

Sclerosis of reticular dermis

Narrowing of collagen interbundle spaces

Thickened collagen bundles



- **Clinical Information:** 72/F right flank, r/o morphea
- **DIAGNOSIS:**
 - SKIN, RIGHT FLANK, PUNCH BIOPSY:
MORPHEA (LOCALIZED SCLERODERMA)
- **Teaching Points:**
 - Perform deep punch biopsy to include most/all of reticular dermis and subcutis
 - Histopathology of morphea can be indistinguishable from scleroderma
- **Minimal Diagnostic Criteria:**
 - Rectangular punch biopsy: thickening and sclerosis of dermis and subcutaneous septa (m. profunda)
 - Entrapped adnexa
 - Nodular inflammatory infiltrate: lymphocytes, Plasma cell & occasional eosinophils
- **Differential Diagnosis:**
 - Lichen sclerosis
 - Scleroderma (less inflammatory)
 - Eosinophilic fasciitis
 - Atrophoderma of Pasini and Pierini

