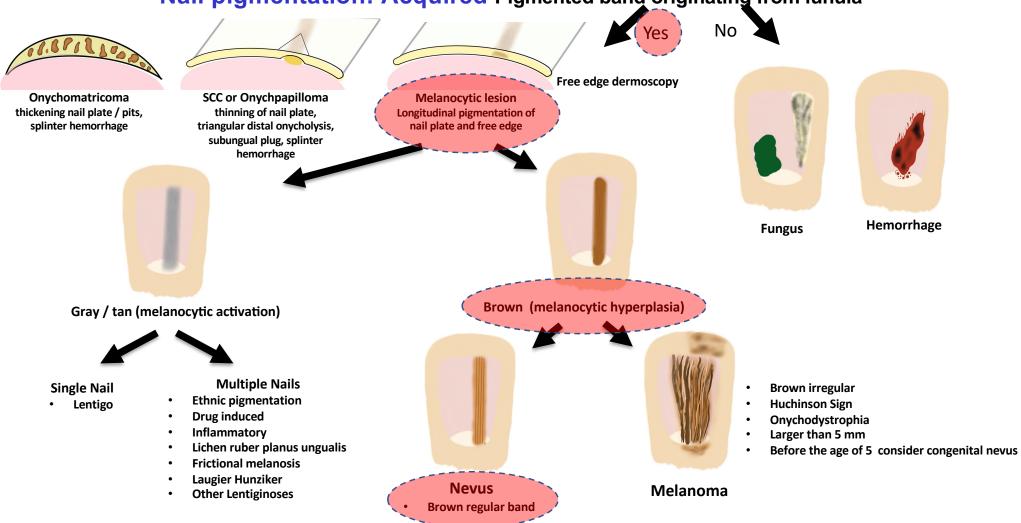




Evaluate hyponychium **Evaluate band** spacing and parallelism Industry Evaluate eponychial (cuticle) area







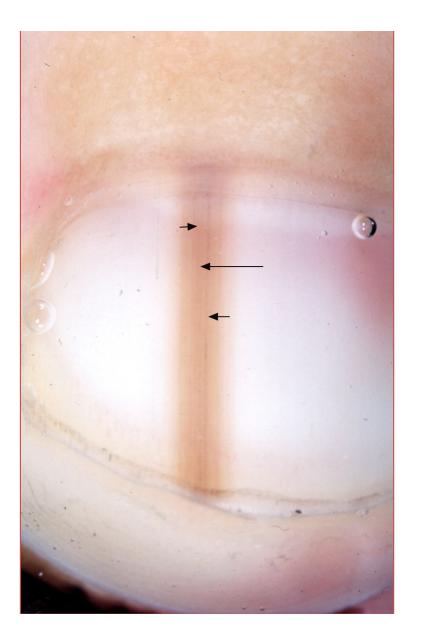
#### Nail pigmentation: Acquired Pigmented band originating from lunula



- Background brown color
- Parallel lines
- Regular spacing and thickness of lines
- Symmetric pattern & colors

	I	
Features indicating nevus		
Brown longitudinal parallel lines that are regular in coloration, spacing and thickness throughout the whole lesion		

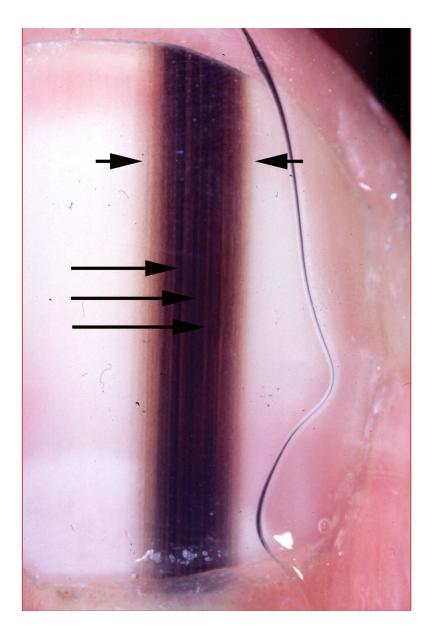




### Nail Matrix Nevus

Brown coloration of the background (between short arrows)

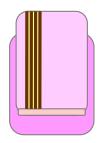
Thin regular lines (regular in thickness, color and spacing) - long arrow



### Nail matrix nevus

Brown coloration of the background (between short arrows)

