# Differential Diagnosis of Genital Ulcers MedicoNotes www.mediconotes.com



		STDs Ulcers	
	Organism	Description	Management
Syphilis (Chancre)	Treponema Pallidum <u>IP :</u> 9-90 days	Genital ulcer:  Button-like papule that develops into→ a painless erosion and then → ulcerates with raised border & scanty serous exudate.  Surface may be crusted.  Site: genital (95%) & extragenital (5%)  Shape: rounded or oval, regular & well-defined.  Surface: dull red, clean, oozing (scanty serous exud.)	Not Allergic to penicillin: Penicillin G Benzathine (Single dose of 2.4 milion units , IM )  In Allergy to Penicillin: Doxycycline (100 mg, PO, twice a day / for 2 W.)
		- Edge: sloping - Base: indurated Palpation: firm - Number: - single (common); - few multiple, or kissing lesions (less commonly) - Pain: Painless (unless superinfected with S.aureus)	
		Regional LNs:  Regional lymphadenopathy appears within 7 days.  Nodes are:  - Discrete, - Firm, rubbery, - Non-tender, - Unilateral (more commonly).	
Chancroid (Soft Chancre)	Hemophilus Ducreyi	Genital ulcer:  • Tender papule with erythematous halo that evolves to → pustule → erosion, → ulcer.	Azithromycin (1g, PO, single dose)
	<u>IP :</u> 4-7 days	<ul> <li>Site: genital &amp; extragenital.</li> <li>Shape: oval , well-defined.</li> <li>Surface: Floor: covered with gray to yellow exudate.</li> <li>Edge: Undermined.</li> <li>Base: It is friable with granulation tissue (not indurated)</li> <li>Margin: surrounded by erythematous halo.</li> <li>Palpation: Soft</li> <li>Number:         <ul> <li>Multiple (common), merging to form large or giant ulcers (&gt;2 cm) with serpiginous shape.</li> <li>Singular.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Pain: Painful.</li> </ul>	Ceftriaxone ( 250 mg , IM , single dose ) Ciprofloxacin ( 500 mg, PO , twice for 3 D )
		Regional LNs: The genital ulcer is followed by:  Painful inguinal lymphadenitis appears 7–21 days after primary lesion:  - matted  - Firm at first  - Tender  - Unilateral (more commonly)  - Adherent to the overlying skin which is red, hot, edematous & tender.	
Granuloma inguinale	Calymmatobacterium granulomatis <u>IP:</u> 2-6 weeks	Genital ulcer:  Painless, granulating, progressive, ulcerative lesions of the genital & perianal areas.  Highly vascular (i.e., a beefy red appearance) and bleed easily on contact.  Spreads by: direct extension or autoinoculation of approximated skin surfaces	Trimethoprim- Sulfamethoxazole ( one double-strength tablet twice)  Doxycycline (100 mg, PO, twice a day)  BOTH for 3 weeks
		Regional LNs:  - No regional lymphadenopathy.  - Large subcutaneous nodule may mimic a lymph node, i.e., pseudobubo.	

# Lymphogranuloma Venerum

# Invasive chlamydia Trachomatis

(Serotype: L1, L2, L3)

IP:

1ry stage: 3- 12 days 2ry stage: 10 – 30 days

#### **Genital ulcer:**

#### Transient primary genital ulcer:

- Small , painless, papule/or vesicle → which breaks into non-indurated ulcer
- Single, or grouped small ulcers (herpetiform)
- Heals within few days

#### In heterosexual Males

- Cordlike lymphangitis of dorsal penis may follow.
- Lymphangial abscess (bubonulus) may rupture, resulting in
   Sinuses and fistulas of urethra and deforming scars of penis.

Females Cervicitis, perimetritis, salpingitis may occur.

#### Receptive Anal Intercourse (Women or men):

Primary anal rectal infection:

 $hemorrhagic\ proctit is\ +\ with\ regional\ lymphaden it is$ 

Regional LNs: The genital ulcer is followed by:

# Inguinal Syndrome (Inguinal lymphadenitis):

Painful inguinal lymphadenopathy appearing <u>2–6</u> W. after presumed exposure.

- Initially, nodes are discrete,
- BUT with progressive periadenitis results in: a matted mass of nodes which become fluctuant & suppurative.
- "Groove" sign: Extensive enlargement of inguinal nodes above & below the inguinal ligament (nonspecific)
- Overlying skin becomes:
   Fixed inflamed thin eventually develops multiple draining fistulas.
- Usually unilateral
- Palpable iliac/femoral nodes often present on same side.

# Recommended:

## **Azi**thromycin

(1g, PO, single dose)

# <u>Do</u>xycycline

(100 mg, PO, twice/for 7 days)

#### Alternative:

#### **Erythromycin base**

(500 mg PO four times/ for 7 days)

# Genital Herpes (Herpes Progentalis)

HSV- 2, >= 90% of cases HSV-1, 10% of cases

IP: 2-20 days

#### **Transmission:**

- Usually skin-to-skin contact.
- Transmission occurs during times of asymptomatic HSV shedding (70%)
- Transmission in discordant couples (one partner infected, the other not) (10%).

# **Symptoms:**

## **Primary GH**

- Asymptomatic ( Most common )
- Symptomatic: constitutional symptoms → fever, headache, malaise, myalgia (occurs only in 1ry)
- Depending on location, pain, itching, dysuria, lumbar radiculitis, vaginal or urethral discharge are common symptoms.
- Deep pelvic pain associated with pelvic lymphadenopathy.

## Recurrent GH

- Common symptoms: itching, burning, fissure, redness, irritation prior to eruption of vesicles.
- Dysuria, sciatica, rectal discomfort.

## **Genital Ulcer:**

Burning sensation precedes appearance of :
Initially, an **erythematous plaque** is noted ,followed soon by **grouped vesicles** → may evolve to **pustules**, → as the overlying epidermis sloughs ,they become **eroded** → Erosions may enlarge to **ulcerations**;

They heal in **2–4 weeks**,( but followed by recurrence)

- Often with postinflammatory hypo- or hyperpigmentation,
- uncommonly with scarring.

## Regional LNs:

#### Inguinal/femoral lymphadenopathy:

- nodes enlarged,
- firm, nonfluctuant,
- tender;
- usually unilateral.



# **Oral Acyclovir**

(400 mg, three times/ for 7–10 days)

Non-STDs Ulcers			
Traumatic ulcer	- The ulcer appear immediately after the trauma - Soft , tender		
Fixed drug eruption	<ul> <li>Recurrent, superficial, soft <b>erosion</b> with surrounding violacious margin</li> <li>Lymph nodes are not enlarged</li> </ul>		
Scabies	<ul> <li>The causative organism is sarcoptes scabii, which could be demonstrated in scrapings the lesion</li> <li>Itching , which is more severe at night</li> <li>Other lesions of scabies present in characteristic sites</li> </ul>		
Pyogenic ulcer	<ul> <li>History of pyogenic abscess preceding the ulcer</li> <li>Soft , purulent floor</li> </ul>		
Malignant ulcer	<ul> <li>Old age patient</li> <li>Everted edges, hard, friable and bleed easily</li> </ul>		
Behcet's ulcer	<ul> <li>Recurrent, multiple, superficial, tender ulcers on the scrotum or genitals</li> <li>The ulcer is accompanied by:         <ul> <li>Apthous ulcers in mouth and</li> <li>Iritis.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



