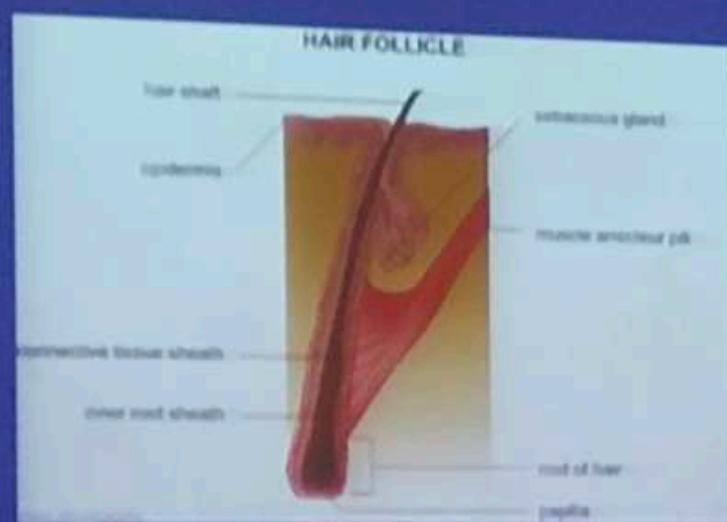
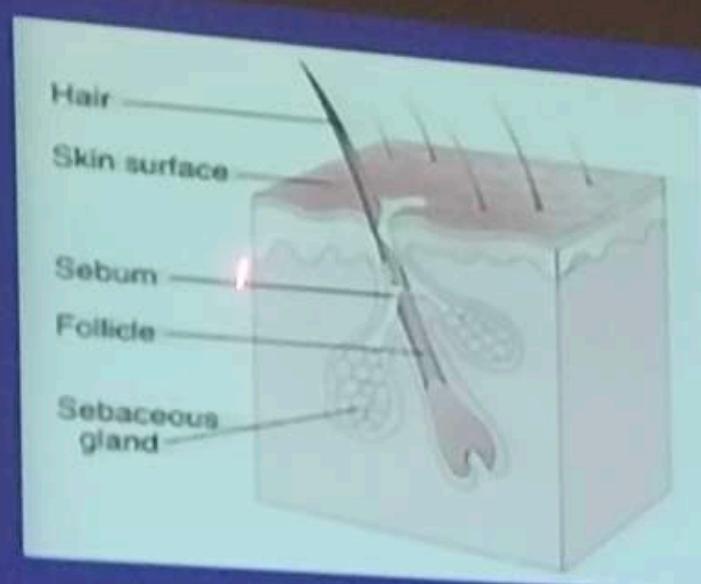


