



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

## PERSISTENT PLAQUES OVER FACE : HISTOPATHOLOGY RULES THE ROOST

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**Background:** Persistent plaques over face may be present due to varied etiologies. Clinical presentation alone is not adequate for precise diagnosis in most cases. Hence, clinicopathological correlation is must to reach to a final diagnosis. Four cases were included with persistent plaques over face. Thorough history was elicited. All patients were subjected to routine investigations and histopathological examination.

**Observation:** First case was 28 years old female with plaques over both sides of face since one year. Biopsy was taken and sent for histopathological examination. Biopsy showed many yeasts with broad based budding. Diagnosis of Blastomycosis was made. Welsch regimen was started and patient improved with treatment. Second case was 15 year old male with gradually enlarging skin lesion over right side of face for two years, clinical diagnosis of lupus vulgaris was made. Biopsy was done and it showed many macrophages containing Leishman Donovan bodies. This was a case of Leishmaniasis. Sodium stibogluconate was started and patient gradually improved. Third case was 30 year old female with enlarging skin lesion over left side of face and nose. Differential diagnosis of Lupus Vulgaris and Hansen disease was made. Biopsy from this lesion revealed granulomatous inflammation suggestive of Borderline Tuberculoid Hansen. Patient improved with Multibacillary drug therapy. Fourth case was 45 year old female with verrucous plaque over face and chest. Differential diagnosis of Lupus Vulgaris, Verrucous tuberculosis and Chromoblastomycosis was made. Biopsy was done and it showed granulomas with copper penny bodies. Patient was started on itraconazole and she gradually improved.

**Key message:** Granulomatous conditions of face are capable of producing similar clinical picture. Hence, clinicopathological correlation is must to reach a conclusive diagnosis. Response to therapy further confirms the diagnosis.

