

Figure 25-16 Benign fibrous histiocytoma (dermatofibroma). This firm, tan papule on the leg (**A**) contains a circumscribed dermal proliferation of benign-appearing spindle cells (**B**). Note the characteristic overlying epidermal hyperplasia (**B**) and the tendency of fibroblasts to surround individual collagen bundles (**C**).

unresectable due to their location or because of metastatic spread can be treated with inhibitors of the PDGF β receptor tyrosine kinase. Included in this class of drugs is imatinib mesylate, which first came to fame for its efficacy in treatment of chronic myeloid leukemia (CML). As in CML patients, withdrawal of the drug is followed by regrowth of the tumor, so use of this agent is lifelong.

characteristic “honeycomb” pattern, is frequently seen (Fig. 25-17B, C). These tumors may extend down into the subcutis and thus require wide excision to prevent local recurrence.

MORPHOLOGY

Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans usually appears as a “protuberant” nodule, most often on the trunk, within a firm (indurated) plaque that may sometimes ulcerate (Fig. 27-17A). These neoplasms are composed of closely packed fibroblasts arranged radially, reminiscent of blades of a pinwheel, a pattern referred to as **storiform**. Mitoses are rare. In contrast to dermatofibroma, the overlying epidermis is generally thinned. Deep extension from the dermis into subcutaneous fat, producing a

Tumors of Cellular Migrants to the Skin

Aside from tumors that arise directly from epidermal and dermal cells, several proliferative disorders of the skin involve cells whose progenitors arise elsewhere and then specifically home to the cutaneous microenvironment.

Mycosis Fungoides (Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma)

Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma (CTCL) spans a spectrum of lymphoproliferative disorders affecting the skin (Chapter 13), many with distinctive presentations. This section

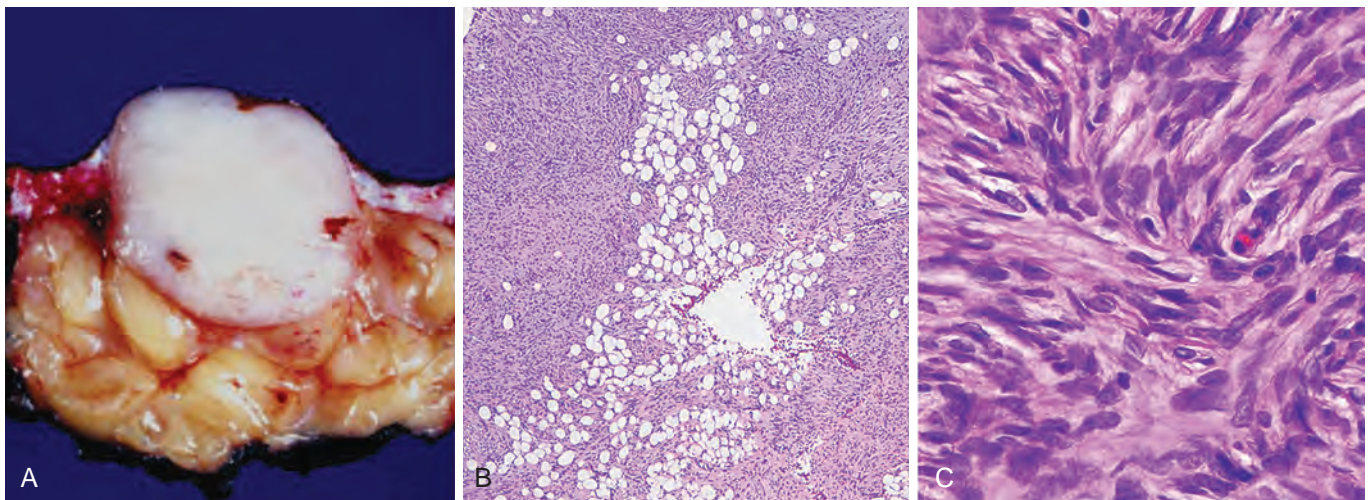


Figure 25-17 Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans. **A**, The tumor consists of a flesh-colored fibrotic nodule on sectioning. **B**, The lesion often infiltrates the subcutis in a manner reminiscent of “Swiss cheese” to aficionados. **C**, A characteristic storiform (swirling) alignment of the spindled cells is apparent.