



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

## LIPSCHÜTZ ULCERS: A CASE SERIES

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**Background:** Lipschütz ulcer also known as *ulcus vulvae acutum* or reactive non-sexually related acute genital ulcer are sudden onset, painful, non-sexually transmitted genital ulcers occurring frequently in girls and young women who are not sexually active. Fever and non-specific prodromal symptoms may herald its onset. It is considered to be a reactive process triggered by distant infection with various micro-organisms. Lipschütz ulcer is a diagnosis of exclusion and recurrence is reported in around one-third of cases.

**Observation:** Five females ranging from 10 to 28 years of age presented with acute onset, painful ulcers in the external genitalia. The duration of lesion ranged from 1 week to 1 month. One each had history of varicella that resolved few days prior to onset of lesions, tuberculous lymphadenitis under treatment and third trimester pregnancy. Only one of them was sexually active. All had multiple, well-demarcated ulcers with erythematous halo in labia majora. Three had additional lesions in labia minora, fourchette and perineum. Lesions healed within a period of 1 to 3 weeks following treatment with oral antibiotics and topical hydrocortisone-antibiotic combination. One required short course oral steroid.

**Key message:** Lipschütz ulcer is a less known disease to physicians, an under-diagnosed entity causing much distress and anxiety to the patient and the parents of affected young girls. The non-sexual nature of the diagnosis helps in proper counseling and allaying fears in affected individuals.

