

# CLINICAL STOMATOLOGY CONFERENCE

DNSC D9910.00

September 19, 2007

## Red and mixed red-white lesions

### Overview

#### Red lesions

- Erythroplakia
- [Squamous cell carcinoma]

#### Mixed red-white lesions

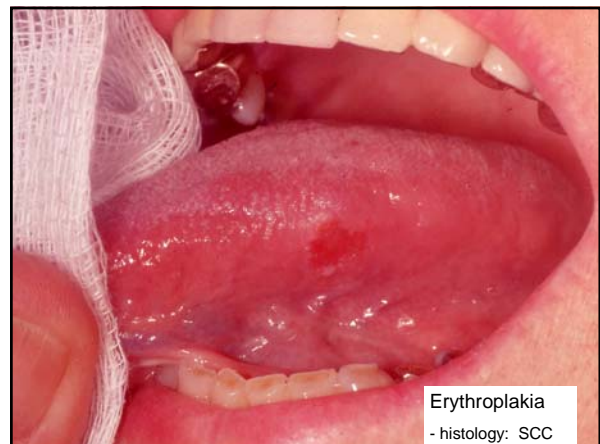
- Geographic tongue
- Morsicatio (chewing injury)
- Chemical injuries
- Contact reaction to cinnamon
- [Squamous cell carcinoma]

### Erythroplakia

- Definition:  
“A **red** patch that cannot be clinically or pathologically diagnosed as any other condition”
- Most (~90%) do represent *epithelial dysplasia, carcinoma in situ, or squamous cell carcinoma*
- May be combined with leukoplakic areas = *erythroleukoplakia, speckled leukoplakia*

### Erythroplakia

- Etiology: Likely same as oral SCC and leukoplakia
- Incidence: ~ 77x less than leukoplakias
- Gender: Male predilection
- Age: Peak incidence at 65-74 yo
- Site: Floor of mouth, tongue, soft palate
- Clinical:  
Red macule or plaque  
Soft, velvety
- \* May be combined with areas of leukoplakia \*





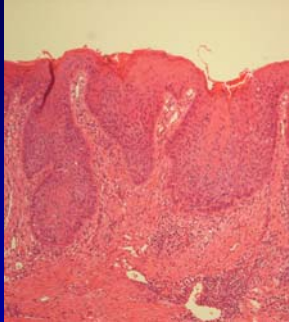
## Erythroplakia

- Differential diagnosis:
  - 1) Trauma
  - 2) Geographic tongue; ectopic erythema migrans
  - 3) Nutritional deficiency, anemia
  - 4) Allergic mucosal reactions  
Contact mucosal reaction



## Erythroplakia

- Histology:
  - lack of keratinization
  - epithelial atrophy
  - underlying chronic inflammation
  - $\pm$  dysplasia, usually severe
  - $\pm$  carcinoma-in-situ
  - $\pm$  squamous cell carcinoma



## Erythroplakia

- Treatment:
  - Biopsy should be performed
  - Treatment guided by histopathologic diagnosis
  - Recurrence, multifocality common

**\*\* Careful long-term follow-up \*\***

## Geographic tongue

- **AKA:** Erythema migrans
- Etiology: Unknown
  - ? Hypersensitivity reaction
- Prevalence: 1-3% of population
- Gender: F>M
- Age: No predilection
- Site: Dorsum of tongue
  - Can occur in other oral sites, including buccal and labial mucosa, soft palate ("ectopic" geographic tongue)

## Geographic tongue

- Clinical features:
  - Zones of erythema surrounded by white, serpentine borders
  - Lesions migrate in days to weeks
  - Often associated with *fissured tongue*
  - $\pm$  burning with spicy foods

