

LIFE-THREATENING DISEASE SKIN MANIFESTATIONS

Kenneth Alonso, MD, FACP

Lentigo maligna

- A large, very irregular and asymmetric macule
- Sun exposed areas
- Median age 65 years-old
- 5-10% of cutaneous melanomas
- Rare in darker skinned persons
- Lentiginous spread.
- There is striking variegation of pigmentation (tan, brown, dark brown, black).
- A desmoplastic variant may not be pigmented.
- Neurotization of cells in dermis.
- This is malignant melanoma in situ

Lentigo maligna



Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology*, 6th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Malignant melanoma

- Occurs in sun exposed areas of skin
- Periodic severe sunburns early in life are the most important risk factor.
- ABCDE of melanoma
- Asymmetric
- Border is irregular
- Color variable
- <1% are not pigmented
- Diameter enlarged
- >10mm in largest dimension
- Enlarging lesion (particularly if rapid)

Malignant melanoma

- Large cells with prominent nucleoli form poorly defined nests. Single cells are present in the epidermis.
- Both upward invasion in the epidermis as well as downward invasion into the dermis may be seen.
- 10% familial melanoma
- Young age
- Multiple dysplastic nevi

Malignant melanoma



Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology*, 6th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

The upper dark brown portion with a pinkish rim of this lesion is a dysplastic nevus.

The variegated blue-black and pink plaque in the lower half of the lesion is the superficial spreading melanoma (0.9-mm thickness) arising within the dysplastic nevus.

Malignant melanoma

- Vertical growth phase refers to downward growth of lesion into deeper dermis.
- Nodular appearance
- Depth of invasion (Breslow thickness) associated with metastatic potential and survival
- Nodular form (no radial growth phase)
 - Median age 55 years-old
 - Sun exposed areas

Malignant melanoma



A

An only minimally flat-topped, elevated, asymmetric and irregular plaque with variegate color (brown, black) with sharply demarcated margins. The surface is also irregular with a cobblestone pattern. This is radial growth (laterally).

In the center there is a small black, dome-shaped nodule. This is the switch to the vertical growth phase.

Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 6th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Fig. 12-11A Accessed 07/16/2010

Urticaria

- Hereditary Angioedema
- Facial swelling
- Laryngeal edema
- Stridor
- Abdominal pain
- Autosomal dominant
- C1 esterase low
- Angioedema-urticaria-eosinophilia syndrome
Fever, water retention
Cyclic presentation



Fig. e-14 Accessed 07/16/2010

Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J: *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Pemphigus vulgaris

- 80% of all cases
- 40-60 years of age
- No sex predilection
- Presents with multiple flaccid vesicles and bullae that rupture easily
- Begins in oral mucosa
- Scalp, face usual sites
- Chest, axillae, groin as other sites
- No pruritis

