

Oral Manifestations of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)-infected Patients in Singapore

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Abstract

Introduction: Oral lesions have been recognised as prominent features of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection since the beginning of the epidemic. **Objective:** This descriptive study was conducted to study the types of oral lesions among HIV-infected patients in Singapore. **Materials and Methods:** Oral examination was done on 81 randomly selected HIV-infected patients attending the specialist outpatient clinic at the Communicable Disease Centre. **Results:** A total of 9 different lesions were observed in 45 (56%) patients. The lesions observed were oral candidosis (35%), periodontal disease (16%), aphthous-like ulcers (5%), oral hairy leukoplakia (5%) and lymphoma (1%). **Conclusion:** The oral manifestations of HIV-infected patients in Singapore appear to be less frequent in comparison with those patients from Africa and Europe. Similarities in oral findings among the HIV-infected patients in Asia are evident with a notable lack of oral Kaposi's sarcoma (KS) and a low prevalence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and oral hairy leukoplakia.

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