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The many faces of Cutaneous Tuberculosis

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SOUTH AFRICA



**27TH WORLD CONGRESS
OF DERMATOLOGY 2031
DUBAI - CANDIDATE CITY**

Conflict of Interest



- No conflicts of interest for this lecture



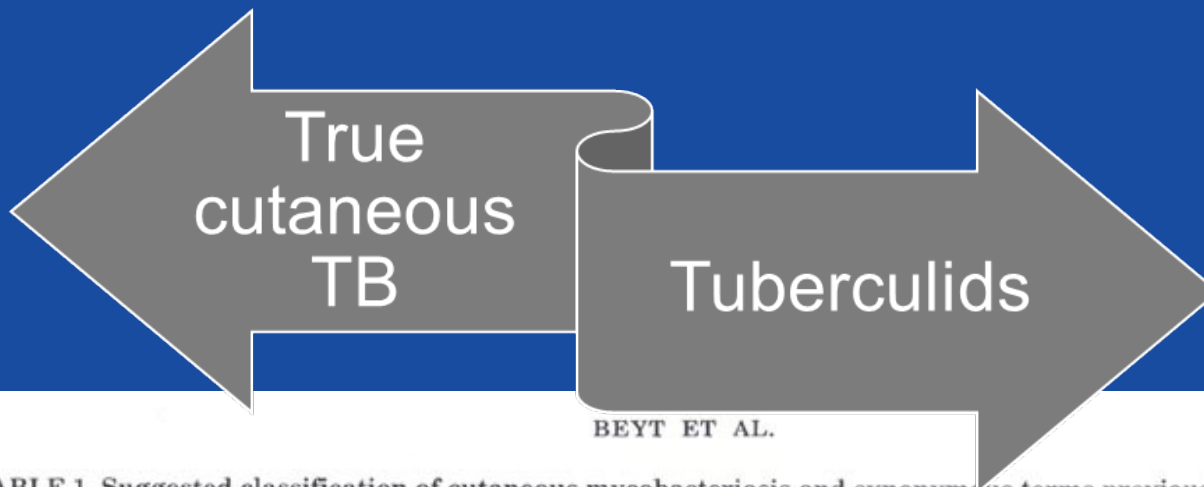




In this session:

- Classification of cutaneous TB
- Diagnosis of cutaneous TB
- Clinical manifestations of cutaneous TB
- Clinical manifestations of the tuberculids

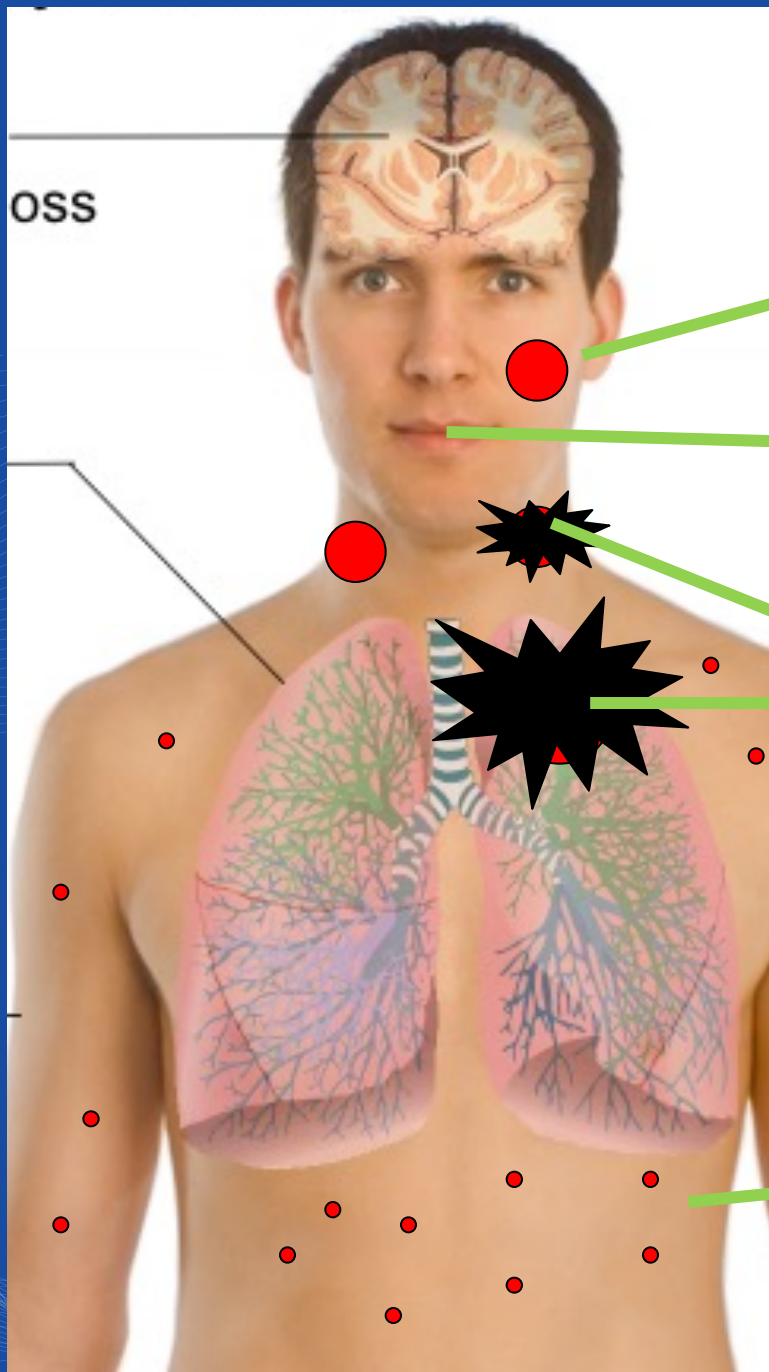
Classification of cutaneous TB



BEYT ET AL.

