



MUCOSAL DISEASES (ORAL, ANOGENITAL), EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE

## INSIGHTS INTO THE DERMATOLOGY- GYNECOLOGY CLINIC AT WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL IN TORONTO, CANADA.

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**Background:** Female genital dermatoses are best managed by a multidisciplinary team including at least a dermatologist and a gynecologist. The gynecology-dermatology clinic in Toronto, Canada is dedicated to improving patients care. It is a referral center for the province of Ontario in Canada. Participation in the gynecology-dermatology clinic as a dermatology trainee is an exceptional experience for future specialists dedicated to holistic dermatology care.

**Observation:** We will present common genital dermatoses, clues for differential diagnosis, causes of treatment failure, common physician and patient mistakes, and how to approach a disease relapse. We will discuss a practical approach to common diseases seen at a gynecology-dermatology clinic such as dermatitis, lichen sclerosus, lichen planus, and lichen simplex chronicus. We will address questions such as: Does the patient have a normal anatomy? What is the most likely diagnosis? What is the differential diagnosis? Does the patient really have genital candidiasis? Why some patients with lichen sclerosus are still symptomatic despite treatment? When do you consider treatment failure in a patient with lichen sclerosus? When should you take a biopsy? When to refer a patient for patch testing and what do you need to investigate?

Our experience at this clinic provides a practical approach beyond what is found in classic textbooks and guidelines of female genital dermatoses.

**Key message:** Genital diseases are overlooked by patients and physicians in numerous occasions and for diverse reasons. Training in this area is usually limited. Recognizing normal anatomy, clues for differential diagnosis and treatment pearls will help to get a prompt diagnosis and better engagement with patients for an appropriate treatment. A successful treatment is a life changing event for patients and treating physician.