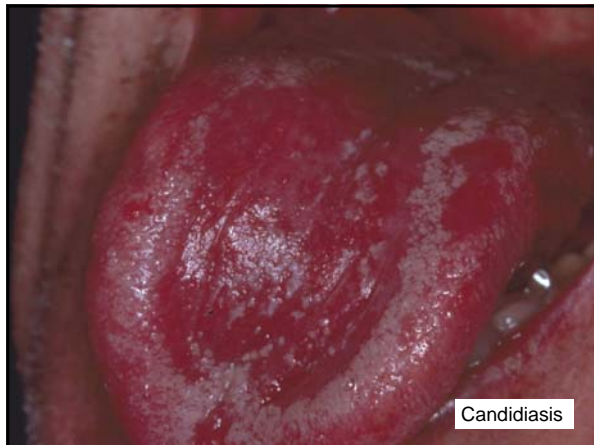




Ectopic geographic tongue

## Geographic tongue

- Differential diagnosis:
  - 1) Candidiasis
  - 2) Leukoplakia  $\pm$  erythroplakia
    - rare on dorsum of tongue
  - 3) Contact allergic reaction
  - 4) Lichen planus



Candidiasis



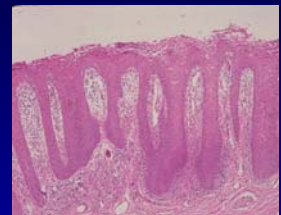
Median rhomboid glossitis



Lichen planus

## Geographic tongue

- Histology:
  - $\sim$  psoriasis
  - hyperkeratosis; epithelial spongiosis
  - neutrophils in epithelium
  - lymphocytes and neutrophils in connective tissue



- Treatment: No treatment; reassure patient  
If burning – topical steroids



## Morsicatio (chewing injury)

- Etiology: Frictional irritation from chewing habit  
Similar lesions in glassblowers and some musicians
- Risk: Stress; psychological illnesses; edge-edge bite
- Gender: F > M
- Age: Any age  
After age of 35 yo – stress

## Morsicatio (chewing injury)

- Site: Buccal mucosa  
Can be seen on la mucosa, lat tongue
- Clinical features:  
White, diffuse  
± erythema  
Shredded/ragged, macerated appearance



## Morsicatio

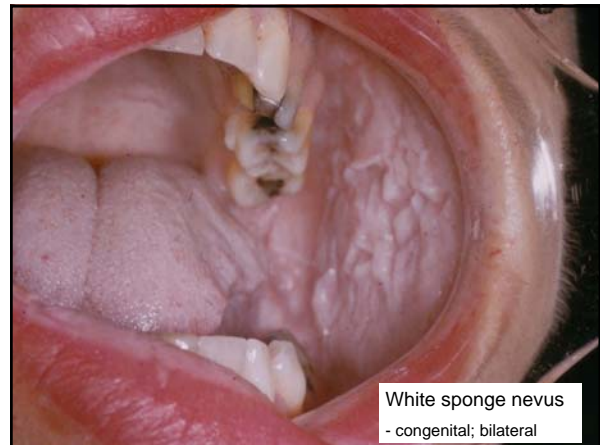
- Differential diagnosis:
  - 1) Leukoplakia
  - 2) Chemical injuries (e.g. aspirin)
  - 3) Contact stomatitis – allergic; cinnamon
  - 4) Inherited mucosal disorders
    - White sponge nevus
    - Hereditary benign intraepithelial dyskeratosis



Leukoplakia



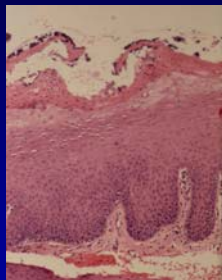
Chemical injury  
- aspirin burn



White sponge nevus  
- congenital; bilateral

## Morsicatio

- Histology:
  - hyperparakeratosis
  - ragged surface
  - intercellular edema
  - surface bacterial colonies



- Treatment: None indicated  
Oral acrylic shield

## Chemical injuries

- Etiology: Contact with caustic chemicals and drugs (over-the-counter, prescribed)  
**Examples:** Aspirin, hydrogen peroxide ( $\geq 3\%$ ), products containing phenol (Anbesol), silver nitrate, endo materials (formocresol, sodium hypochlorite)
- Age and gender: Any
- Site: Any site of chemical/drug contact
- Clinical: White, wrinkled  
Later, white slough with red base  
Ulcerated lesions – fibrinopurulent membrane  
Injection into bone – *bone necrosis*