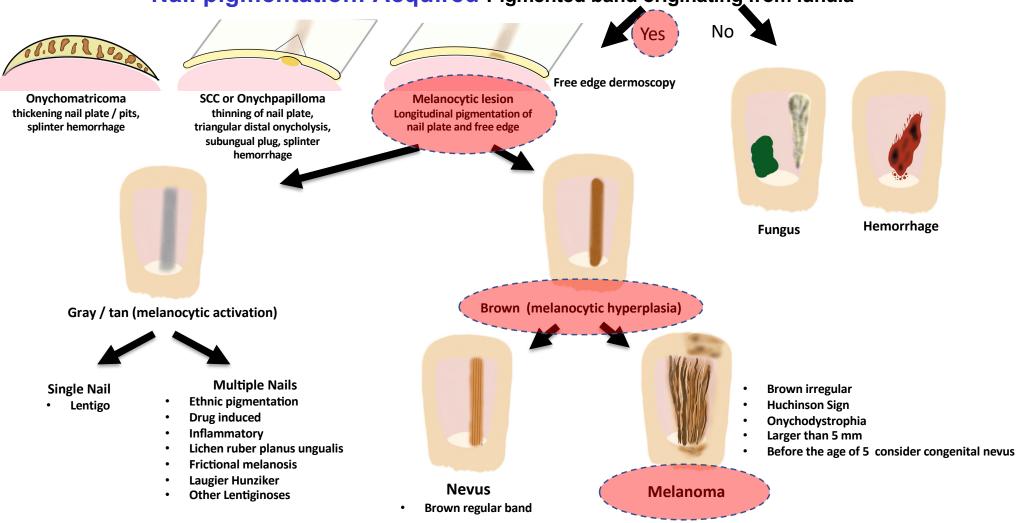
Thin regular lines (regular in thickness, color and spacing) - long arrows



### Nevus of the nail matrix



Thomas L et al, Dermatol Ther 2007



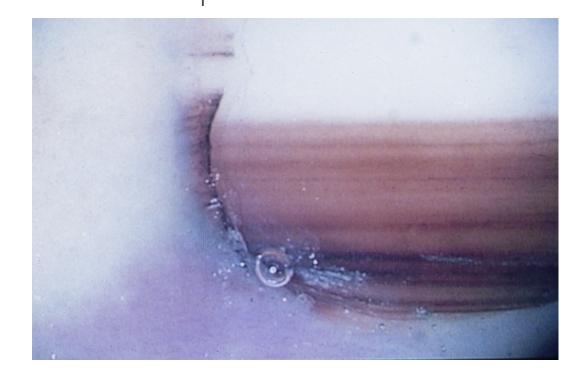
#### Nail pigmentation: Acquired Pigmented band originating from lunula

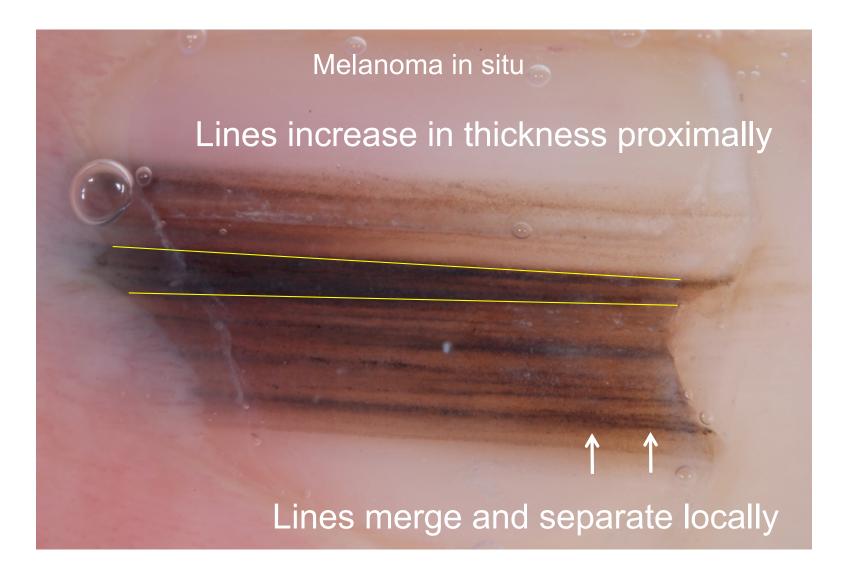


- Disorganized pattern (asymmetry) OR 34
  - -Disruption of parallelism
  - Irregular spacing and thickness of lines
- Multiple colors (>2 colors) OR 11

Ohn J, Jo G, Cho Y et al . Assessment of a Predictive Scoring Model for Dermoscopy of Subungual Melanoma In Situ. JAMA Dermatol. 2018 Aug 1;154(8):890-896.