# Acne Vulgaris

Dr Ayesha Jamil



## Definition

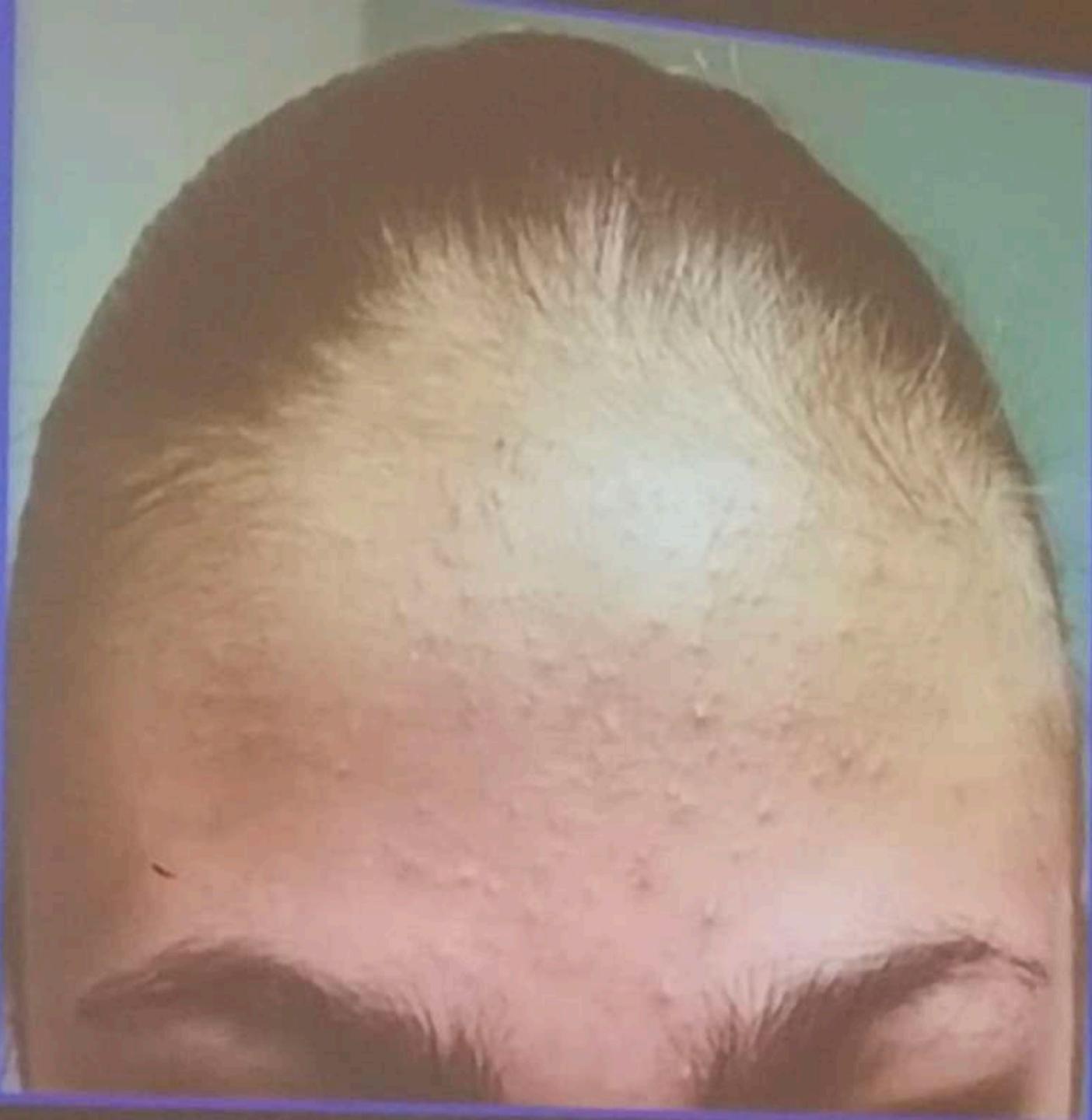
- Chronic inflammatory disease of pilosebaceous follicle characterized by non-inflammatory (comedones) & by inflammatory lesions (red papules, pustules or nodules) Affects areas of skin with dense population of sebaceous glands (Face, upper chest, back)

