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Analysis of oral mucosa erosive-ulcerative lesions by reflectance confocal microscopy. *J Biol Regul Homeost Agents*. 2019 May-Jun;33(3 Suppl. 1):11-17.

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ABSTRACT

In vivo Reflectance Confocal Microscopy (RCM) allows to optically biopsy vital tissues, non-invasively and in real time. It results in horizontal virtual slices at a microscopic resolution and correlating with conventional histopathology. The aim of the present work is to describe RCM cellular and architectural findings in oral mucosae affected by erosive-ulcerative diseases, thus highlighting in vivo the wellknown histological peculiarities. A series of conventionally diagnosed Recurrent Aphthous stomatitis (RAS) and Pemphigus Vulgaris (PV) erosive and/or ulcerative oral lesions underwent RCM imaging to establish the application of RCM imaging to this kind of inflammatory non-tumoral lesions. A total of 12 RAS-related lesions and 8 PV-related lesions were considered. RCM imaging was capable to visualize their microscopic peculiarities, mainly inflammatory infiltrate, vessel dilation (RAS) and acantholytic cells, intraepithelial clefts and inflammatory cell carpets (PV). Despite RCM may result unnecessary to diagnose oral lesions referred to RAS and PV, its capability to highlight their main microscopic features could be advantageously used to monitor the healing or worsening of the clinical situation as well as the responsiveness/refractoriness to therapy. Copyright 2019 Biolife Sas. www.biolifesas.org.

KEYWORDS: Pemphigus Vulgaris; confocal microscopy; imaging; in vivo; optical biopsy; recurrent Aphthous stomatitis PMID: 31538445