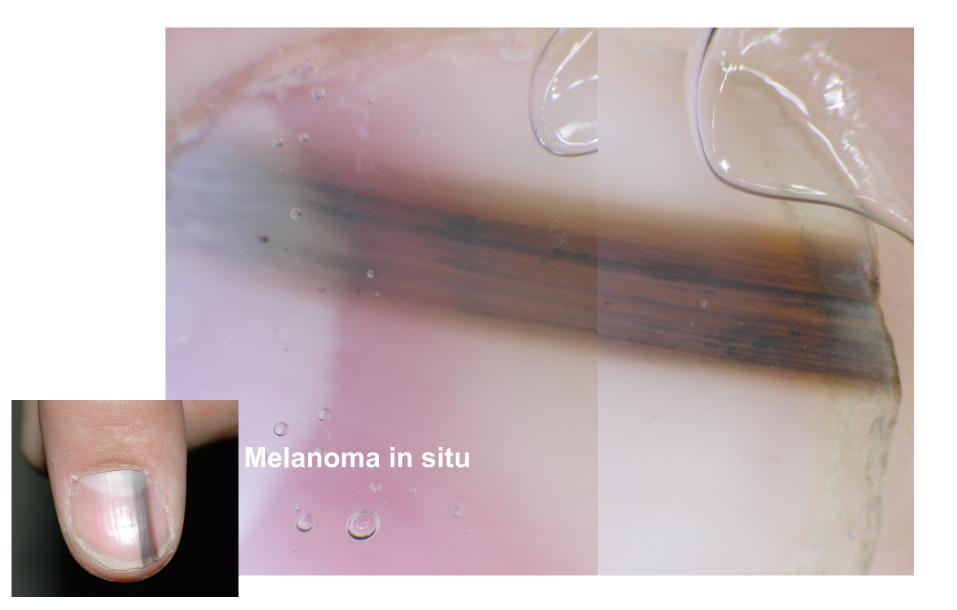
Features indicating melanoma	
Brown to black longitudinal lines, irregular in coloration, spacing and thickness disrupting the normal parallel pattern	



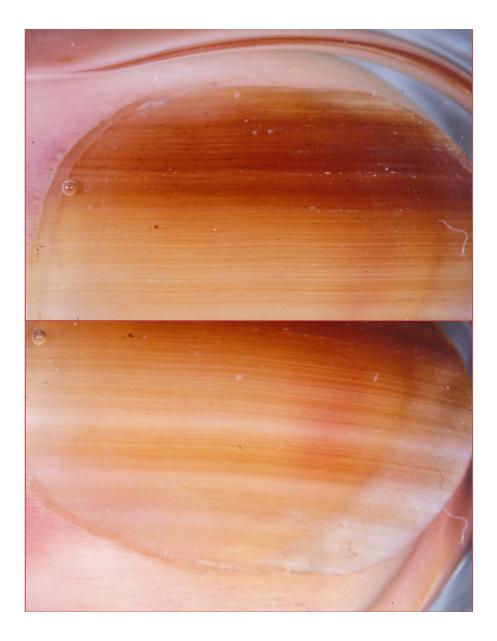














#### Nail matrix in situ melanoma

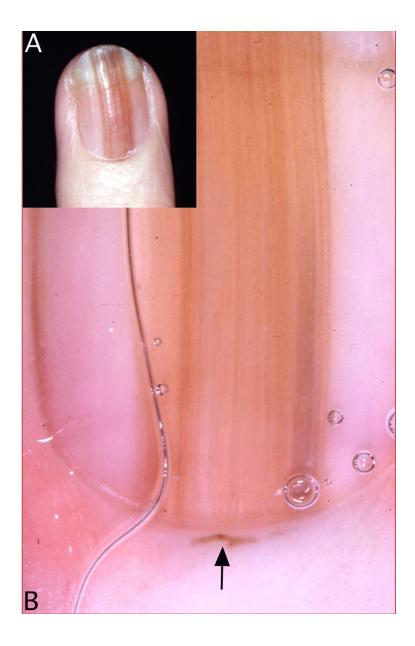
If the entire nail plate is involved then melanoma must always be ruled out!

1. Band >6mm OR for MM 29

## Pearl: "Micro-Hutchinson Sign" OR = 18

- Seen only with dermoscopy
- Pigmentation of cuticle
- Suspicious for malignant melanoma but not completely specific

Ohn J, Jo G, Cho Y et al . Assessment of a Predictive Scoring Model for Dermoscopy of Subungual Melanoma In Situ. JAMA Dermatol. 2018 Aug 1;154(8):890-896.

