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,

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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).