Unusual scars in a young female patient

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Answers on p e5

A 36 year old woman was seen in the dermatology department because of a mole on her back. On examination, she had an 8 mm uniformly pigmented lesion with regular margin and texture on her midback, which clinically was a benign naevus. The skin was also soft and hyperextensible, with a velvety appearance (fig 1). She also had extensive scars on her legs, forehead, arms, and back (fig 2), which developed after a viral illness when she was 10 years old. She was being treated by the rheumatologist for joint subluxation. She had one daughter who was similarly affected.

QUESTIONS

- What other signs and symptoms would she present with?

- What could be the cause of scars across her back?
- What is the diagnosis?

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Figure 1 Soft and hyperextensible skin with a velvety appearance.

Figure 2 Multiple prominent scars across the back.