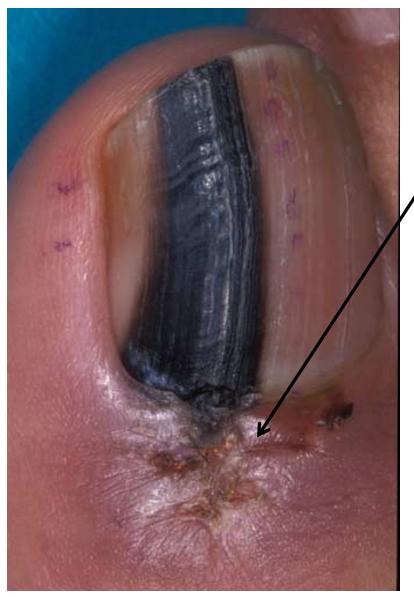


### Nail matrix melanoma

Brown coloration of the background

Micro Hutchinson's sign (arrow)

Irregular pattern of the lines in terms of their thickness, color and spacing



#### N.B: Biopsy of **Hutchinson** sign cannot be used to r/o melanoma

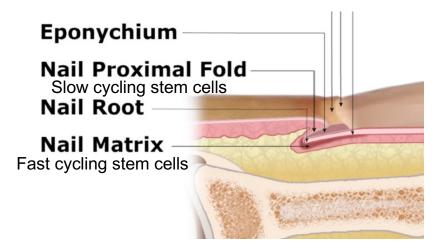


MDPI

Reviet

The Potential of Nail Mini-Organ Stem Cells in Skin, Nail and Digit Tips Regeneration

Anna Pulawska-Czub 📴, Tomasz D. Pieczonka 🗐, Paula Mazurek and Krzysztof Kobielak \*💿



### Table 3. Predictive Scoring Model for the Diagnosis of Subungual Melanoma In Situ

Dermoscopic Variable	β Coefficient (95% CI)	Score <sup>a</sup>		
Width of pigmentation, mm				
≥3 <sup>b</sup>	1.67 (0.00-3.33)	1		
≥6	3.38 (1.75-5.01)	2		
Multicolor pigmentation	2.45 (0.79-4.11)	1		
Pattern				
Asymmetry	3.53 (1.36-5.70)	2		
Border fading	2.23 (0.86-3.60)	1		
Hutchinson sign <sup>c</sup>	2.90 (0.70-5.10)	2		

<sup>a</sup> Scores were rounded to the nearest integer.

<sup>b</sup> Used as reference regression unit for score standardization.

<sup>c</sup> Defined as periungual pigmentation of the nail fold or hyponychium.

**eTable.** Sensitivity and Specificity of the Different Cutoff Score for the Subungual Melanoma In Situ

Cutoff Score	Number	Sensitivity	Specificity	1 – Specificity
0	45	1.00	0.00	1.00
1	39	1.00	0.23	0.77
2	32	1.00	0.50	0.50
3	27	0.89	0.62	0.38
4	23	0.84	0.73	0.27
5	21	0.84	0.81	0.19
6	17	0.79	0.92	0.08
7	8	0.42	1.00	0.00
8	6	0.32	1.00	0.00

## Amelanotic melanoma

Disappearance of the lunula (80%)

- Polychromia remnant pigmentation (80%)
- Disruption of parallelism, disappearance of the nail (nail dystrophy), blood spots and irregular vessels (60%)
- Linear micro-hemorrhages, purple-blue spots and red spots (40%)





Disruption of the lunula Polychromia

Disruption of parallelism, blood spots

Linear micro-hemorrhages, purple-blue spots and red spots

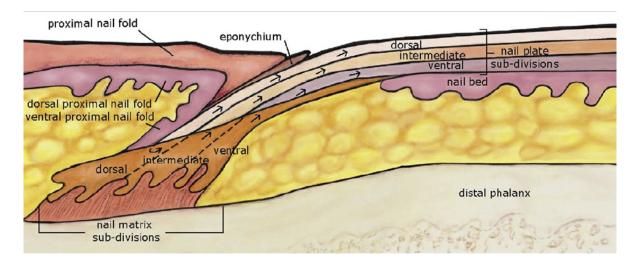




- Disappearance of the lunula
- 2. Remnants of pigmentation
  - Disappearance of the nail, and irregular vessels
  - Hutchison' s sign

## Caution

- We are evaluating a shadow and
- Using the shadow to predict what the lesion (hidden under the nail fold) actually looks like.