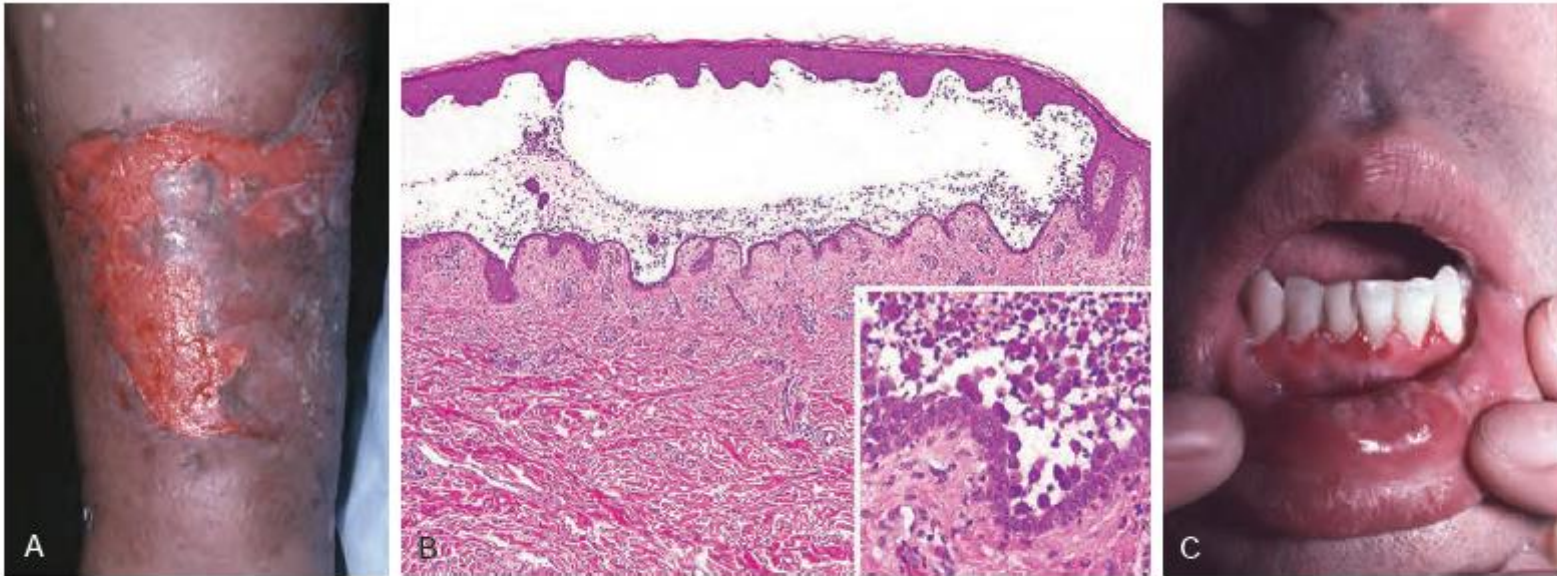


Figure 25-29 Pemphigus vulgaris. **A**, Eroded plaques are formed following the rupture of confluent, thin-roofed bullae, here affecting axillary skin. **B**, Suprabasal acantholysis results in an intraepidermal blister in which dyscohesive (acantholytic) epidermal cells are present (*inset*). **C**, Ulcerated blisters in the oral mucosa are also common, as seen here on the lip.

Erysipelas

- Streptococcal cellulitis
- Red, firm skin with raised border
- Dermal lymphatics blocked
- “Peau d’orange” skin
- May blister and necrose
- Usually presents on lower limbs
- BUT facial involvement (St. Anthony’s fire) is life threatening
- Cavernous sinus thrombosis
- May lead to Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome
- May lead to post-Streptococcal glomerulonephritis

Erysipelas



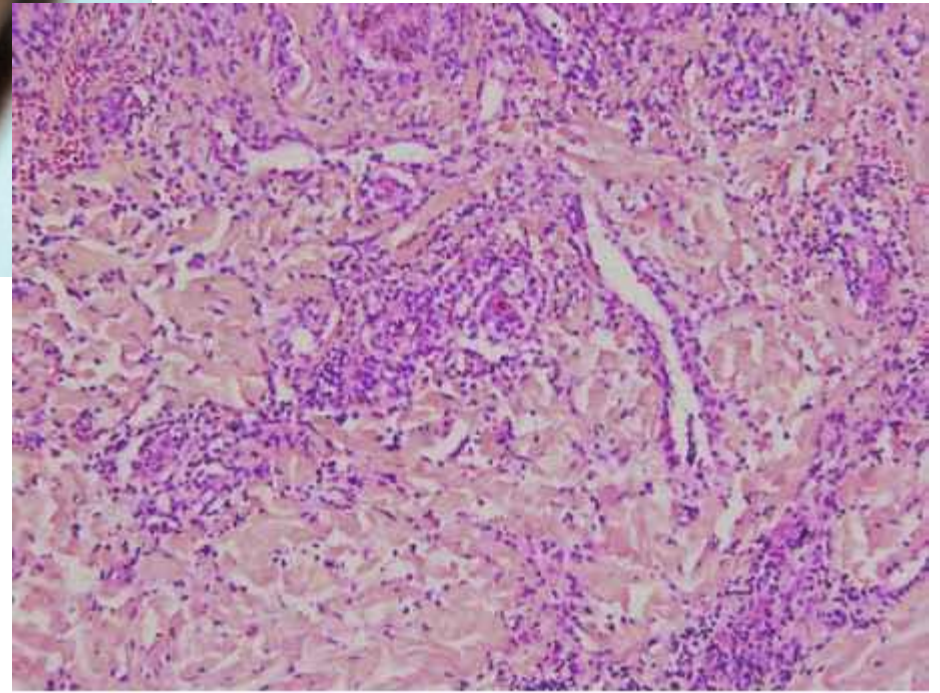
“Peau d’orange” skin

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Facial_erysipelas.jpg
Accessed 12/10/2019

