



## Mucous Cyst of the Finger (Digital Mucous Cyst)



### Overview

This is a bump that forms on your finger near the base of your fingernail. It's filled with fluid. Usually, a mucous cyst isn't a serious issue. But sometimes a cyst can cause pain and other problems. And, you may be embarrassed by the way it looks.

### Causes

What causes it? Often, these cysts are linked to arthritis in the fingers. They are most common in older people.

### Symptoms

What are the symptoms? You have a smooth bump on your finger near the base of your fingernail. It may look like a blister or a wart. The bump is small at first, but it can grow much larger, and it may cause pain. It can damage the bed of your fingernail. The skin that covers a large cyst may thin out, and it can burst. This can cause a serious infection that may damage your finger joint.

### Treatment

How do we treat it? Well, if you have a small cyst that isn't hurting you, we may decide to watch and wait. We may make a small hole in the cyst and drain it. We can also freeze it or treat it with a laser. If you have an infected cyst, we drain it and give you medicine to fight the infection. For a large cyst, or a cyst that's causing problems, you may need surgery. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.