## Clinical Features

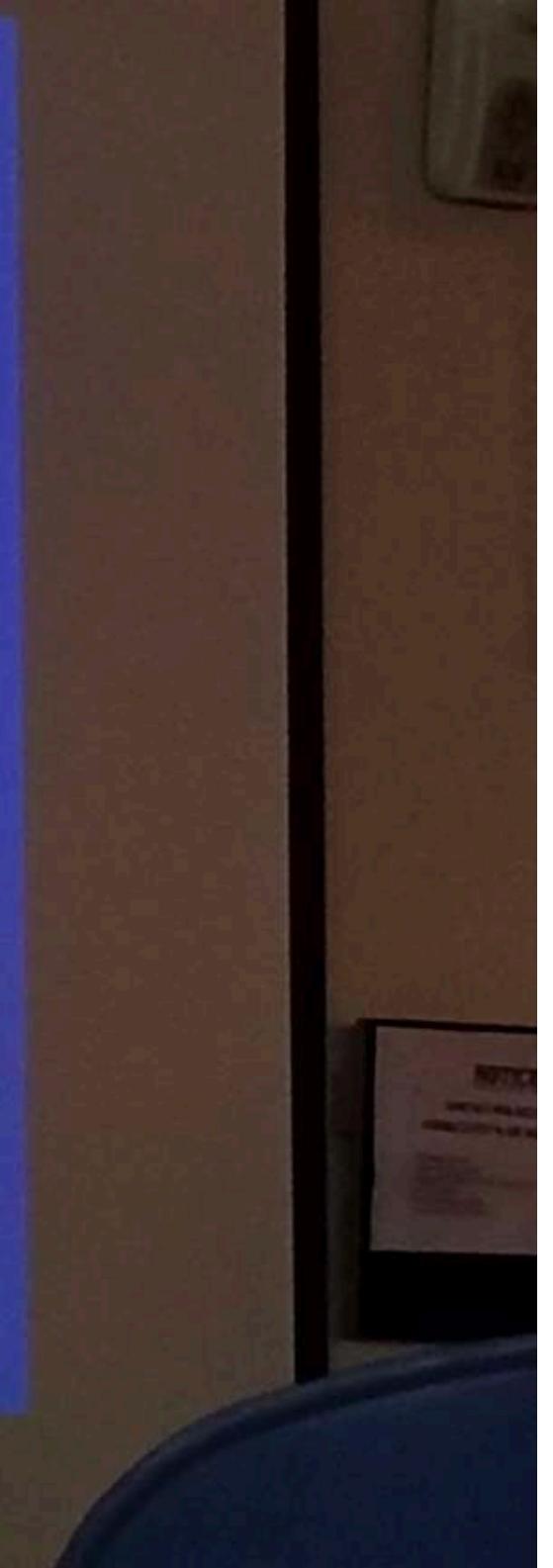
- Age
  - 12-35 years (commonly)
- Sites
  - Face (90%), Back (60%), Chest (15%)

## Pathophysiology

- Pathogenesis is multifactorial
- Four Key Factors
  - Abnormal ductal hyperproliferation causing excessive keratin formation ,obstructing duct and producing comedones
  - Excess sebum production
  - **Propionobacterium acnes** bacteria (presence & activity)
  - Inflammation



