



DERMATOPATHOLOGY

# PROPOSAL FOR A STAGING CLASSIFICATION OF HISTOPATHOLOGICAL FINDINGS IN GRANULOMATOUS CHEILITIS

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**Introduction:** Granulomatous cheilitis is a rare, idiopathic, inflammatory disorder which usually affects young adults. It is characterized by persistent, diffuse, nontender, soft-to-firm swelling of one or both lips.

**Case Reports:** Herein we describe seven cases of orofacial granulomatosis / granulomatous cheilitis with persistent painless firm swellings of the lips and surrounding areas. The lesions were present for an average duration of six months. We were able to divide the histopathological findings into three progressive stages –

Stage I – Lymphatic ectasia, dermal edema and sparse infiltrate

Stage II – Lymphatic dilatation with subtle sarcoidal granuloma and plasma cells

Stage III – Diffuse dermal granuloma with multiple foreign body and langerhans type of giant cells and plasma cells.

All the patients were started on Hydroxychloroquine 200mg BD/day and showed a good response to the drug. We also present a rare case of granulomatous lymphangitis of genitalia with histopathological overlap of Stage II orofacial granuloma, suggesting that granulomatous lymphangitis of genitalia represents a facsimile of granulomatous cheilitis.

**Discussion:** Staging of the histopathological findings of granulomatous cheilitis represents a addition in the knowledge of this rare idiopathic disorder. It will help in proper diagnosis and development of standardised treatment algorithms according the stage of the disease.

