

Lip Nodule

Benjamin Barankin, MD, FRCPC

A 71-year-old female presents with a hard, asymptomatic nodule on her lower lip, which has been there for several years, but it may be slowly enlarging.

What is your diagnosis?

- a. Mucocele
- b. Lip fibroma
- c. Squamous cell carcinoma
- d. Epidermoid cyst
- e. Clear cell acanthoma

Answer

A lip fibroma (**answer b**) is an overgrowth of fibrous connective tissue. Fibromas are the most common benign tumour of the oral cavity. It appears as a firm, pink nodule, typically less than 1 cm in size. It can remain unchanged for many years. It appears to develop in response to irritation or injury. The overlying tissue is normal in colour and appearance.



These lesions can occur on the lip and commonly on the buccal mucosa along the biting line. These benign lesions can be ignored or excised. Recurrence after excision is rare.

cme

Dr. Barankin is a Dermatologist practicing in Toronto, Ontario.