Atrophic Dermatofibrosarcoma Can be Tough Call

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CHICAGO — Atrophic dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans is an underrecognized variant that must be treated with wide local excision, Dr. Shari Clarke said at the annual meeting of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery.

Although both wide local excision and Mohs micrographic surgery are considered treatments of choice, the latter quickly is becoming the favored method because of its lower rate of recurrence, she said.

In presenting three cases of the atrophic variant of dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP), she explained that these lesions are slow-growing, locally aggressive fibrohistiocytic tumors that rarely metastasize but have a marked tendency toward local recurrence.

“A rare DFSP presents as indurated violaceous plaques which later develop nodules, and they’re most commonly located on the trunk,” explained Dr. Clarke, of the department of dermatology at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Pennsylva...