TABLE 1. Suggested classification of cutaneous mycobacteriosis and synonymous terms previously used in the medical literature

Proposed classification of cutaneous mycobacteriosis	Terms previously used in literature
I. Inoculation cutaneous mycobacteriosis from an exogenous source	Primary inoculation Tuberculous chancre Tuberculosis primary complex Tuberculosis verrucosa cutis Warty tuberculosis Verruca necrogenica Prosector's wart Tuberculosis cutis verrucosa
II. Cutaneous mycobacteriosis from an endogenous source	
A. Contiguous spread	Scrofuloderma Tuberculosis colligativa cutis
B. Autoinoculation	Orificial tuberculosis Tuberculosis cutis orificialis Tuberculosis ulcerosa cutis et mucosae
III. Cutaneous mycobacteriosis from hematogenous spread	
A. Lupus vulgaris	Lupus vulgaris Tuberculosis luposa cutis
B. Acute hematogenous dissemination	Acute miliary tuberculosis of the skin Tuberculosis cutis miliaris disseminata Tuberculosis cutis acuta generalisata
C. Nodules or abscesses	Tuberculous gumma Metastatic tuberculous abscess



Lupus vulgaris

Peri-orifical TB

Scrofuloderma

Miliary
tuberculosis

Diagnosis of cutaneous TB

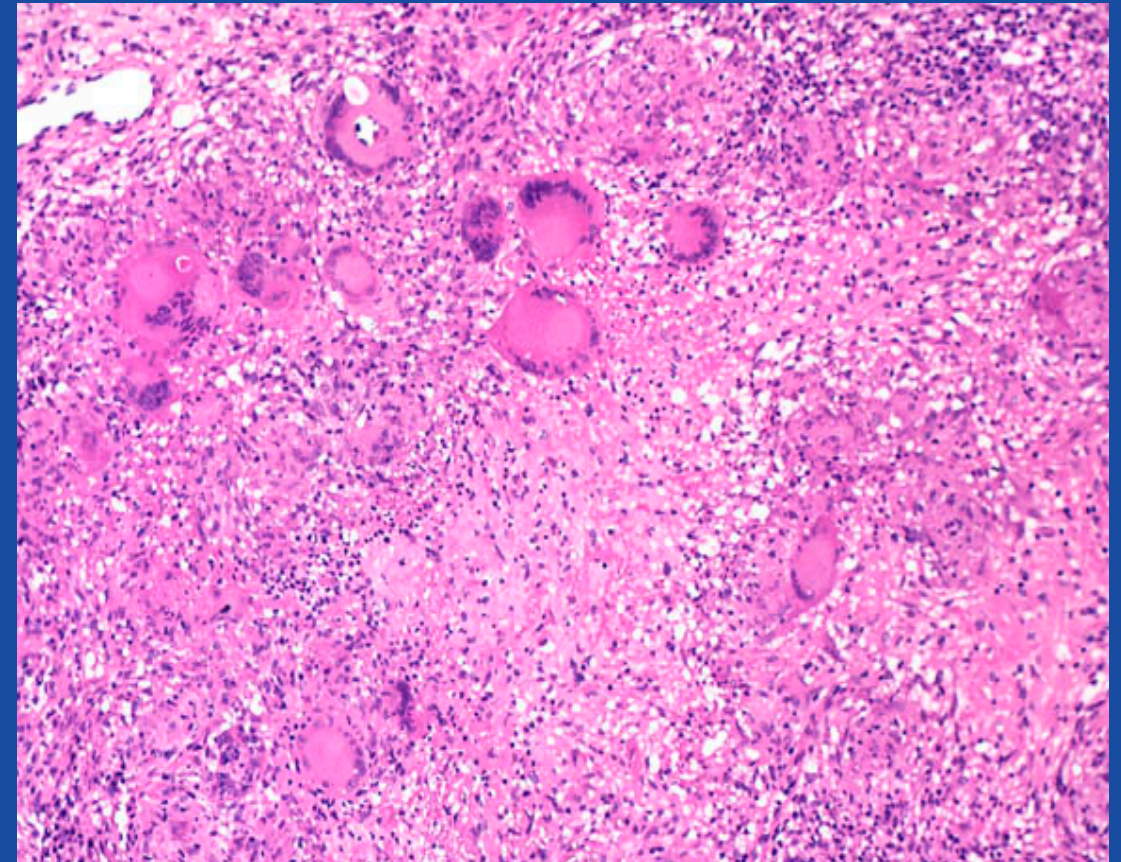
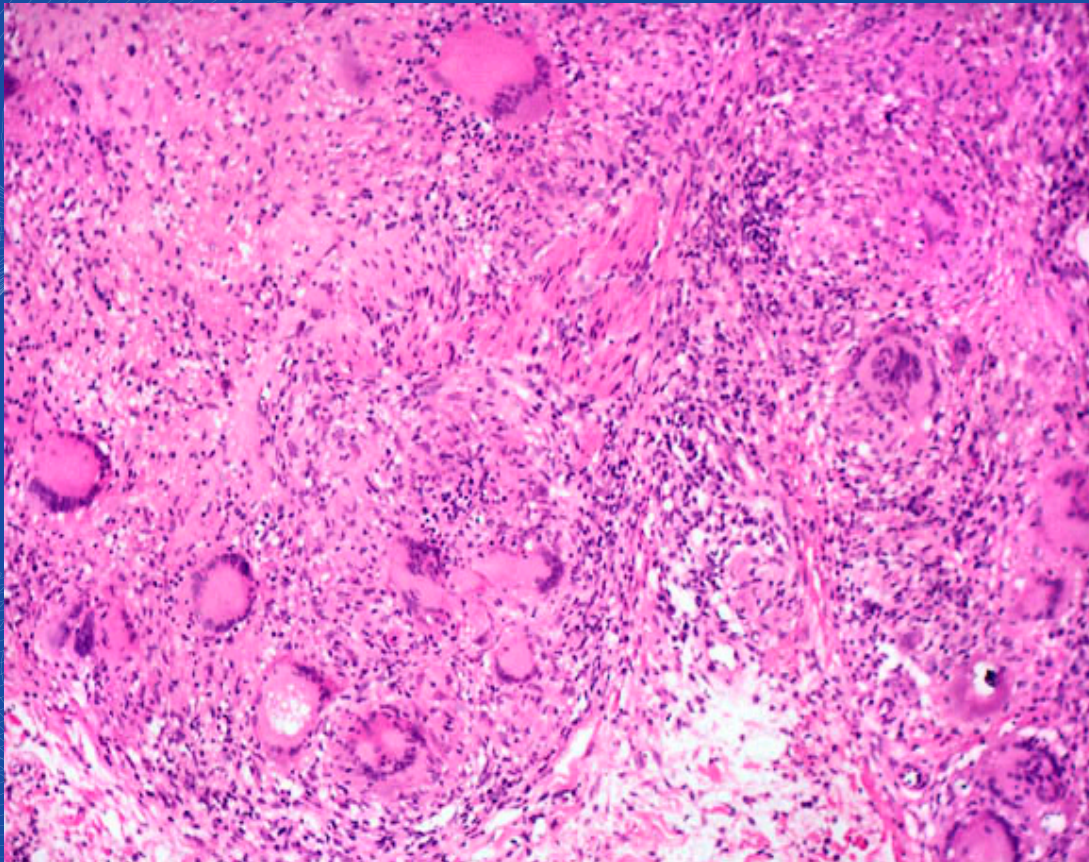
Clinical picture

Variable combinations and transitions of papular, nodular, pustular, papulonecrotic, pustulonecrotic, ulcerative, vegetating skin lesions.

