



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

A CASE OF PYODERMA GANGRENOSUM PRESENTING WITH ORAL MUCOSAL INVOLVEMENT

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Background: Pyoderma gangrenosum (PG) is an inflammatory disease in the spectrum of neutrophilic diseases, characterized by rapidly progressive, painful and destructive ulcers. PG can be associated with inflammatory bowel diseases, lymphoproliferative and rheumatological diseases. Oral mucosal involvement of PG has been reported very rarely. Here we present a case of PG presenting with oral mucosal ulcers.

Observation: The complaints of a 68-year-old female patient started 3 years ago from within her mouth. The patient described rapidly growing, painful ulcers causing significant difficulty in eating, swallowing, and speaking. Ulcers healed gradually with a tendency to leave scar in months. About 1.5 years later after this complaint, she developed similar new ulcers on the leg and thigh. PG was confirmed histopathologically, and systemic corticosteroid treatment was started. She responded to the treatment well and ulcers healed approximately in 6 months. She applied to our clinic with a 4-week history of extremely painful oral ulcer. Dermatologic examination showed erythematous and edematous necrotic ulcer on the palate with a diameter of 4 cm. She could hardly talk and feed because of the pain. Additionally, there were necrotic ulcers with dark red-purple edematous borders on the upper right leg and gluteal region. Histopathologic examination of oral mucosa and leg lesions was consistent with PG. Cyclosporin (300 mg/d) was started. The patient was fed with a nasogastric tube. The pain treatment was regulated by the Algology department. The general condition and lesions showed marked improvement within days.

Key message: Involvement of oral mucosa is unusual in the course of PG. On the other hand, oral ulcers as the first presenting sign of PG is extremely rare. Therefore, although rare, PG should be kept in mind in the differential diagnosis of rapidly developing and destructive ulcers in the oral mucosa.