Limitations and challenges of nail unit dermoscopy in longitudinal melanonychia

*Thomas Knackstedt, MD*,<sup>*a,d</sup> and Nathaniel J. Jellinek, MD*<sup>*a,b,c*</sup></sup>

### **Special attention:**

- 1. Isolated pigmentation on a single digit developing during adulthood; especially concerning if band:
  - Is >6mm in width or encompassing the entire nail plate (OR 29.33)
  - Has a triangular shape (OR 6.67)
  - Has multiple colors (OR 11.59)
  - Presence of nail dystrophy or Hutchinson's sign (OR 3.2, 18.18)

#### **2. Changing pigmentation** (OR 9.33)

Ohn J, Jo G, Cho Y et al . Assessment of a Predictive Scoring Model for Dermoscopy of Subungual Melanoma In Situ. JAMA Dermatol. 2018 Aug 1;154(8):890-896.

Despite these limitations, Dermoscopy can provide insights

A case to highlight some of the points discussed...



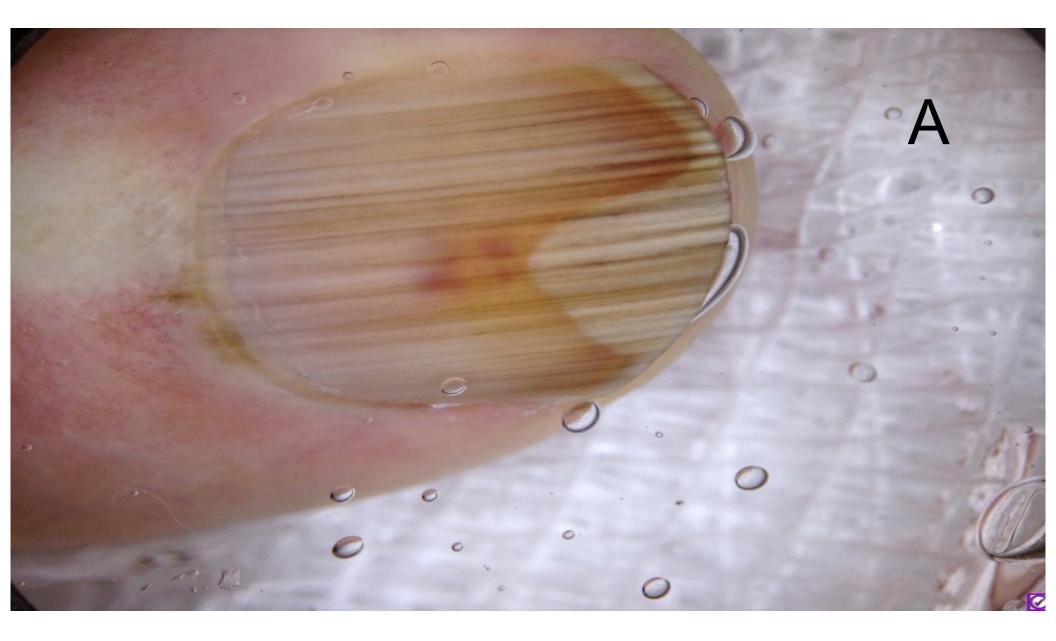


# Patient had biopsy done developed persistent distal onycholysis over next 6 months the pigment got darker (??)

DIAGNOSIS: 1. Right Lt fifth nail (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_1, 7/16/14, 3 H/E AND IMMUNOSTAINED): - Melanonychia; see note.

Note: Submitted immunohistochemical stains for MART-1 sho density of melanocytes at the dermoepidermal junction in the Fontana-Masson stains show an increase in melanin pigment The findings are in keeping with a benign melanonychia. Clini is needed to ensure adequate sampling of the clinical lesion. also reviewed the case and agrees.





Irregular bands with disruption in parallelism

Distal onycholysis (status post biopsy)

