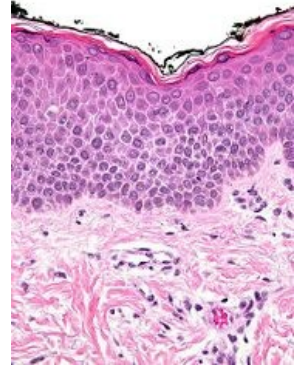


# Spongiosis (dermatopathology)

**Spongiosis** is a dermatopathological descriptive term for intercellular edema in the epidermis. Owing to the edema, the keratinocytes are separated by clearly distinct spaces, which, according to some authors, give the epidermis a spongy appearance. Inflammatory infiltrate (exocytosis) may be present depending on the specific disease and its stage, but its presence is not necessary. Spongiosis can occur in the following dermatitis:

- acute and subacute dermatitis:
- allergic contact dermatitis,
  - irritative contact dermatitis,
  - endogenous eczemas (atopic eczema, dermatitis dyshidrotica, Eczema nummulare),
- chronic dermatitis:
  - lichen simplex chronicus,
  - pityriasis rosea,
  - dermatophytoses,
  - lichen striatus,
  - stasis dermatitis.



Mild spongiosis (spongiotic dermatitis).

## Links

### Related articles

- Histopathological changes in the skin
- Histopathological changes in the skin/PGS

### Literature

- MILLS, S.E., et al. *Sternberg's Diagnostic Surgical Pathology*. 5. edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2012. ISBN 9781451152890.