SKIN LESIONS

A PRIMER – PART 1

KNOW THESE TERMS!!!
1. MACULE

※A macule is a change in the color of the skin. It is flat, if you were to close your eyes and run your fingers over the surface of a purely macular lesion, you could not detect it. A macule greater than 1 cm. may be referred to as a *patch*. 
※ This 11-year-old boy's freckles (ephelides) are all macules.
Café-au-Lait

※ This 18 month old with neurofibromatosis has characteristic cafe-au-lait macules.

Can be hyper- hypo-pigmented.
Usually assoc with neuroendocrinal problems.

Look for this plus high bp. Send them to a neuroendocrinologist.
Hypo-pigmented Macules

※ This 3-year-old girl with tuberous sclerosis has hypo-pigmented macules and patches.
Macular Rash

This nearly 8-year-old boy has the red macular rash associated with the viral disease erythema infectiosum, also known as fifth disease. Viral and bacteria can produce these rashes.
A papule is a solid raised lesion with distinct borders and is less than 1 cm in diameter. Papules may have a variety of shapes in profile (domed, flat-topped, umbilicated) and may be associated with secondary features such as crusts or scales.
This 13-year-old girl has scabies; some of these very pruritic (itchy) papules are excoriated.

Lumpy elevations.
These are the papules of molluscum contagiosum in a 3-year-old girl. Very contagious disease. Little pearly blisters. Tends to spread with touching.
This nearly 5-year-old boy has hundreds of papules with an id reaction. An id reaction is a **generalized hypersensitivity reaction on the skin** to a local inflammatory lesion of the skin *(e.g., a fungal infection)*.
2. PAPULE/ SCALE

※ Another commonly used descriptive term is "papulosquamous."

Papulosquamous lesions are ※ raised and ※ scaly.

psoriasis patients have this.
3. NODULE

※ A nodule is a raised solid lesion more than 1 cm. and may be in the epidermis, dermis, or subcutaneous tissue.

Papule of larger than 1cm.

fat lump = subcutaneous
lymph node in armpit is too.
Nodule

※ This nodule is a basal cell carcinoma on the scalp of a 23-year-old man.

document stuff like this before you needle! mention it to the patient, advise them to get it evaluated, but don't make the "cancer" words! tell him/her and document that you aren't putting needles in that. painless nodules must always be evaluated.
The nodule in the axilla of this 6-year-old boy is a lymph node associated with cat-scratch disease.
This 2½ week old has a tumor that is a large AV malformation of her left flank.

Don't touch this! Treat it like a delicate egg...geez!

This can happen anywhere, internal or external. Shit, that's scary.
Tumor: Xanthomas

These xanthomas are tumors that appeared in a 7-year-old girl with hepatic dysfunction secondary to Langerhans cell histiocytosis.

A cholesterol deposit on the body. Happens on elbows, dorsal surfaces, eyelids most commonly. Look yellow and soap cake-ish.

Neurofibromas can look like this too.
5. PLAQUE

※A plaque is a solid, raised, flat-topped lesion greater than 1 cm. in diameter. It is analogous to the geological formation, the plateau.
The plaque on the left lumbosacral area of this 7-year-old boy is a plaque associated with tuberous sclerosis.

Tuberous sclerosis is hereditary. Signif: can lead to blindness.
Psoriatic Plaques

※ These are the extensive plaques of psoriasis covered with a characteristic silvery scale in an 18-year-old young man.
6. VESICLE

※ Vesicles are raised lesions less than 1 cm. in diameter that are filled with clear fluid.

Fluid filled blisters. Cx pox or small pox has these.

This 3-year-old boy has oval vesicles in his palm from hand, foot, and mouth disease.
7. BULLAE

※ Bullae are circumscribed fluid-filled lesions that are greater than 1 cm. in diameter.
Bullae + Vesicles

※This 2 year old girl with Stevens - Johnson syndrome has both bullae and vesicles.

various stages of chx pox and other diseases have this too.
This 4-year-old boy has bullae on the pinna of his ear from a contact dermatitis.
Pustules are circumscribed elevated lesions that contain pus. They are most commonly infected (as in folliculitis) but may be sterile (as in pustular psoriasis).

The pustules on the foot of this 15-year-old boy are caused by a group A beta-hemolytic streptococcus infection.

Vesicle filled with pus is a pustule.
9. WHEAL

※ A wheal is an area of edema in the upper epidermis.
※ The wheals on the back of this 16-year-old boy are an example of urticaria (or hives).

large area of edema.
This 2-year-old girl has a wheal from an insect bite.
10. BURROW

※ Burrows are linear lesions produced by infestation of the skin and formation of tunnels (e.g., with infestation by the scabitic mite or by cutaneous larva migrans).

※ This 8-year-old boy has burrows associated with cutaneous larva migrans.

(parasitic infection, travelling under skin. scabies will do this. common in tropical areas - larvae get in, crawl thru skin. loaloa is the most dramatic and goes to the eye - you can see it under the sclera! yow!)