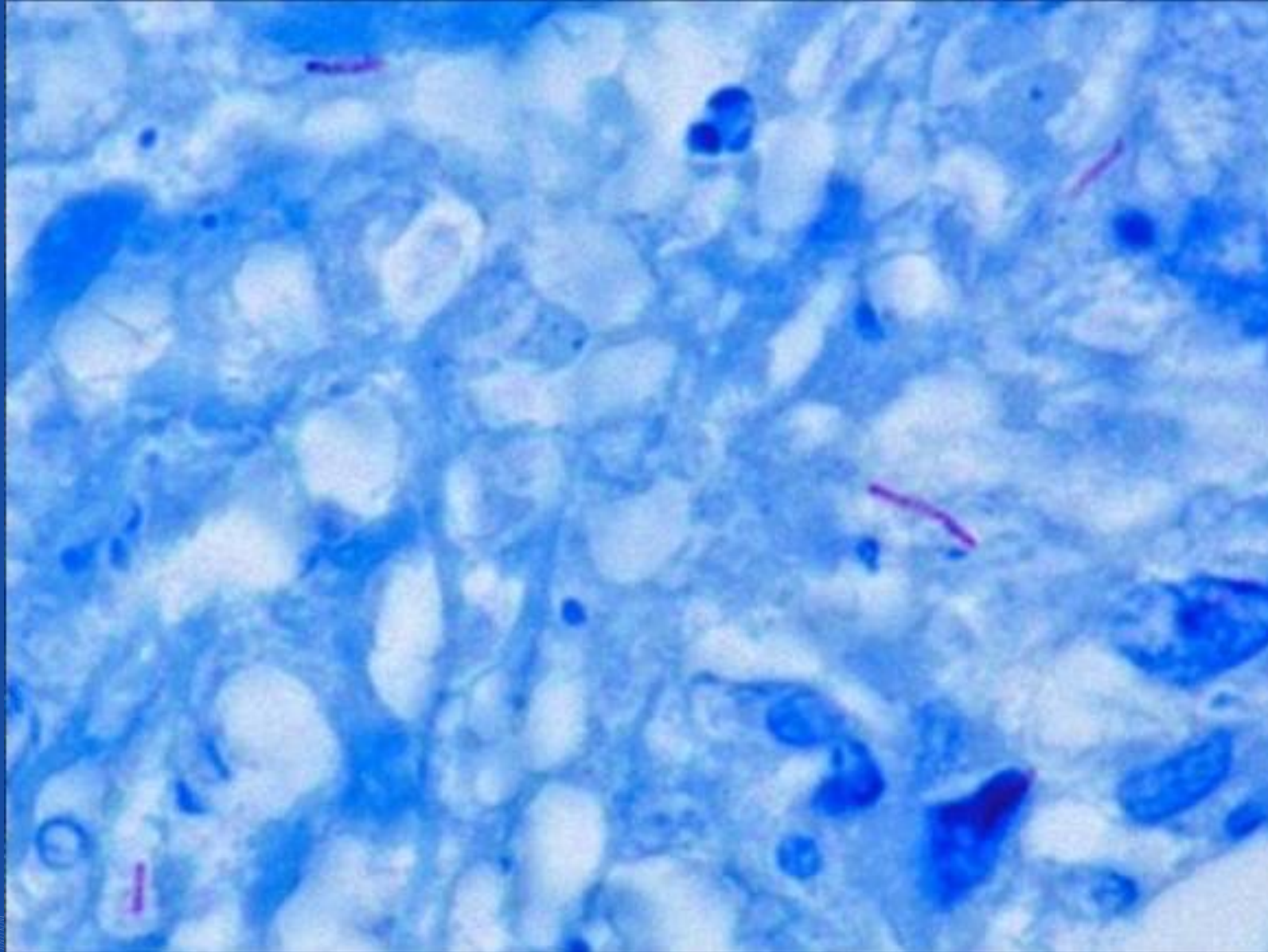


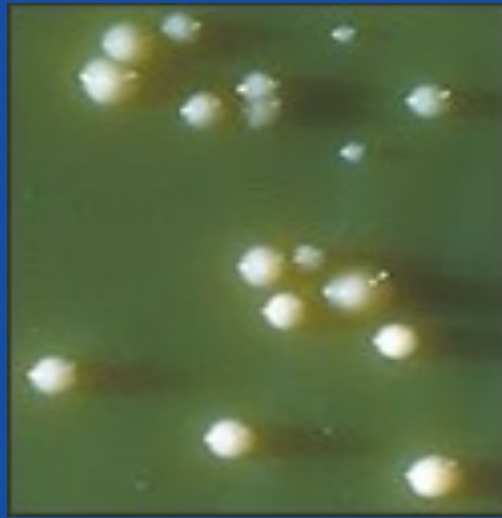
Histology

Variable combinations and transitions of **granulomatous inflammation**, mixed acute and chronic inflammatory cells, **necrosis**, **vasculitis**, **organisation** and **fibrosis**, other non-specific changes