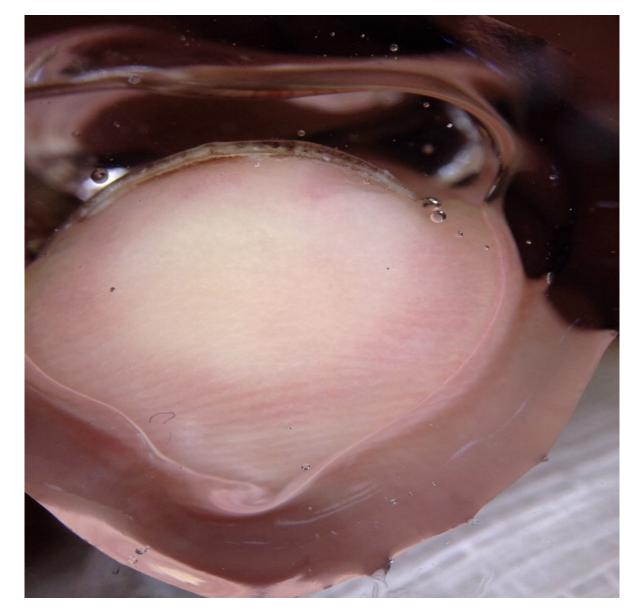
Micro-Hutchinson's sign

0

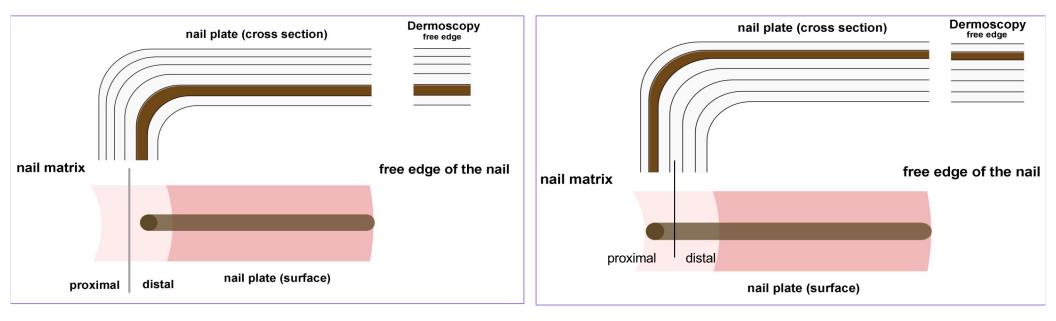
## В

#### Where is the pathology?

- 1. Proximal nail matrix
- 2. Distal nail matrix
- 3. Both proximal & distal



# **Nail dermoscopy** Free-edge dermoscopy



Pigment is mainly on the top of the nail plate – proximal nail matrix!

Based on the appearance of a normal superficial nail plate & distal onycholysis that developed after the biopsy, where was the biopsy taken from?

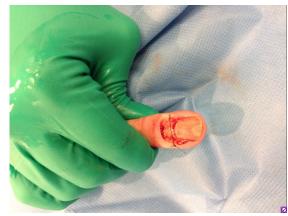
- 1. Proximal nail matrix
- 2. Distal nail matrix
- 3. Entire matrix



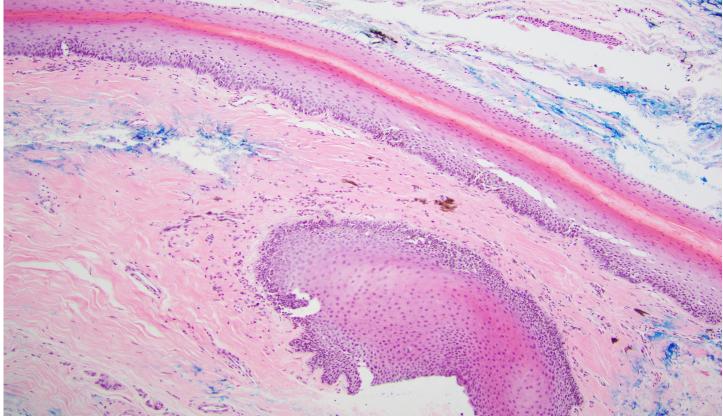


Based on the findings we now know:

- Lesion pathology is located in proximal nail matrix
- 2. Original biopsy done of distal nail matrix
- 3. The dermoscopic findings are consistent with MM
- 4. Need to re-biopsy!!!