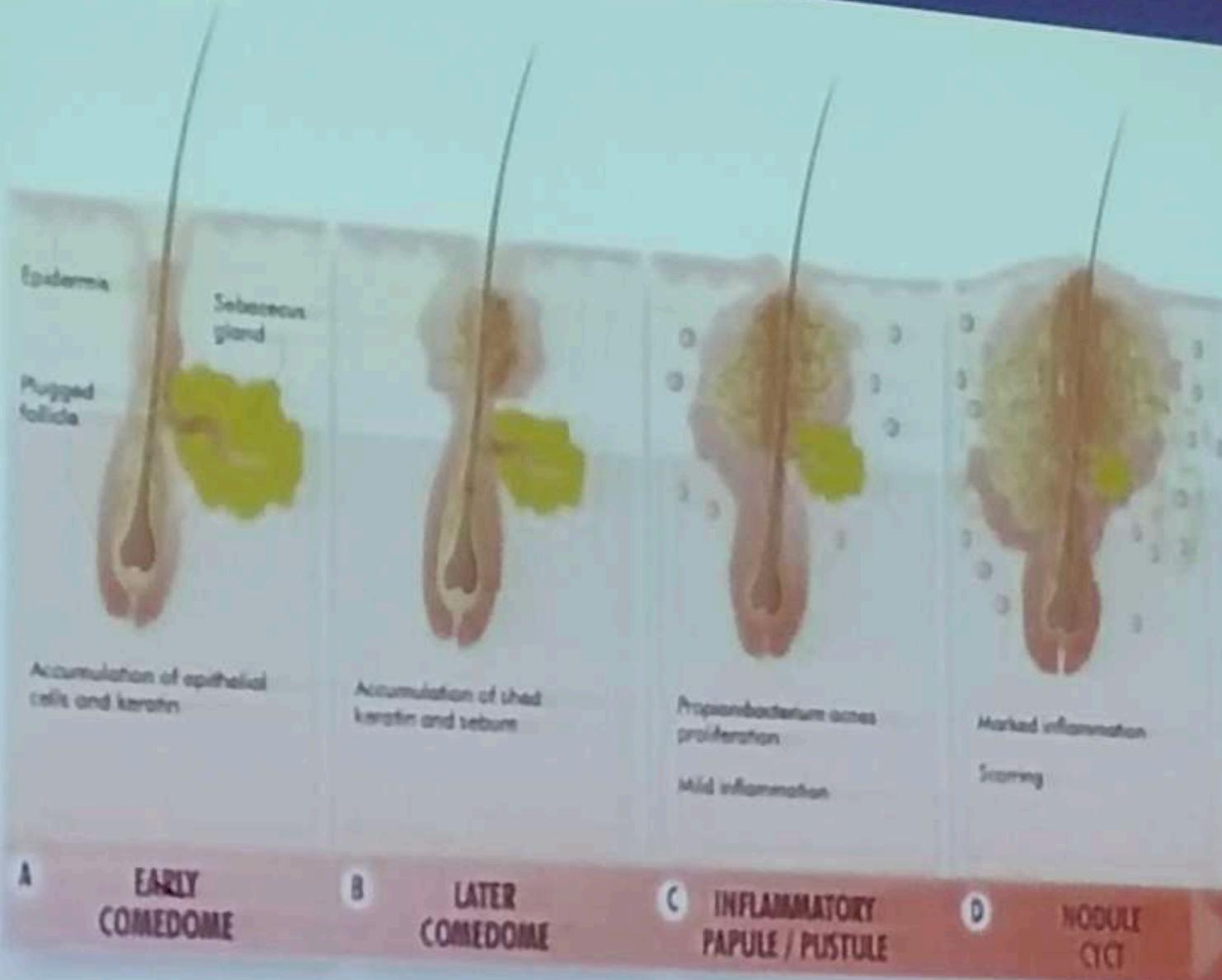












Pathogenesis of Acne

## Excessive Sebum production

- Different hormones & mediators regulate sebum production & excretion (Androgens, Growth Hormone, Insulin-like growth factor)
- End-organ hyper-responsiveness to hormones

## Abnormal ductal hyperproliferation

- First recognized event
- Causes of hyper proliferation (Exact cause not known)
  - Androgen Hormones
  - Changes in lipid composition

## P.Acnes

- Anaerobic organism
- Promotes inflammation through various means
  - Contain lipases.. converts lipids into fatty acids.  
Fatty acid cause production of pro-inflammatory mediators(IL-2, IL-8, TNF)
  - Hypersensitivity to P. Acne

- Wall of distended follicle breaks
- contents ( sebum, keratin, fatty acids, bacteria) enter into dermis
- leading to inflammatory reaction (papule, pustule and nodule )
- rupture and inflammation leads to scarring

## Factors Influencing Acne

- Genetic
- Oily cosmetics, hair pomades
- drugs
  - Steroids, Lithium
  - Antiepileptics
  - Antituberculous
  - Iodides

## Factors Influencing acne

- Diet
  - Scientific proof is lacking
  - Chocolate & diet restriction of no value
  - Foods with high glycemic index may aggravate

## Factors Influencing Acne

- Pre-menstrual Flare
  - About 70% women complain of acne-flare 2-7 days premenstrually
  - Due to increase hydration of the duct
  - Pro-inflammatory effects of estrogens & progesterons

## Factors Influencing Acne

- Occupation
  - Cooks
  - Patients dealing with oil industry

## Factors Influencing Acne

- Endocrine disorders
  - Polycystic Ovary Syndrome
  - Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
  - Other endocrine disorders with excess androgens

