

Non-infective nail conditions

About 50% of nail conditions result from various causes, including nail injuries, psoriasis, lichen planus, and occasionally tumours (cancerous and noncancerous)

1. Lichen planus affects the nails in up to 10% of cases. Some people may have only mild symptoms such as discoloration of the nail beds, thinning of the nails, and formation of nail ridges. Other people may completely lose their nails
2. Nail psoriasis can manifest clinically as a wide variety of nail changes, like nail discoloration, subungual hyperkeratosis, pitting and onycholysis. Patients with psoriatic nails have impaired quality of life due to the appearance of nails, and significant morbidity and functional impairments may arise in large cases.
3. Onycholysis is partial separation of the nail plate from the nail bed or complete nail plate loss. It can result from an injury, overzealous nail cleaning, Psoriasis and thyrotoxicosis, Frequent exposure to water and cleaning agents
4. Nail neoplasms include benign and malignant tumours that have different signs and symptoms causing deformities and affecting nail growth. In general, malignant tumours deform the adjacent tissue while benign tumours preserve tissue architecture; however, it should not be considered a rule. Malignant tumours are the most important lesions of the nail apparatus for their impact on the prognosis. A biopsy is the only confirmatory diagnostic means.

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