

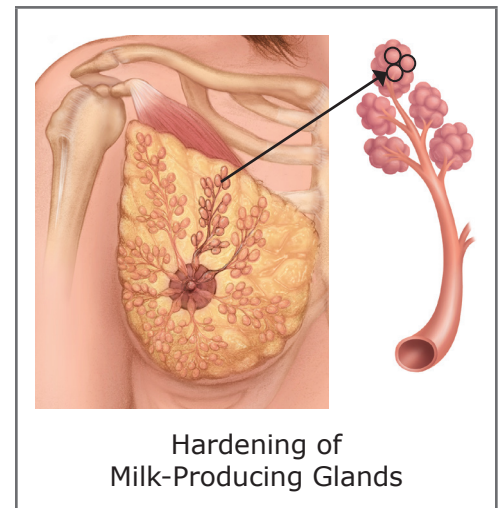
## Sclerosing Adenosis

### Definition of Terms:

- **Adenosis** — A disease of a gland
- **Benign** — Not cancerous; no threat to the body
- **Malignant** — Cancerous; a threat to the body
- **Microscopic** — Too small to be seen with the eye; only visible with a microscope
- **Microcalcification** — Small areas of calcium deposits seen during mammography; may be related to a malignant or benign condition
- **Sclerosing** — A hardening due to excessive growth of tissue

**Sclerosing adenosis** is a benign condition of the breast. It is located at the end of the lobules involving the acini, the part of the duct that produces the fluid. The fibrous tissues in this area begin to enlarge and distort the lobular unit. Occasionally, this enlargement will combine with other enlarged acinus and become large enough to be felt. This is called an **adenosis tumor**, a benign development in the breast.

Sclerosing adenosis is microscopic and is usually diagnosed because of microcalcifications that are followed by a biopsy. The enlargement remains within the lobules and is not invasive (does not move outside the lobular walls). This condition is of no threat to the patient.



### Additional Information:

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