Acanthosis Nigricans

What are the signs and symptoms of acanthosis nigricans?

This skin condition causes some easily recognized signs and symptoms. You may notice that your skin with acanthosis nigricans:

- Has a brown or black discoloration
- Feels velvety and thicker than the surrounding skin
- Has skin tags
- Itches
- Has a bad odor

**Acanthosis nigricans**

Darker skin in the folds of the neck is common.

**Where acanthosis nigricans forms**

A velvety, dark patch of skin can form on most areas on the body, including the:

- Armpits
- Back of the neck
- Groin area (especially in skin folds and creases)
- Elbows
- Knees
- Knuckles
- Belly button
- Woman's breasts (beneath)
- Face
- Female genitalia

Less often, a patch can form on the lips, mouth, eyelids, palms of the hands, bottoms of the feet, or nipples.

Acanthosis nigricans (AN) tends to appear slowly, taking months or years to form. If it appears suddenly, you should immediately make an appointment to see a board-certified dermatologist. When AN appears suddenly, it can be a warning sign of cancer.

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Darker, velvety skin in an armpit is another common sign.

Source: aad.org/public/diseases/a-z/acanthosis-nigricans-symptoms#