

Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid: Oral Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment

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Clinical Image

Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid (MMP) is the form of pemphigoid that usually manifests itself on the mucous surface of the human body, mainly involving the mouth and eyes, and may occasionally involve the skin. MMP lesions can be located exclusively on the oral mucosa, the gingiva being the main site of involvement, which often presents erythema on the gingival margin, blisters and erosions/ulcers secondary to the rupture of the blisters. Diagnosis is based on clinical, histopathological and immunofluorescence findings. In the histological evaluation, subepithelial blisters are visualized promoting the separation of the epithelium and connective tissue by the deposition of autoantibodies in the basement membrane zone [1]. Immunofluorescence is positive for IgG, C3 and linear IgA in the basement membrane zone [2]. Treatment is also with corticosteroids and systemic immunosuppressants. Exclusive presentations

in the oral mucosa can be treated only with topical therapy (corticosteroids and/or immunosuppressants), however, strict monitoring is necessary in order to detect early changes in other mucosa, especially the ocular and cutaneous, which changes the prognosis of the disease [3].



Figure 1: Ulcerated lesion on the left cheek mucosa.



Figure 2: Gum erythema and the presence of ruptured blisters during tissue manipulation for oral evaluation.

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