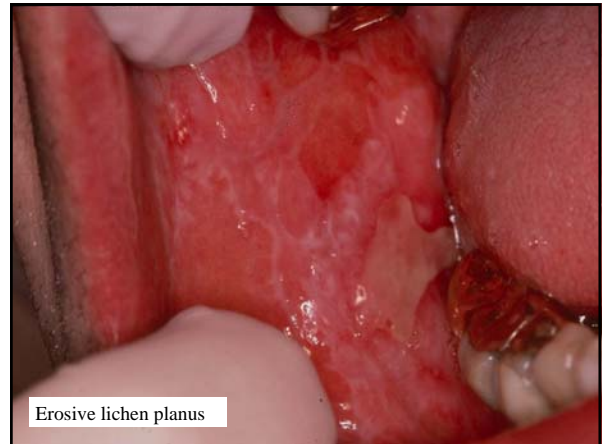
- ## Chemical injuries
- Differential diagnosis:
    - 1) Candidiasis
    - 2) Leukoplakia – does not wipe off
    - 3) Thermal burn
    - 4) Desquamative gingivitis
    - 5) Lichen planus; lichenoid reaction
    - 6) Traumatic ulcer; chronic trauma







Thermal burn  
- Border mould



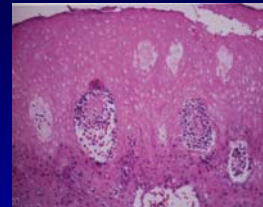
Erosive lichen planus



Traumatic ulcer

## Chemical injuries

- Histology:  
- coagulative necrosis  
- acute and chronic inflammatory cells



- Prevention: *Endo materials* – rubber dam, avoid excessive injection pressure  
*Drugs, chemicals* – pt education
- Treatment: Will resolve in 10-14 d

## Contact stomatitis - Cinnamon

- Etiology: Mucosal reaction to cinnamon oil  
Prolonged/frequent contact
- Gender: No predilection
- Age: Any
- Site: Gingiva – toothpaste  
Bu mucosa, tongue – chewing gums, candy
- Clinical features:  
*Gingiva* – enlargement, erythema  
– "plasma cell gingivitis"  
*Bu mucosa, tongue* – white, ragged surface  
– erythematous base



Plasma cell gingivitis





**Contact stomatitis - Cinnamon**

- Differential diagnosis:

**Gingiva**

- 1) Gingivitis – local factors, desquamative, granulomatous

**Buccal mucosa, tongue**

- 1) Morsicatio (chewing injury)
- 2) Candidiasis
- 3) Leukoplakia; erythroplakia
- 4) Oral hairy leukoplakia

Desquamative gingivitis  
- mucous membrane pemphigoid

Contributor: Bobby M. Collins, DDS

Desquamative gingivitis  
- lichen planus

**Contact stomatitis - Cinnamon**

- Differential diagnosis:

**Gingiva**

- 1) Gingivitis – local factors, desquamative, granulomatous

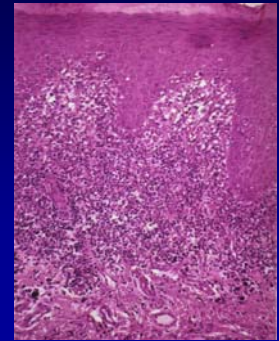
**Buccal mucosa, tongue**

- 1) Morsicatio (chewing injury)
- 2) Candidiasis
- 3) Leukoplakia; erythroplakia
- 4) Oral hairy leukoplakia



## Contact stomatitis - Cinnamon

- Histology:
  - hyperkeratosis
  - heavy chronic inflammation (lymphocytes, plasma cells, eosinophils)
  - inflammation around blood vessels



## Contact stomatitis - Cinnamon

- Treatment:
  - Disappears after discontinuation of cinnamon products
  - Will reappear if cinnamon intake resumed