#### Re-biopsy of entire matrix: Melanoma in proximal matrix



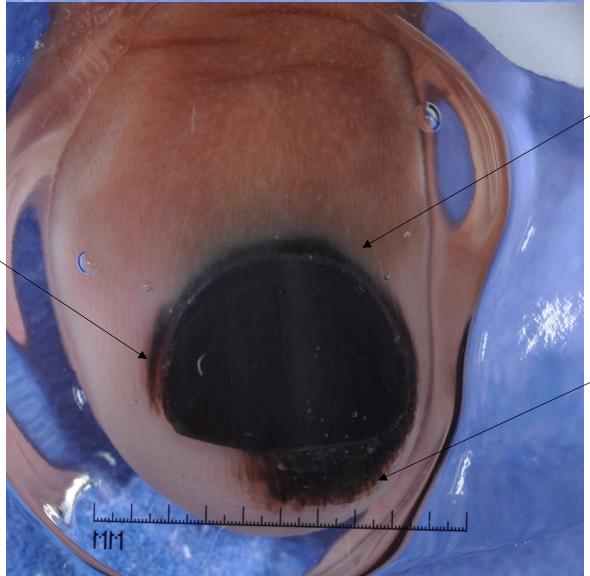


# No algorithm can reliably differentiate CMN (including tardive CMN) from melanoma!





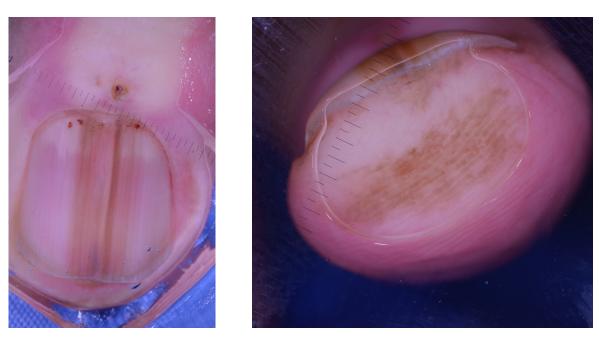
Pigment on cuticle / paronychial skin



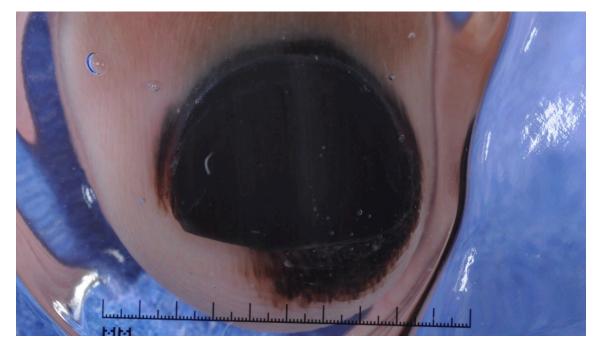
Entire nail plate pigmented w/o disruption in parallelism

Fibrillar pattern on hyponychium

- Pigment involving the cuticle, the entire nail bed/plate, with pigment extending onto the hyponychium can occur in both melanoma and congenital melanocytic nevi.
- In melanoma involving the nail unit the pigment on the hyponychium usually displays a parallel ridge pattern.



 In congenital melanocytic nevi involving the nail unit the pigment on the hyponychium often displays a fibrillar (brush-like) pattern as seen in the case presented. Based on the age of the patient and the presence of a fibrillar pattern of pigment on the hyponychium, the most probable diagnosis is that of a congenital melanocytic nevus.



Longitudinal brush pigmentation on Jongeun Lee, MD,<sup>a</sup> Sewon Park, MD,<sup>a</sup> Dongyoun the hyponychium, a dermoscopic feature observed in pediatric nail matrix nevi

Lee, MD, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Kee-Taek Jang, MD, PhD,<sup>b</sup> and Eun Ji Kwon, MD<sup>c</sup> **J AM ACAD DERMATOL** 

**JUNE 2021** 



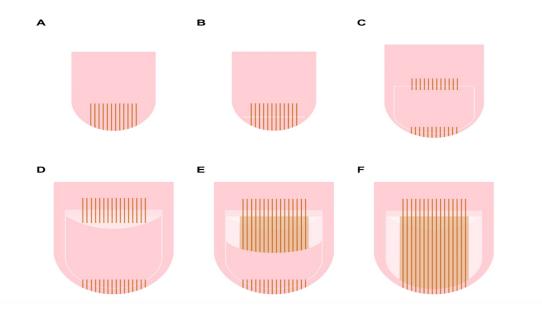
Fig 1. Dermoscopic images of patient 1. Dermoscopy shows the Hutchinson sign at the hyponychium with longitudinal brush pigmentation aligned parallel to the longitudinal direction.

Table I. Demographic and clinical data of 15 melanonychia cases

Patient no.	Age of onset, mo	Sex	Affected nail*	Width of melanonychia (% of nail width)	Nail dystrophy	Time from onset of melanonychia to development of hyponychial LBP, mo	Length of follow-up, mo
1	4	Μ	R5F	100	-	14	41
2	<1	Μ	L1F	33.3	_	LBP present at initial visit	33
3	8	Μ	L4F	66.7	+	56	30
4	2	м	L1F	39.5	+	LBP present at initial visit	13
5	36	F	L1F	72.7	+	LBP present at initial visit	14
6	<1	F	L3T	52.4	_	LBP present at initial visit	42
7	71	F	R4F	25	_	LBP present at initial visit	24
8	24	м	R1T	100	_	29	24
9	36	м	R2T	48	_	LBP present at initial visit	8
10	60	F	R3F	100	_	LBP present at initial visit	9
11	5	F	L1F	71.2	+	31	27
12	40	м	R2F	29.6	+	LBP present at initial visit	6
13	80	м	L1T	40.3	_	LBP present at initial visit	17
14	11	F	L1F	13.1	_	18	28
15	3	F	L3F	22.8	-	17	30

F, Female; LBP, longitudinal brush pigmentation; M, male.

