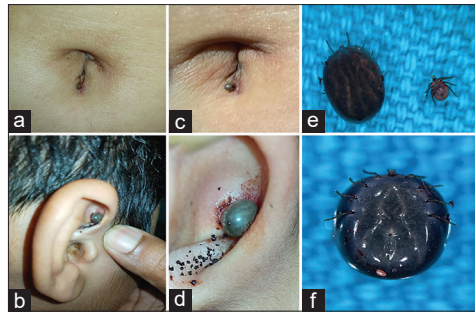


## Diagnosing Tick Infestation with More Clarity Using a Dermoscope

This 9-year-old boy presented with history of painful skin lesions on right ear and umbilicus of 3 days duration. He gave history of having been to Jim Corbett National Park 5 days back with family. There was associated pain below umbilicus and right side of face. Dermatological examination revealed two dark coloured nodules on umbilicus [Figure 1a] and upper part of right ear [Figure 1b]. With suspicion of tick infestation dermoscopy was done using Dermlite DL4 polarized light magnification 10x [Figure 1c and d]. The ticks were identified [Figure 1e and f] and removed with the help of forceps. The ticks were of the Argasidae genera (soft ticks) with no hard shell, legs located on the underside of the body and lateral rounded body edges.<sup>[1,2]</sup> Dermoscopy can help in confirming the diagnosis of tick infestation as sometimes naked eye and the magnifying lens may not give a very clear picture.

### Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their consent for his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.



**Figure 1:** (a) Nodule on the umbilicus. (b) Nodule on the upper part of right ear. (c) Tick visualized in the umbilicus on dermoscopy (Magnification 10x). (d) Belly of the tick seen on dermoscopy in the upper part of right ear (Magnification 10x). (e) Ticks from both the lesions with the left one from the ear being much larger due to larger volumes of blood intake. (Magnification 20x). Zoom of Galaxy J8 mobile camera used to magnify image. (f) The soft outer surface, rounded lateral bodies and legs on the underside aiding in diagnosis of the genera of the tick being Argasidae (Magnification 20x). Zoom of Galaxy J8 mobile camera used to magnify image

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### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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