Beau’s Lines, Onychomadesis, and Retronychia: A Unifying Hypothesis
by
C. Ralph Daniel, III, MD
Clinical Professor Dermatology,
University of MS Medical Center
and
University of Alabama, Birmingham
DICTATE WHICH ABNORMALITY Y MANIFESTS ITSELF

a) The severity of the insult to the nail matrix
b) Duration of the pause in cell growth
c) Location within the matrix of slowing nail plate production
d) Pressure of a new plate
BEAU’S LINES

a) Reports go back over 170 years
b) The diagnosis is based on inspection and palpation.
c) Transverse depression that begin on the proximal nail plate, are palpable, and grow out
BEAU’S LINES

• Slowing or disruption in cell growth from the more proximal matrix, which makes the more superficial nail plate, with subsequent nail plate thinning
ONYCHOMADESIS

a) The diagnosis is also based on inspection and palpation of the nail plate.

b) It involves the complete proximal separation and possible subsequent shedding of the nail plate, and is basically a more severe Beau’s line.
ONYCHOMADESIS

• It is classified as stage IV onycholysis, but is proximal rather than distal.

RETRONYCHIA

• First well described by de Berker, as a proximal ingrowing of nail plate into the ventral surface of the PNF.

• de Berker: JEADV: 12, 1999
RETRONYCHIA

• Conservative treatment with an adhesive tape technique has been tried.

• Ventura: JEADV 30: 2016
ONYCHOMADES AND RETRONYCHIA OTHER PUBLICATIONS

b) Tengattini: JAAD 70: 2014
c) Salgado. Cutis 99: 2017