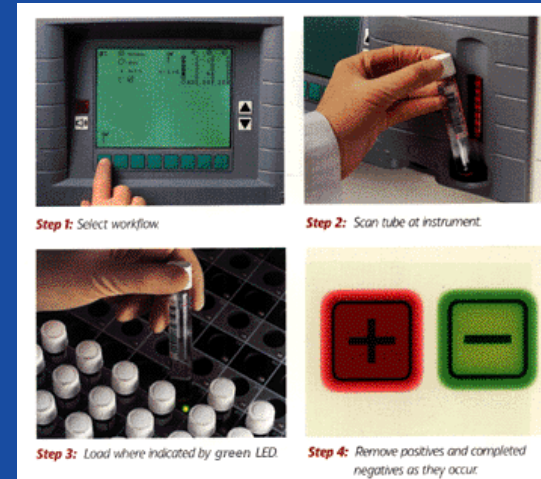


ZN -stain

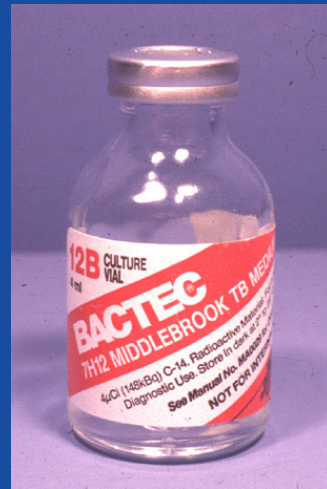




Löwenstein-Jensen
3-8 w



MGIT
Mycobacteria Growth Indicator Tube
1-3 w

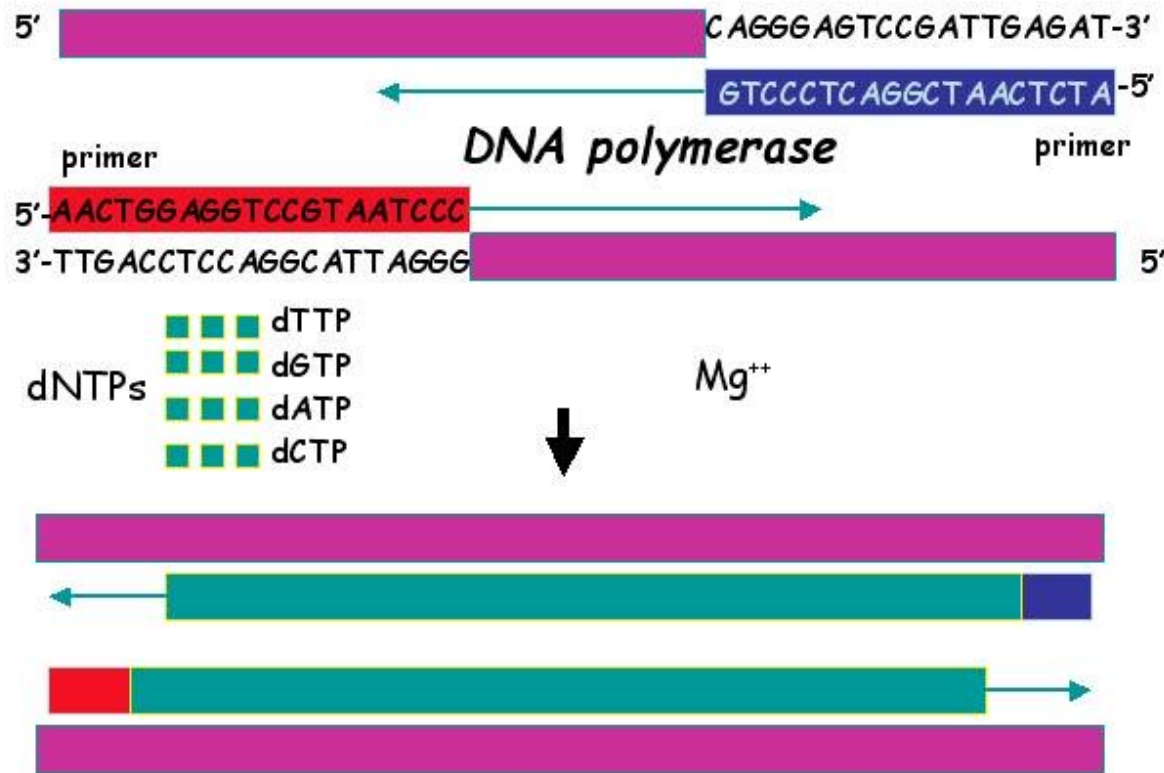


Bactec
2 w

MODS
Microscopic
Observation Drug
Susceptibility
1 w

PCR

In **PCR** 2 non-identical primers are annealed to opposite strands of the DNA template



Mantoux



Response to anti-TB medication

The Adult Tuberculosis Guideline

Full prescribing information for Sandoz products included on this brochure is available from your Sandoz Representative



Regimen 1 (New cases, age above 8 years and adults) New smear-positive patients, new smear-negative patients and extra-pulmonary TB.

Pre-treatment body weight	Two months initial phase given SEVEN times a week	Four months continuation phase	
		When given SEVEN times a week	
	RHZE (150, 75, 400, 275)	RH (150, 75)	RH (300, 150)
30 - 37 kg	2 tabs	2 tabs	
38 - 54 kg	3 tabs	3 tabs	
55 - 70 kg	4 tabs		2 tabs
≥ 71 kg	5 tabs		2 tabs

Regimen 2 Re-treatment cases)

Previously treated TB patients after cure, after completion, interruption and failure.

Pre-treatment body weight	Two months initial phase given SEVEN times a week		3 rd Month initial phase given SEVEN times a week	Five months continuation phase when given SEVEN times a week		
	RHZE (150, 75, 400, 275)	Streptomycin* (g)		RH (150, 75)	E (400)	RH (300, 150)
30 - 37 kg	2 tabs	0,5	2 tabs	2 tabs	2 tabs	
38 - 54 kg	3 tabs	0,75	3 tabs	3 tabs	2 tabs	
55 - 70 kg	4 tabs	1,0	4 tabs			2 tabs 3 tabs
≥ 71 kg	5 tabs	1,0	5 tabs			2 tabs 3 tabs

* Streptomycin should NOT be given during pregnancy and to those over 65 years.
** RH (150, 150) should only be used when treatment is given THREE times weekly in the continuation phase only.
R - Rifampicin, H - Isoniazid, Z - Pyrazinamide, E - Ethambutol

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The Paediatric Tuberculosis Guideline

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Regimen 3 (Children with tuberculosis - up to the age of 8 years)

Pre-treatment body weight	Two months initial phase treatment given SEVEN times per week	Four months continuation phase
		When given SEVEN times a week
	RHZ (60, 30, 150)	RH (60, 30)
3 - 4 kg	1/4 tablet	1/4 tablet
5 - 7 kg	1 tablet	1 tablet
8 - 9 kg	1 1/4 tablets	1 1/4 tablets
10 - 14 kg	2 tablets	2 tablets
15 - 19 kg	3 tablets	3 tablets
20 - 24 kg	4 tablets	4 tablets
25 - 29 kg	5 tablets	5 tablets
30 - 35 kg	6 tablets	6 tablets

All children with severe forms of tuberculosis (meningitis, spine, peritonitis, miliary, bones) should be referred to hospital for management.