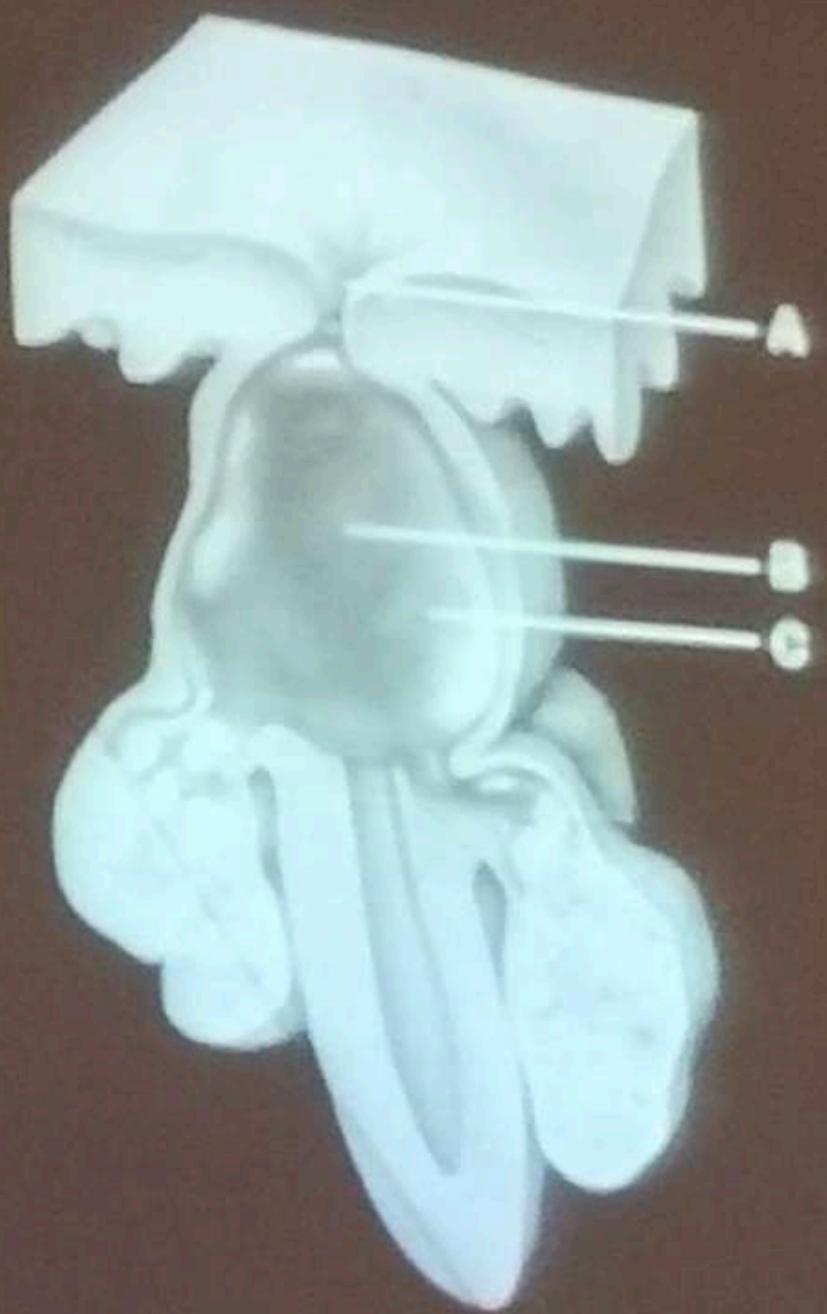
## **Factors Influencing Acne**

- Occlusive Cosmetics/Hair Pomades
- Halogenated Hydrocarbons
- Heat/Humidity
- Excessive/Vigorous Washing
- Friction/Pressure
- Manipulation of Lesions

