

# Nail the Genetic Disorder

Genodermatoses are heritable conditions mainly affecting the skin and its appendages. Almost all are rare; generally chronic and often severe, they may even be life threatening. Which one is *not* a clinical presentation of a genetic skin disease?

**Match the diagnosis to the photo by letter**

- a. Darier disease
- b. Retained hangnail
- c. Pachyonychia congenita
- d. Osteo-onychodysplasia



**1.** The patient has a long-standing pruritic rash. Flat, slightly elevated, greasy brown papules are scattered on the chest, abdomen, and upper back, with mild surrounding erythema. The fingernails are deformed, with longitudinal red streaks and ridges and v-shaped notching of the free margin.

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**2.** Six months ago, this 36-year-old man's left fourth finger began to bother him. He's tried topical antibiotics, colloidal silver solution, and two different oral antibiotics. None have relieved the pain, which is severe enough to interfere with daily activity—particularly his job, which requires extensive computer time.



**3.** A 25-year-old man presents with what he describes as a "fungal infection" of the fingernails that he's had since birth. The nails are uniformly thickened and dystrophic, without significant discoloration. The patient's palms and soles are hyperkeratotic, and the upper anterior legs are covered by a folliculocentric papular hyperkeratosis reminiscent of a coarse keratosis pilaris.



**4.** Usually apparent at birth, this disorder may manifest with abnormal or missing nails. Characteristic nail changes include triangular lunulae and, most prominently on the thumb and index fingers, hypoplasia. Also apparent are orthopedic changes (particularly affecting the knees and elbows), renal disease, and glaucoma.

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For the correct answers, go to [www.clinicianreviews.com/articles/picture-this.html](http://www.clinicianreviews.com/articles/picture-this.html).