Rocky Mountain spotted fever

- Sudden onset of fever, severe headache, myalgia
- Rash develops in 49% by day 3
- 10% have no rash
- Blanching macules evolve to deep red papules over 48-72 hours.
- Hemorrhagic lesions develop thereafter.
- Characteristically begins on wrists, forearms, and ankles
 - Spreads centripetally within hours
 - Up to 82% involve palms and soles
- 23% mortality if untreated
- Tick bite (*Rickettsia rickettsii*)

Rocky Mountain spotted fever



https://www.mussenhealth.us/photomicrograph-depicting/images/1994_55_116-rocky-mountain-spotted-fever.jpg

Accessed 12/10/2019

Rubella (German measles)

- Coryza precedes rash.
- An erythematous exanthem spreads from the hairline downward and clears (flakes) as it spreads.
- Pruritic
- Posterior auricular and suboccipital lymphadenopathy.
- “3 day measles”
- RNA togavirus

Rubella (German measles)



Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology*, 6th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Measles

- Coryza precedes several days before eruption.
- Koplik spots present in oral mucosa 48 hours before rash and may briefly overlap the measles exanthem.
- White or bluish lesions with an erythematous halo on the buccal mucosa.
- The presence of the erythematous halo differentiates Koplik's spots from Fordyce's spots (ectopic sebaceous glands)

Measles

- Discrete erythematous lesions on face and below eyes
- Become confluent on the face and neck over 2–3 days
- Rash spreads downward to the trunk and arms, where lesions remain discrete.
- Not pruritic.
- RNA paramyxovirus
- Giant cell pneumonia as a complication

Measles



Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 5th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Fig. 27-22 Accessed 07/16/2010

Koplik's spots



Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J: *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

(Source: CDC. Photo selected by Kenneth M. Kaye, MD.) Fig. 185-1 Accessed 07/01/2010

Secondary syphilis

Non-tender, red macular lesions.

Truncal.

May involve palms and soles.

May see mucosal lesions as well.

Occur up to 3 months following primary infection.



B

Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 6th Edition*; <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Figs. 30-21B and 30-22A Accessed 07/16/2010

Secondary syphilis



A

Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 6th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Varicella-zoster (chickenpox)

- May have coryza.
- Vesicular lesions on an erythematous base present in successive crops.
- Ulcerate and crust.
- Pruritic
- Begin on face and spread downward.
- Most profuse on pressure bearing areas

Varicella-zoster (chickenpox)



Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology*, 6th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Varicella-zoster (chickenpox)



Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J: *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Courtesy of R. Hartman; with permission.

Fig. 173-1 Accessed 07/01/2010

Varicella-zoster infection

- Hemorrhagic vesicles and pustules on an erythematous base
- Dermatomal distribution.
- Pain often precedes eruption.
- Reactivation of vaccinia virus dormant in neuron soma.
- Systemic antivirals useful within first 72 hours of eruption.
- Prevent dissemination.
- Vaccine for primary protection.

Varicella-zoster infection (Shingles)



Fig. 173-3 Accessed 07/16/2010

Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J:
Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Erythroderma

- Total body erythema and scaling (Red man syndrome).
- Scaling onset within days of erythema.
- May see abnormal control of temperature
- Lymphadenopathy.
- >50 years-old
- Male predominance
- Underlying dermatosis
 - Atopic dermatitis (onset in childhood)
 - Psoriasis
 - Sézary syndrome (cutaneous T-cell lymphoma)

Exfoliated erythroderma



Fig. 8-1 Accessed 07/16/2010

Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 6th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Mycosis fungoides

- Erythematous, often scaling plaques. May develop nodular lesions and spread systemically.
- Focal lichenoid tissue reaction.
- Sézary cells (CD4 +) characteristically form the bandlike infiltrate in the upper dermis.
- Pautrier micro-abscesses are single cells and small clusters that have invaded the epidermis.
- If generalized erythroderma, Sézary syndrome.
- May progress to systemic lymphoma.