Chemoprophylaxis

Active case-finding is necessary for all children under the age of five years who are in close contact with an infectious TB case. These children should be examined and if found to be healthy, should be given prophylaxis. The recommended regimen is Isoniazid 5 mg/kg daily for six months. Those children found to have tuberculosis, should be treated with a full course of TB treatment.

For more information on management of tuberculosis, refer to the National Tuberculosis Control Programme Guidelines.

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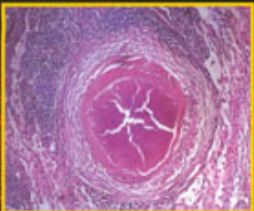
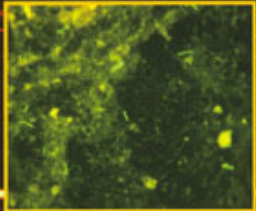


TUBERCULOSIS

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FOREWORD BY
Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu



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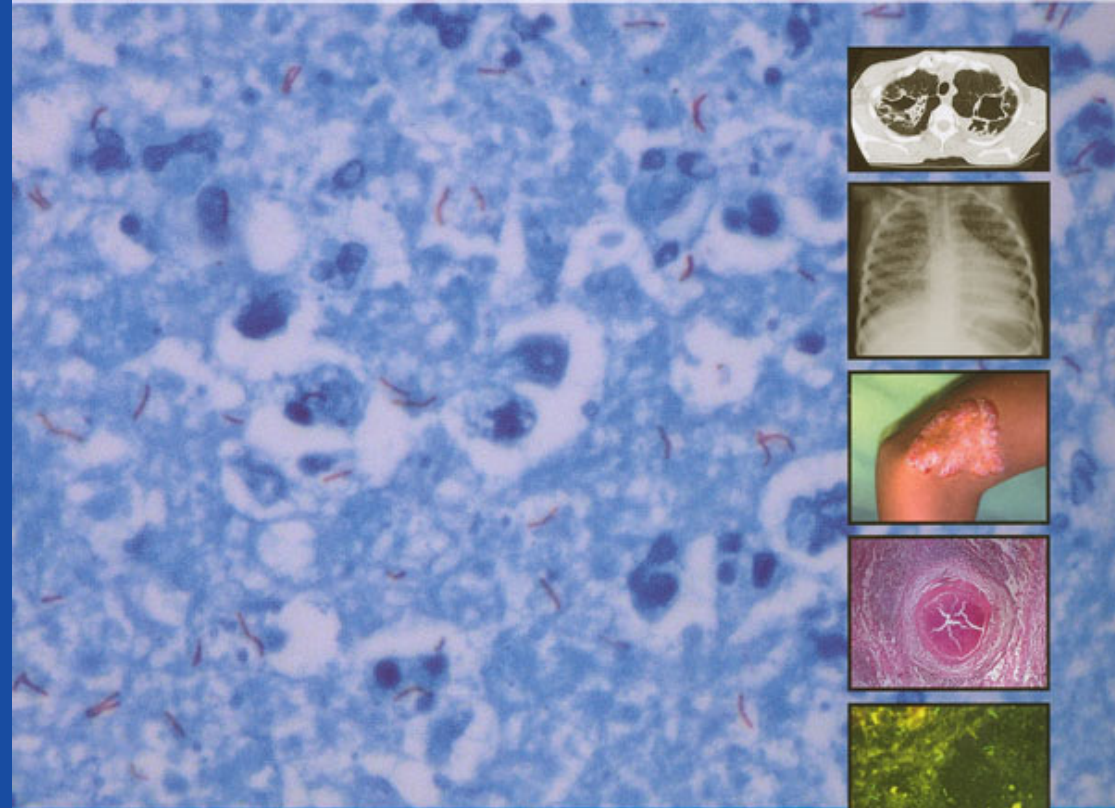
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TABLE 2. A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT CUTANEOUS TUBERCULOSIS

	Definite cutaneous TB	Probable cutaneous TB	Possible cutaneous TB
Clinical morphology	Variable combinations and transitions of papular, nodular, pustular, papulonecrotic, pustulonecrotic, ulcerative, vegetating skin lesions.		
Histopathology	Variable combinations and transitions of granulomatous inflammation, mixed acute and chronic inflammatory cells, necrosis, vasculitis, organisation and fibrosis, other non-specific changes		
ZN and / or culture and / or PCR on skin lesion biopsy	+ [^]	-	-
ZN and / or culture and / or PCR on specimen from origin other than skin	NEFD	+*	-
Mantoux test result	NEFD	+* (only in children <5 years old)	-
X-ray findings compatible with TB e.g. lung, bone, etc.	NEFD	+*	-
Response to antiTB treatment	NEFD	NEFD	EFD

- TB : Tuberculosis
- ZN : Ziehl-Neelsen stain
- PCR : Polymerase chain reaction
- NEFD : Not essential for diagnosis
- EFD : Essential for diagnosis (but not necessarily proof of tuberculosis)
- [^] : When only ZN positive, distinction from environmental (non-tuberculous) mycobacteria is necessary by culture and / or PCR
- * : Any positive establishes the diagnosis of probable tuberculosis