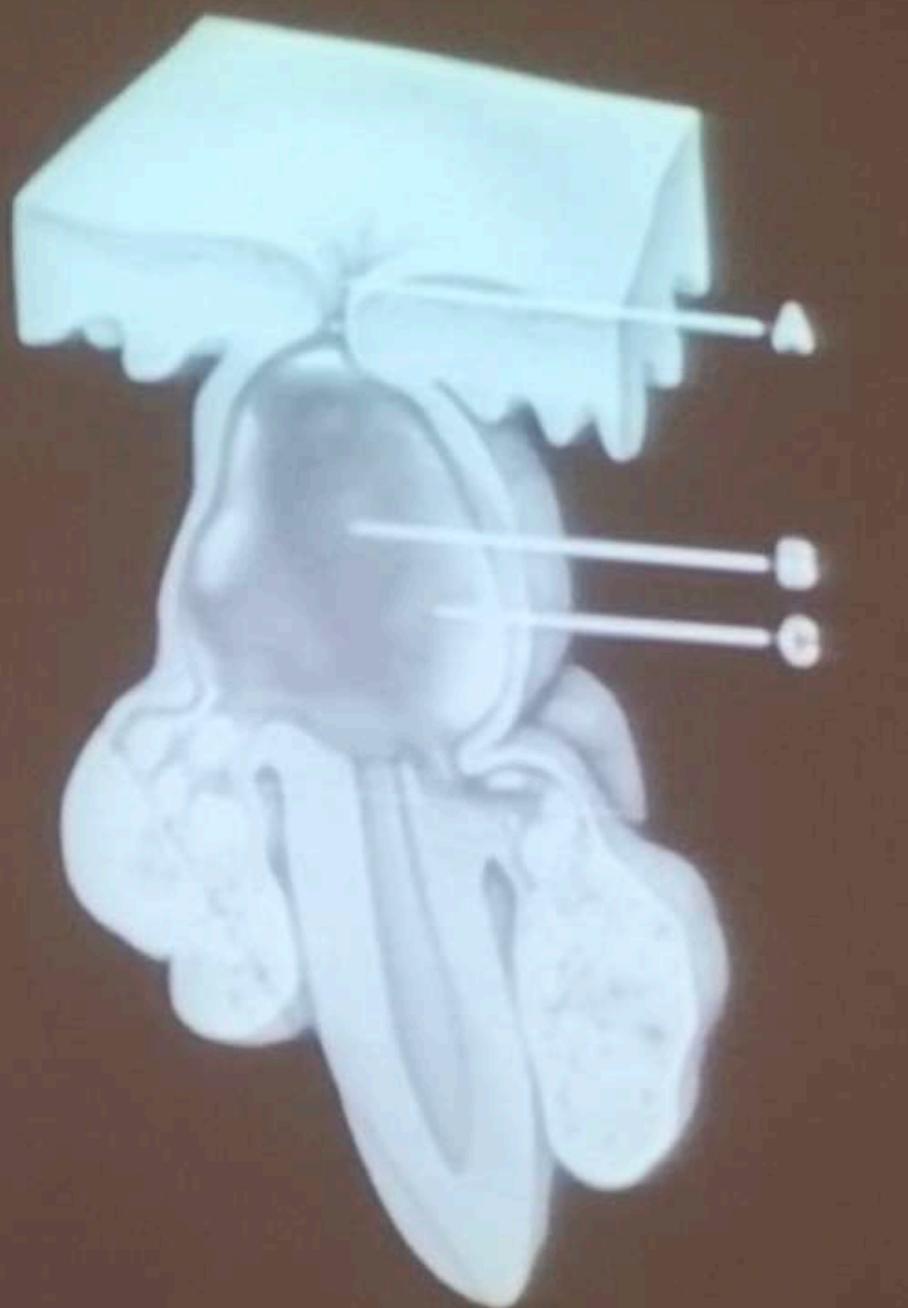
## Clinical Features

- Non-Inflammatory Lesions
  - Blackheads (Open Comedones)
  - Whiteheads (Closed Comedones)