\*The first letter specifies right (R) or left (L), and the last specifies finger (F) or toe (T). A number between them indicates which finger or toe is affected.



#### Conclusion:

Characteristically, the distal fibrillar pattern is often present and may be a "signature

feature" of congenital and congenital-type NMN.

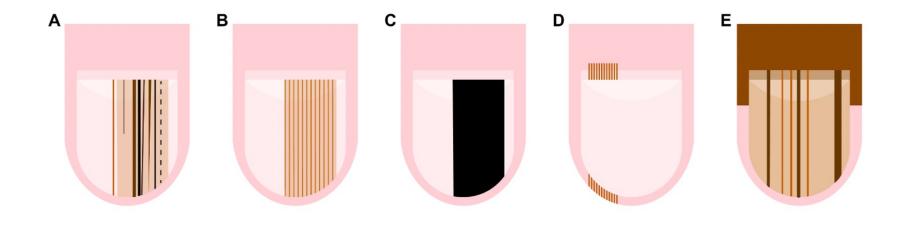
#### Dermatoscopic and clinical features of congenital or congenital-type nail matrix nevi: A multicenter prospective cohort study by the International Dermoscopy Society

Félix Pham, MD,<sup>a,b</sup> Amélie Boespflug, MD, PhD,<sup>a,b</sup> Gérard Duru, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Alice Phan, MD,<sup>d</sup>

*Conclusion:* Congenital and congenital-type NMN showed worrisome clinical and dermatoscopic features similar to those observed in adulthood subungual melanoma. The distal fibrillar ("brush-like") pattern is a suggestive feature of congenital and congenital-type NMN. (J Am Acad Dermatol https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2022.01.028.)

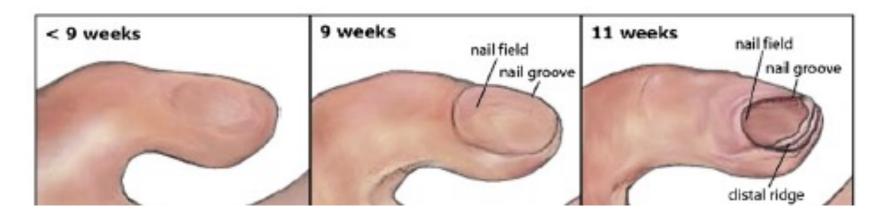






*Conclusion*: Congenital and congenital-type NMN share common clinical and <u>dermoscopical</u> features of SUM in adults.

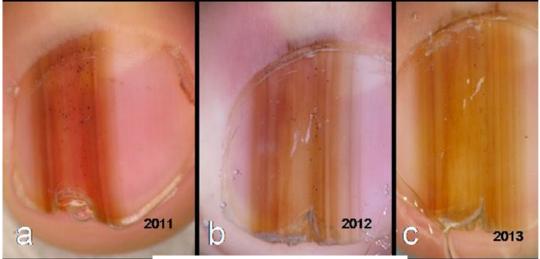
• It is hypothesized that congenital melanocytic nevi that form before the development of the nail groove during embryogenesis will likely involve the entire nail unit (matrix, cuticle, nail bed and hyponychium).



(J Am Acad Dermatol 2007;57:1-27.)

#### Longterm digital monitoring in the diagnosis and management of congenital nevi of the nail apparatus showing pseudo-Hutchinson's sign

Mizuki Sawada<sup>1</sup>, Sumiko Ishizaki<sup>1</sup>, Ken Kobayashi<sup>1</sup>, Itaru Dekio<sup>1</sup>, Masaru Tanaka<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 2.** Dermoscopy of case 2. Dermoscopy showed regular dark brown lines and a brown background band (A–C). The brown background band slightly widened, but the dark brown lines on the band is gradually decreasing. There was a regular minute fibrillar pattern on the proximal nailfold. [Copyright: ©2014 Sawada et al.]



Figure 4. "Neumatic" pattern resembling the notation of the Gregorian chant.

The dots and lines in the regressing melanonychia show a "neumatic" pattern. [Copyright: ©2014 Sawada et al.]



#### Children break all the rules





In adults the warning signs include:

- 1. Entire nail plate involvement
- 2. Pigment extends onto cuticle or hyponychium
- 3. Triangulation











