

Vascular Birthmarks

What is a Vascular Birthmark?

Blood vessels bunched together under the skin that are visible through the skin surface. They may be brown, blue, pink or red.

What causes a Vascular Birthmark?

The exact cause is unknown, however most vascular birthmarks are not inherited.

What are the different kinds of Vascular Birthmarks?

Macular Stains, Hemangiomas, and Port-Wine Stains are common types of vascular birthmarks.

Macular Stains

The most common type, described as faint, mild, flat red marks. Some may resolve by age two (stains on forehead or eyelids), while others usually last into adulthood (stains of back of neck). These birthmarks are harmless and require no treatment.

Hemangiomas

Usually become apparent within the first few weeks of life. They may be raised and can be anywhere on the face or body. When aggravated, these birthmarks may bleed and in rare cases, may form a tender ulcer, however most require no treatment.

Port-Wine Stains

Appear at birth, and are most often found on the face, neck, arms or legs. These birthmarks tend to grown in proportion to the patient's growth, and can last a lifetime. No treatment is required, however there are cosmetic laser treatments available.

If you have any further questions please call the Dermatology Clinic of Idaho at (208) 939-4599 or (208) 376-4776