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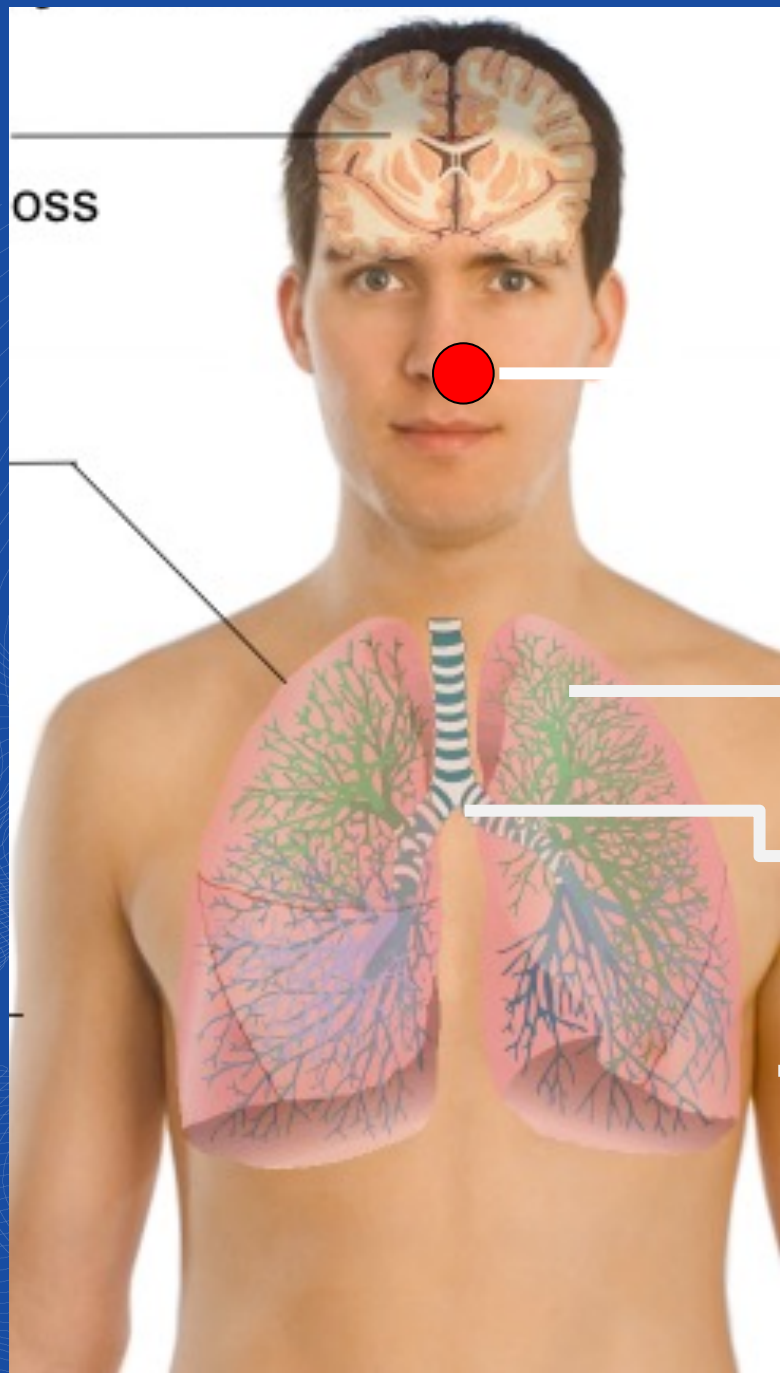
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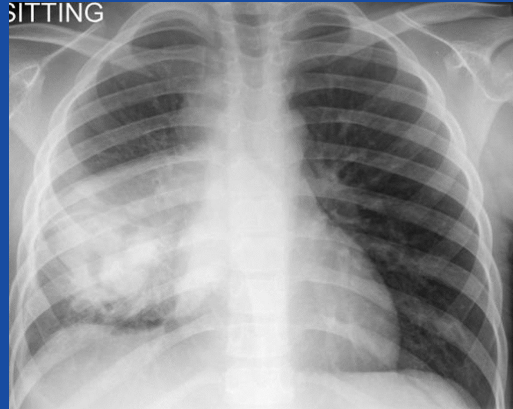
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Skin biopsy