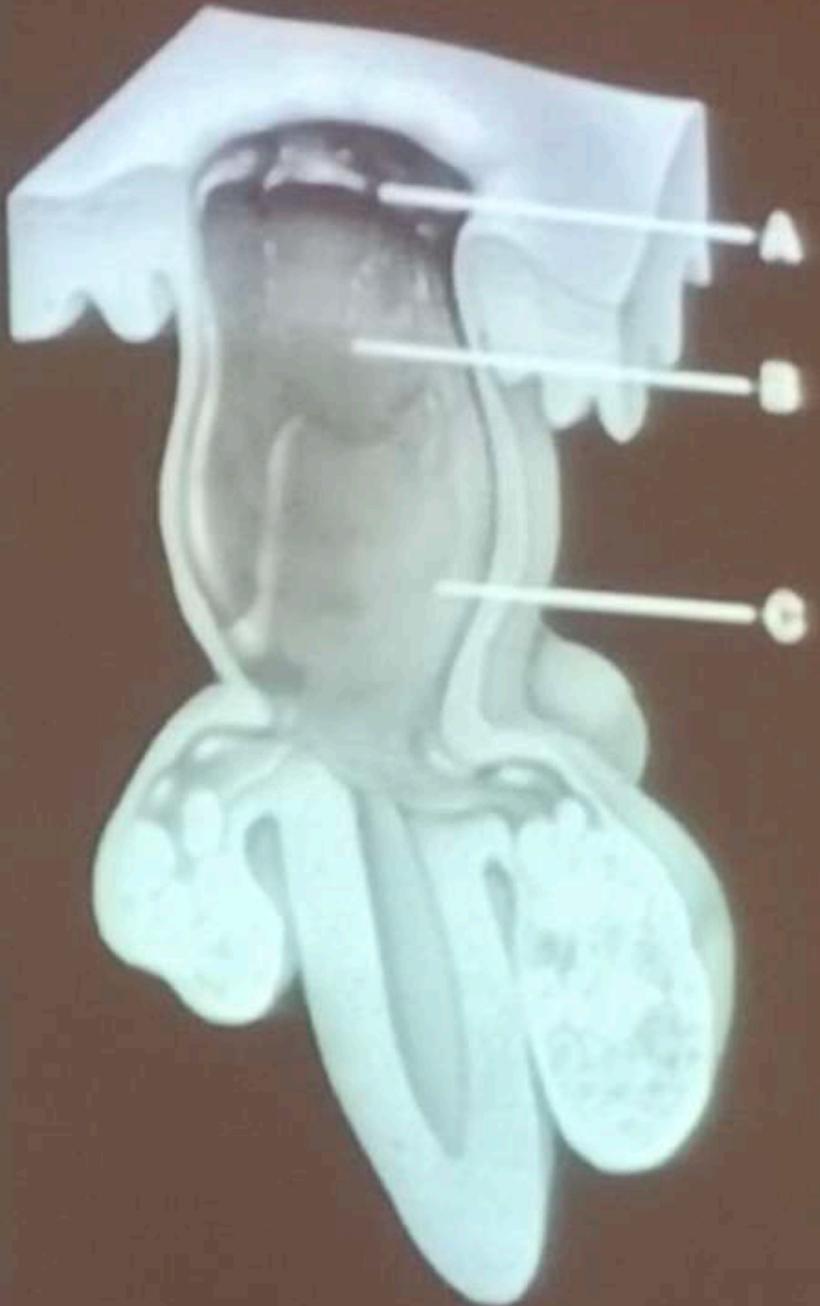
Closed  
comedone



**Closed  
Comedone**



## Open Comedone



## Clinical Signs (Comedonal Acne)

- Open (black) Comedones
  - Sebum & Keratin accumulate
  - Appear black papules



## Closed (White) Comedones

- Appear as skin-coloured papules
- Sebum & keratin accumulate
- It lies at a distance from follicular opening

## Clinical Features

- Inflammatory Lesions
  - Red papules
  - Pustules
  - Nodules
- Healing Lesions
  - Pigmented macules
  - Scarring