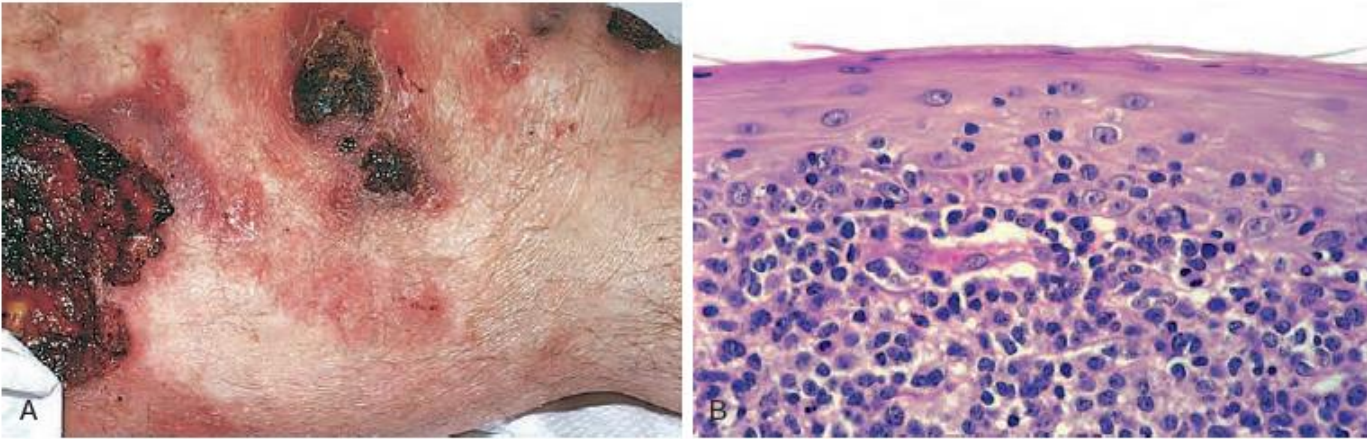
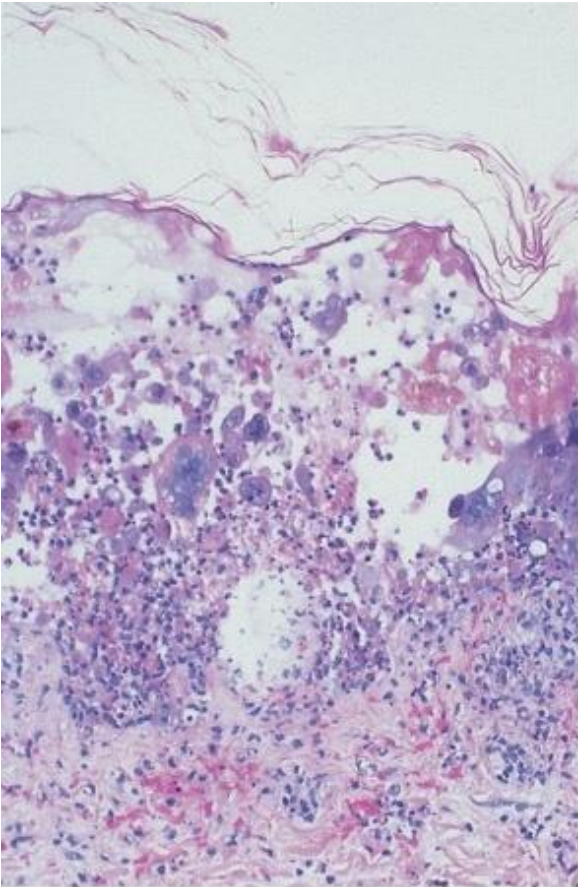


Figure 25-18 Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. **A**, Several erythematous plaques with scaling and ulceration are evident. **B**, Microscopically, there is an infiltrate of atypical lymphocytes that accumulates beneath and invades the epidermis.

Herpes virus infection



The epidermis shows marked ballooning degeneration, cytolysis, and intraepidermal vesiculation. Perivascular lymphocytic infiltrate.

Acantholytic and multinucleated epidermal giant cells are a clue to herpetic infection.

Fig. 6-7 Accessed 07/16/2010

Erythema chronicum migrans

Target lesion:

Erythematous annular patch, often with a central erythematous papule



A

Source: Wolff K, Johnson RA: *Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology, 6th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Fig. 24-76A Accessed
07/16/2010

Lyme disease



Erythema
chronicum migrans
is the early
cutaneous
manifestation of
Lyme disease

Target lesion at the
tick bite site
(*Borrellia
burgdorferi*)

Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J, *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>

(Courtesy of Yale Resident's Slide
Collection; with permission.)

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Erythema marginatum



Erythematous
serpiginous
macular lesions
with pale
centers

Not pruritic.

Accentuated by
skin warming.