Histology
 ZN stain
 TB culture
 PCR

DEFINITE
 cutaneous TB

CXR



Lungs
 Bones

PROBABLE
 cutaneous TB

Any other specimen
 other than the skin

Histology
 ZN stain
 TB culture
 PCR

PROBABLE
 cutaneous TB

Mantoux

PROBABLE
 cutaneous TB



Response to ant-TB meds

POSSIBLE
 cutaneous TB

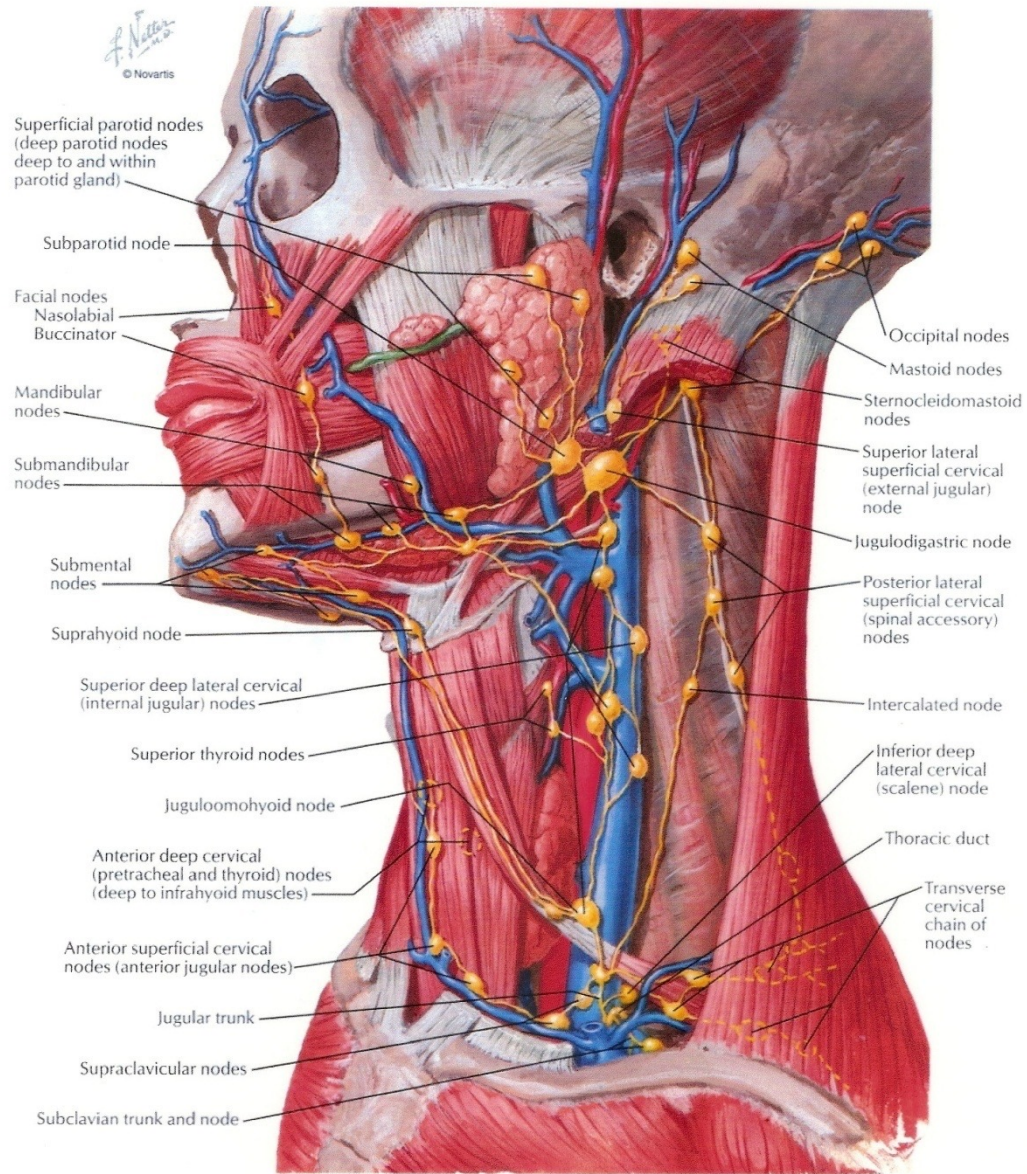
Examples of cutaneous TB





Lymph Vessels and Nodes of Head and Neck

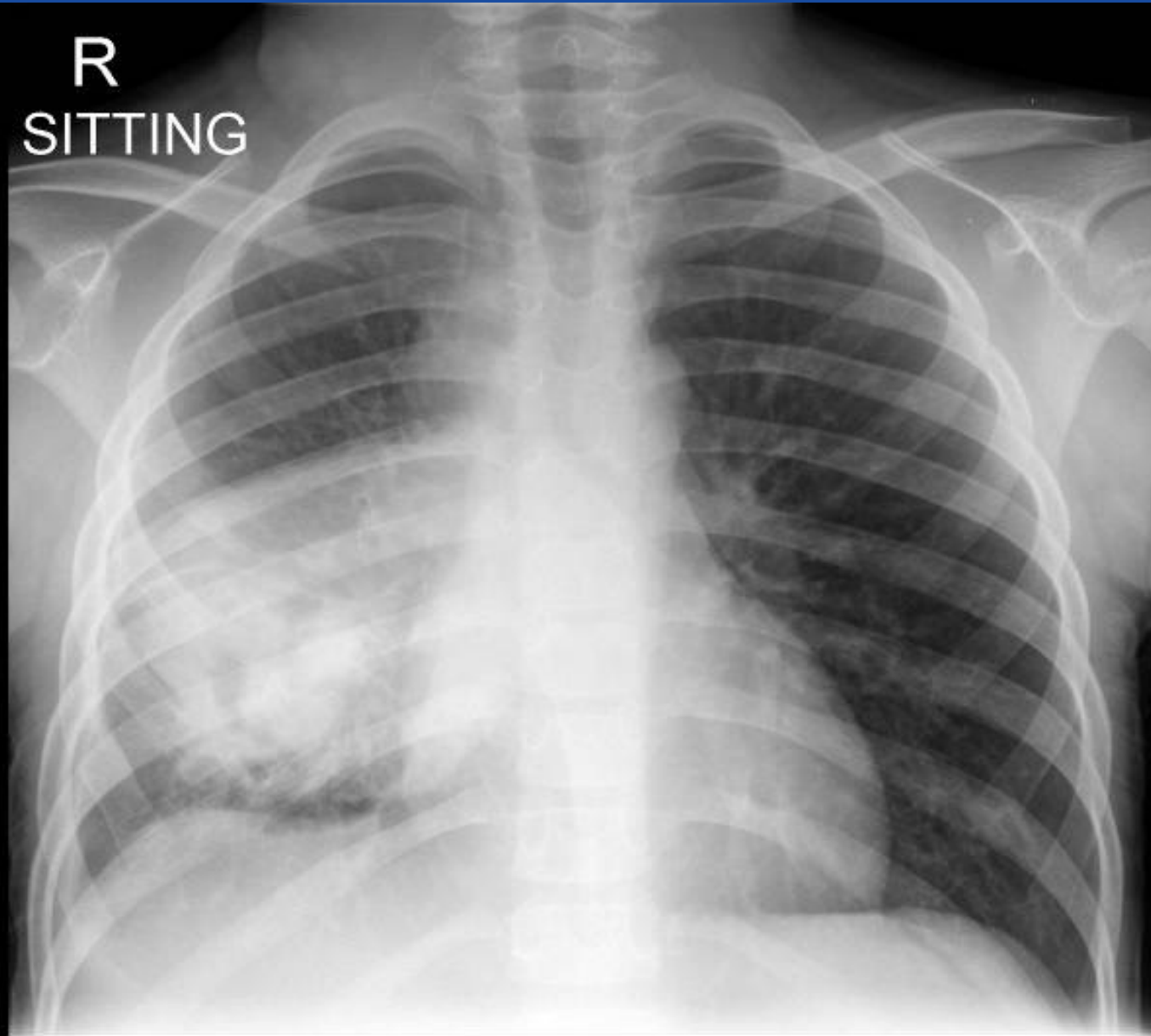
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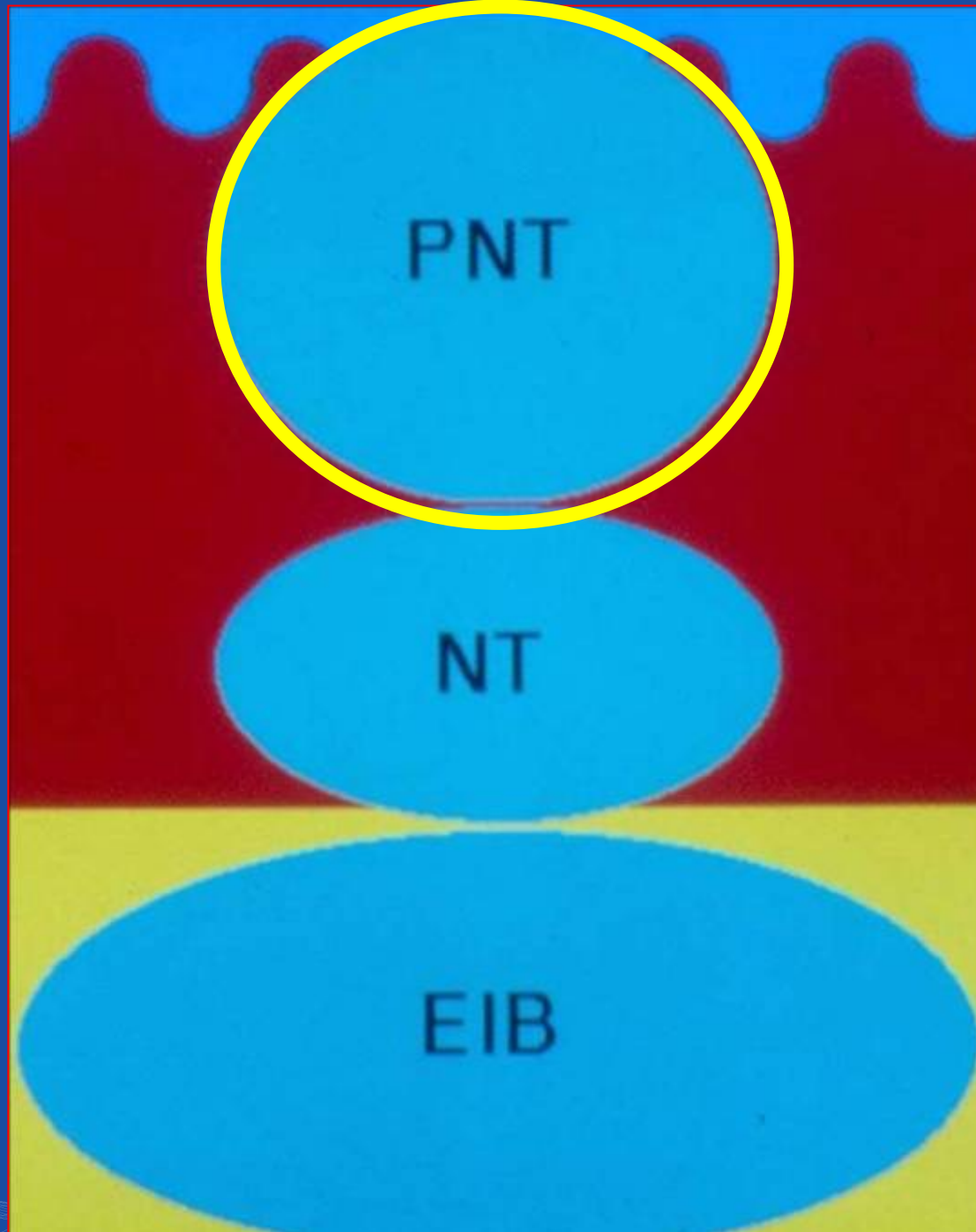






