

# Let's Talk About...

## Skin disorder: Spider angioma

A spider angioma (anj-ee-OH-muh) is a cluster of tiny red arteries (blood vessels) visible on the skin. It gets its name from the red bump in the center and the surrounding arteries that look like spider legs. Spider angiomas often appear on the face, arms, hands, fingers, and upper torso.

### What causes spider angiomas?

No one knows what causes spider angiomas, but your child may be more likely to get a spider angioma if they have:

- Liver disease
- Thyroid disease
- Hormone changes

### How are spider angiomas treated?

Most children's spider angiomas go away on their own after a while. They rarely bleed and are harmless.

If your child's angioma does not go away, treatments may include:

- Electrocoagulation: Removing dilated blood vessels using a mild electric current
- Pulsed-dye laser therapy: Using a laser with dye to remove angiomas

Your child's doctor will discuss these treatments with you and help you decide what's best for your child.



### Questions for my doctor

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