Acute rheumatic
fever

<https://www.hxbenefit.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Erythema-marginatum-Picture.jpg>

Accessed 12/07/2019

Erythema multiforme syndrome

- 20-30 years of age
- Male predilection
- Lesions may be pruritic or painful
- Macule evolves to papule within 48 hours
- Then multiform erythematous plaques characterized by a target lesion.
- Generally symmetric involvement of dorsa of hands, palms, and soles (mild form)
- May involve forearms, face, elbows, and knees
- 50% have genital involvement (severe form)

Erythema multiforme



Multiple erythematous plaques with a target or iris morphology usually represents a hypersensitivity reaction to drugs or infections (especially herpes simplex virus).

Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J. *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com> (Courtesy of the Yale Resident's Slide Collection; with permission.)

Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Toxic epidermal necrolysis

- Prodroma of conjunctivitis, pharyngitis, pruritis
- Mucous membrane erosions precede erythema multiforme skin lesions by several days.
- Ocular and genital involvement
- Desquamation
- Drug reaction
 - Allopurinol
 - Carbamazepine and phenytoin
 - Sulfur-containing drugs
 - Aminopenicillins
 - Oxycam NSAIDs
 - Niverapine (NNRTI)

Toxic epidermal necrolysis



<https://emedicine.medscape.com/article/229698-overview>

Accessed 12/07/2019

Toxic epidermal necrolysis



Source: Fauci AS, Kasper DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jameson JL, Loscalzo J; *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, 17th Edition: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>
Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. All rights reserved.

Fig. e7-4 Accessed 07/16/2010

Stevens-Johnson syndrome is part of the TEN spectrum.

Flaccid bullae and vesicles that develop centrally within a pre-existing target lesion.

Widespread apoptosis of keratinocytes provoked by the activation of a cell-mediated cytotoxic reaction.

Toxic epidermal necrolysis

- CD8+ cells in blister fluid
- Granulysin (cytokine) level elevated
- Pathogenesis:
- FAS ligand pathway activation
- Granule mediated exocytosis
- Histopathology:
- Apoptotic keratinocyte cell death in the epidermis with dermal-epidermal separation that results in bullae formation.
- Full-thickness lesion
- No antibody demonstrated on direct immunofluorescent stain

CDC diagnostic criteria

- Fever
- Hypotension
- Widespread red, flat rash
- Desquamation on palms and soles 1-2 weeks following onset
- Other system involvement
- Disease mimicked by M-protein release from Strep. Pyogenes.
- Functions as superantigen
- Isolation of Strep. Pyogenes as well as evidence of other organ involvement and rash
- Penicillin therapy (with clindamycin if Strep.)

Life threatening purpura syndromes

Table 1. Names of the syndromes

Name	Definition	Comments
Pathologic name		
TMA	The characteristic histologic abnormalities (swelling of endothelial cells and the subendothelial space) of capillaries and arterioles that cause microvascular thrombosis and result in microangiopathic hemolytic anemia and thrombocytopenia	In addition to TTP and HUS, TMA may occur in other disorders, such as malignant hypertension, scleroderma, antiphospholipid antibody syndrome, systemic lupus erythematosus, preeclampsia, radiation nephropathy, renal allograft rejection, HIV infection, allogeneic HSCT, disseminated malignancy.
Clinical names		
Typical HUS	A syndrome of microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, and renal failure with a diarrhea prodrome caused by infection with Shiga toxin-producing bacteria	Occurs primarily in children younger than 5 years. Accounts for 90% to 95% of childhood HUS. <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7 is the most common etiology.
aHUS	A syndrome of microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, and renal failure without a diarrhea prodrome	Occurs primarily in children younger than 5 years. Accounts for 5% to 10% of childhood HUS. Abnormalities of complement regulation may be the most common etiology.
TTP	Adults with microangiopathic hemolytic anemia and thrombocytopenia, with or without renal or neurologic abnormalities, without another etiology, such as systemic infection or another cause of TMA	Children without renal failure are also diagnosed as TTP. The diagnosis of TTP requires treatment with plasma exchange.
Congenital TTP (Upshaw-Schulman syndrome)	A rare syndrome caused by congenital ADAMTS13 deficiency	Symptoms may first occur at any age. Treatment with plasma infusion is sufficient. In some subjects, symptoms of TTP never occur.

http://www.imreference.com/_/rsrc/1472777395453/hematology-oncology/thrombocytopenia/Screen%20Shot%202015-08-26%20at%208.37.44%20PM.png Accessed 12/10/2019

Classical hemolytic uremic syndrome

- Acute bleeding
- Oliguria
- Hematuria
- Thrombocytopenia with microangiopathic hemolytic anemia.
- May have neurologic symptoms.

