

In Dermatology

Naevus of Ota



- A naevus is a circumscribed and stable malformation of a component of the skin. Naevi are often present at birth, when they are often called brown birthmarks. Naevi composed of melanocytes (the pigment cells that produce melanin) are called melanocytic naevi or pigmented naevi.
- Naevus of Ota is on the forehead and face around the eye area (see image).
- They are forms of dermal melanocytosis in which naevus cells are found deep within the dermis.
- Naevus of Ota is present at birth in 50% of cases but may appear during adolescence or adult life. Treatment of a melanocytosis may include cosmetic camouflage to cover the disfiguring markings, and laser treatment (usually using 1064nm Q switched Nd:YAG, Alexandrite or QS ruby laser) or intense pulsed light (IPL).

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