Letter to the Editor

Floating Lipoma: An Unusual Presentation of a Common Tumor

Dear Cutis®:

Lipomas are common, benign, fixed dermal skin tumors generally excised with minimal difficulty. A 7-year-old girl presented to us with no history of leg trauma and a 2-year history of an asymptomatic, soft, mobile subcutaneous mass under the skin of the left patella. The mass was palpable and freely movable without discomfort from a position on the superolateral rim of the patella to the infrapatellar space. On physical examination, with the knee in a neutral or flexed position, a soft mobile subcutaneous mass was localized (Figure, A). With the knee flexed, a 6-mm incision was made to allow extirpation of the untethered lesion. The lesion was a well-formed, dense, symmetrical, yellow sphere measuring approximately

5 mm in diameter (Figure, B). Subsequent histologic examination was consistent with a lipoma. This lipoma may have been dislodged from the skin during unnoticed knee trauma.

Sincerely, Joshua E. Lane, MD Macon, Georgia

Donald Edwards, PA-C COL Douglas S. Walsh, MC, USA Fort Gordon, Georgia

The authors report no conflict of interest.





A 7-year-old girl with a soft mobile subcutaneous mass localized to the left patella (A). The lesion was a well-formed, dense, symmetrical, yellow sphere measuring approximately 5 mm in diameter (B).