

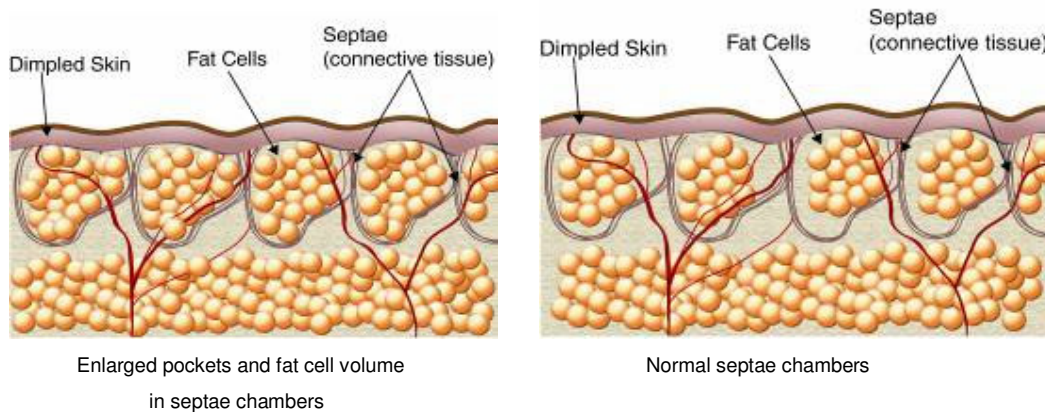
Understanding Cellulite and its Causes

What is cellulite and how is formed?

Cellulite is a skin condition that appears as an irregularity of skin contour, often characterized by dimpled skin surface, ('orange peel' or 'cottage cheese' skin). The basic pathophysiology of cellulite has not been clearly identified but is determined by:

- The amount of the body fat.
- Support of adipose tissue within fibrous septae.

Cellulite is formed in the subcutaneous layer of the skin. The fat cells are arranged in chambers, surrounded by bands of connective tissue called septae. As fat cell volume increases and surrounding septae lose their elasticity, it becomes difficult to hold the enlarged cells within the existing parameters. It is here that cellulite makes its appearance, as the fat cells are pushed up against the soft skin surface, resulting in the dimpled skin appearance.



Where does cellulite usually appear?

- Buttocks
- Thighs
- Neck
- Stomach
- Upper arm