.

Classical hemolytic uremic syndrome

- Increased expression of leukocyte adhesion molecules on epithelial cells
- Direct binding and activation of platelets.
- Endothelin and TNF- α production as well as diminished NO production
- Induce vasoconstriction.

Atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome

- Acute bleeding
- Thrombocytopenia with microangiopathic hemolytic anemia.
- May have neurologic symptoms.
- Uncontrolled complement activation in those with defects in complement factor H (fails to break down C3 convertase).
- A small percentage of patients lack membrane cofactor protein CD46, or complement factor I.

Atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome

- Precipitated by:
- Mitomycin, cisplatin, gemcitabine, and cyclosporine.
- May also be seen as a complication of the post partum period
- May be part of the antiphospholipid syndrome.

Hemolytic uremic syndrome

- Typical hemolytic uremic syndrome ameliorates with treatment of underlying disorder, although progression to chronic renal disease common.
- Atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome has a worse prognosis.

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

- Usually an acquired disease
- Palpable purpura
- More common in those of African ancestry
- More common in obese
- Symptom pentad
 - Fever
 - Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Renal Failure
 - Neurologic deficits

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

- This is not a coagulopathy
- This not immune related.
- Precipitating agents
 - Pregnancy (increase vWF levels)
 - Quinine
 - Mitomycin-C
- Requires skin biopsy for definitive diagnosis

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

- Abnormal activation of platelets and endothelium leading to fibrin deposition in the microvasculature
- Antibody to ADAMTS 13
 - Cleaves vWF
 - vWF as a bridging molecule at sites of vascular injury for normal platelet adhesion
 - Under high shear conditions, it promotes platelet aggregation.
 - Carrier for factor VIII
 - Decreasing the clearance of factor VIII fivefold

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

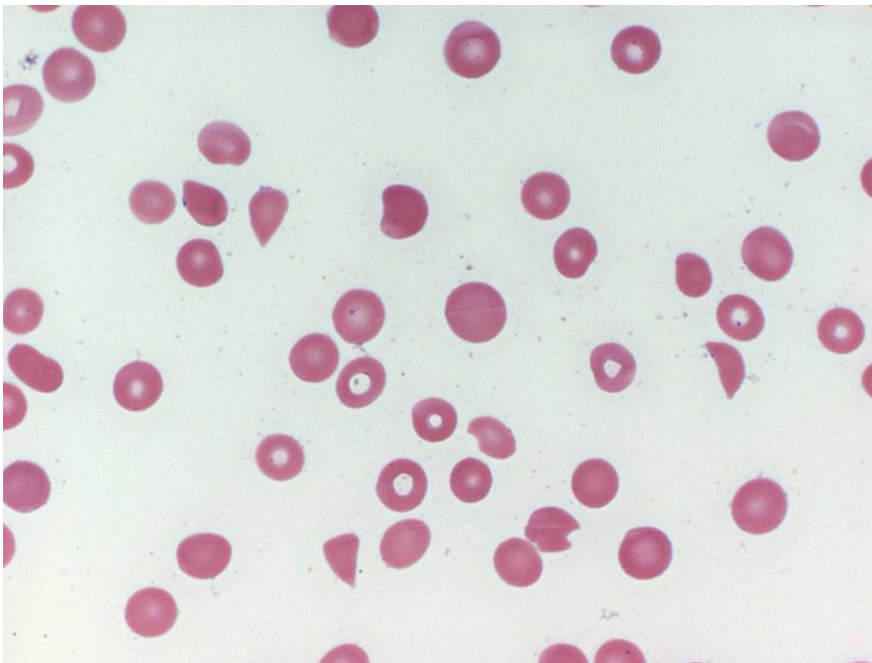
Confluence of
purpuric
lesions

http://4.bp.blogspot.com/-QCB3txu3nJE/TwczihE18BI/AAAAAAAAAE2o/uCpXxY_Pp9E/s1600/thrombotic-thrombocytopenic-purpura.jpg