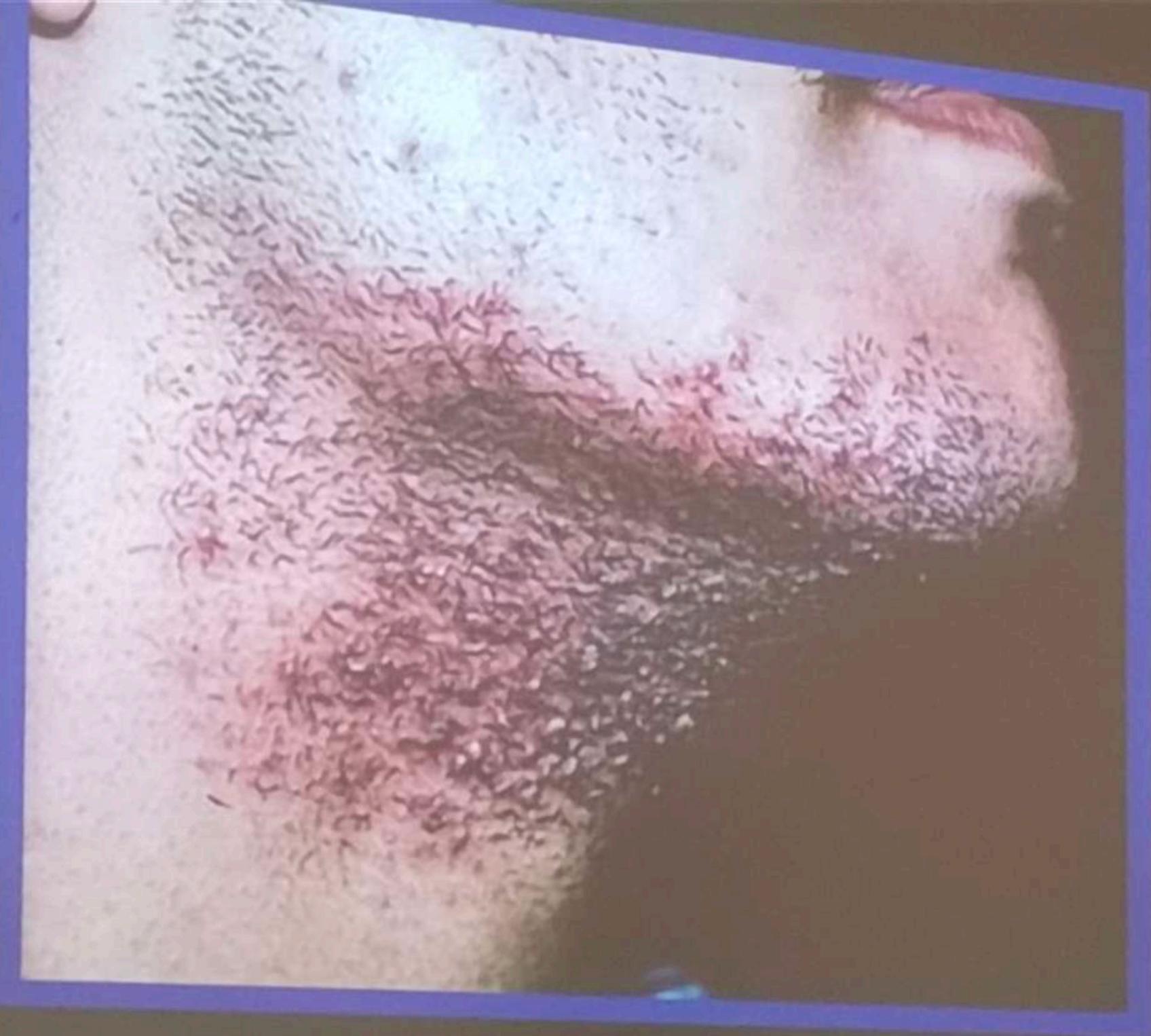


D/D

- Rosacea
- Bacterial Folliculitis

D/D

- Rosaces
- Bacterial



## Psychological Effects of Acne

- Stress
- Embarrassment
- Anxiety
- Lack of confidence
- Impaired social contact
- Anger
- Suicidal ideation

## General Measures

- Avoid oil-based cosmetics
- Avoid manipulation of lesions
- Avoid topical Steroids
- Avoid Fairness creams
- Avoid Facials, Massage

## **Acne Myths**

- Not to worry, "You will grow out of it"
- Acne is caused by poor hygiene
- Acne is caused by something in your diet
- Vigorous washing helps
- Treatments don't work

## Lab.Investigations

- Hormonal evaluation: (Serum Testosterone, DHEA-S, Pelvic US) be done in patients with dysmenorrhea & hirsutism

# Retinoids

- Retinoic Acid or Tretinoin
  - Vitamin A analogue
- Mode of Action
  - Effective against comedones, as it normalises follicular keratinization
  - Anti-inflammatory

# Benzoyl Peroxide

- Mode of Action
  - Antimicrobial
  - Anti-inflammatory
- Clinical Use
  - Available in 2.5%, 4%, 5% concentration
  - Initially used in lower concentration for short period(1-2 hours)
- Side Effects: irritation

## Clinical Use

- Available in 0.05% concentration
- Use only at night as it can cause photosensitivity
- Apply to all acne-prone areas
- Side Effects
  - Irritation, dryness, redness, aggravation of acne.

## Topical Therapy

- Retinoids
- Benzoyl Peroxide
- Antibiotics tetracycline ,  
Clindamycin
- Azelaic Acid(20%)
- Salicylic Acid