Accessed 12/10/2019



Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura

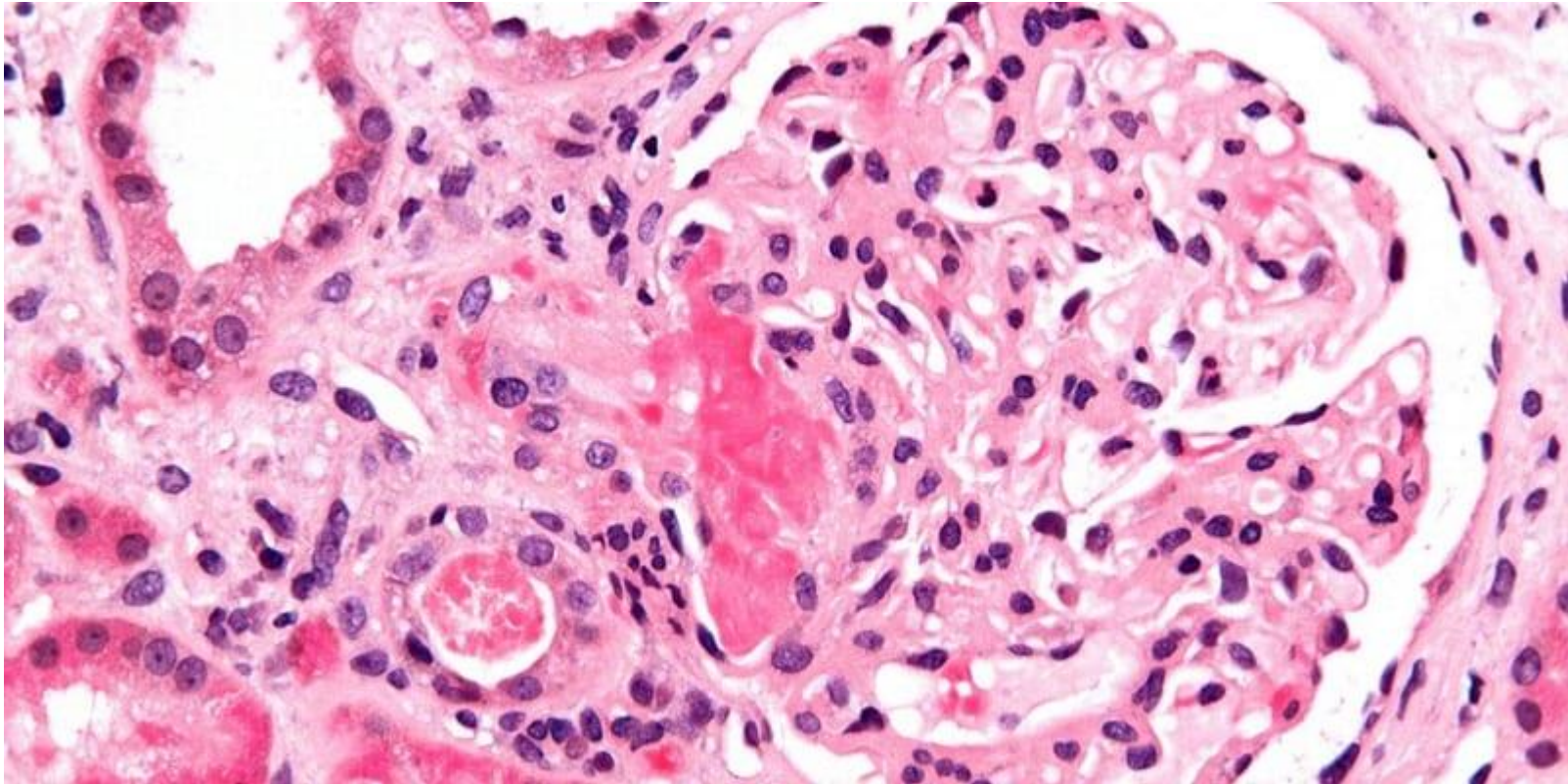


Microangiopathic
hemolytic anemia

Schistocytes

Thrombocytopenia

Thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura



http://www.2minutemedicine.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/800px-Acute_thrombotic_microangiopathy_-_very_high_mag.jpg Accessed 12/10/2019

Thrombotic
microangiopathy

Small vessel vasculitis

- Henoch-Shönlein purpura
- 75% in those <10 years-old
- Symptom tetrad:
 - Rash (palpable purpura)
 - Arthritis (especially ankles and knees)
 - Abdominal pain
 - Kidney involvement
- IgA deposition in vessel walls
- β -hemolytic Streptococcal infection precedes
- 90-95% resolve spontaneously

Small vessel vasculitis

- Eosinophilic granulomatosis with vasculitis (Churg-Strauss)
- ANCA-associated vasculitis
- Asthma
- Peripheral blood eosinophilia
- Vasculitis involving the heart
- Also GI tract (bloody diarrhea)
- Seizures
- 50% petechia, purpura, nodules
- Respond to steroids
- 75% survive at 5 years

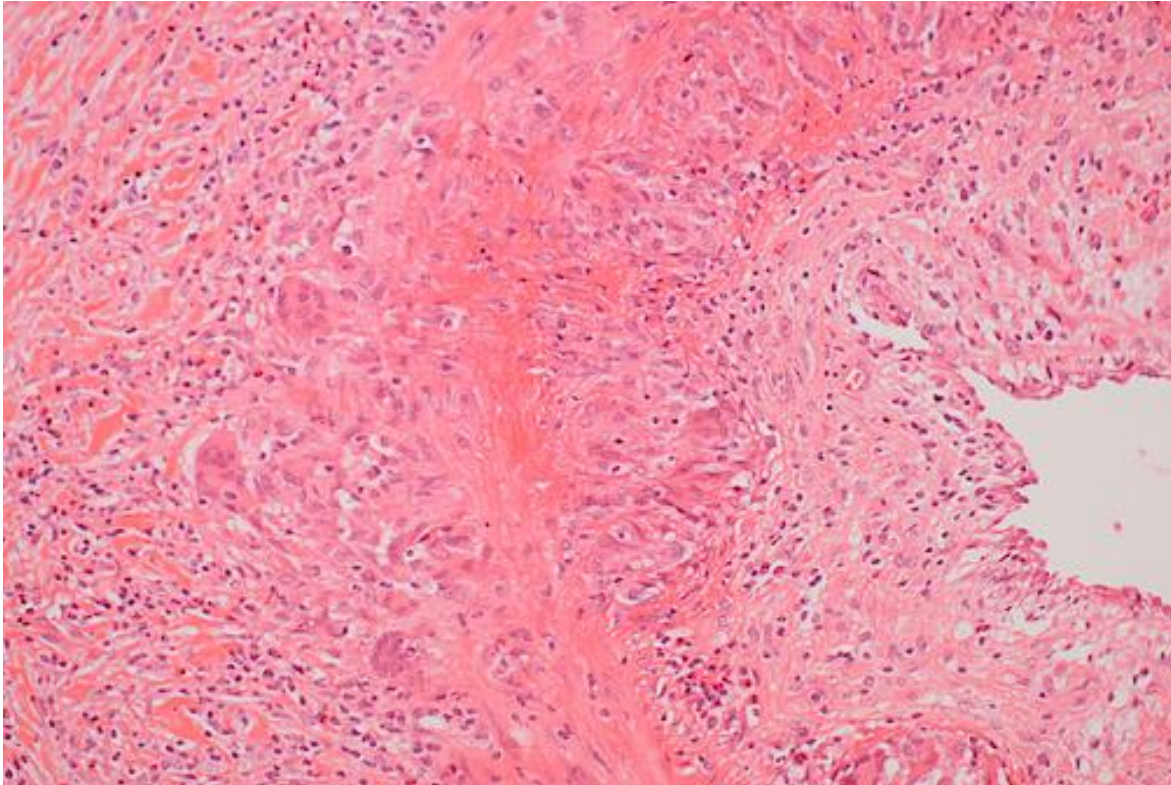
Medium vessel vasculitis

- Cutaneous polyarteritis nodosa
- Small and medium vessels of dermal and subcutaneous tissue arteries
- Chronic but benign course
- May be precipitated by Group A Streptococcus, Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, Parvovirus B19
- CERC mutation
 - Deficiency of ADA2 protein
 - Essential for endothelial and neutrophil development
- Systemic polyarteritis nodosa involves medium vessels of multiple organs

Large vessel vasculitis

- Temporal arteritis (Giant cell arteritis)
- Headache
- Tender scalp and temple
- Jaw claudication
- Most commonly affects arteries of scalp
- 50% associated with polymyalgia rheumatica
- 15% of those who present with polymyalgia rheumatica have giant cell arteritis
- 20% anterior ischemic optic neuropathy
- Also, cerebral arteritis
- Also, aortic arch syndrome (Takayasu)
- Systemic steroids

Temporal arteritis



Extensive inflammation with narrowing of artery. Giant cells and granuloma formation in wall.