Tuberculids

- Papulonecrotic tuberculid (PNT)
- Erythema induratum of Bazin (EIB)
- Nodular tuberculid (NT)
- Lichen scrofulosorum (LS)
- Phlebitic tuberculid (PT)









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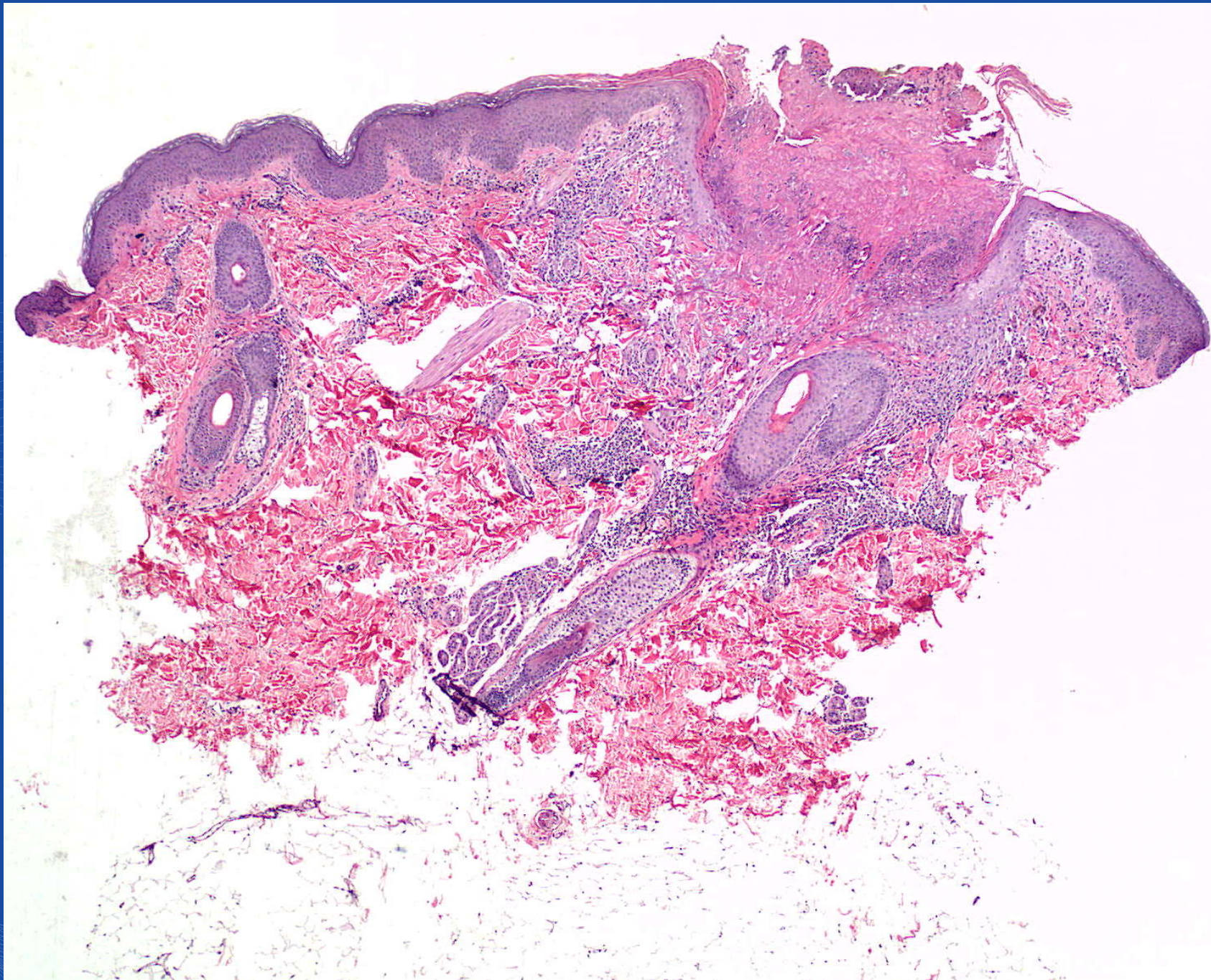


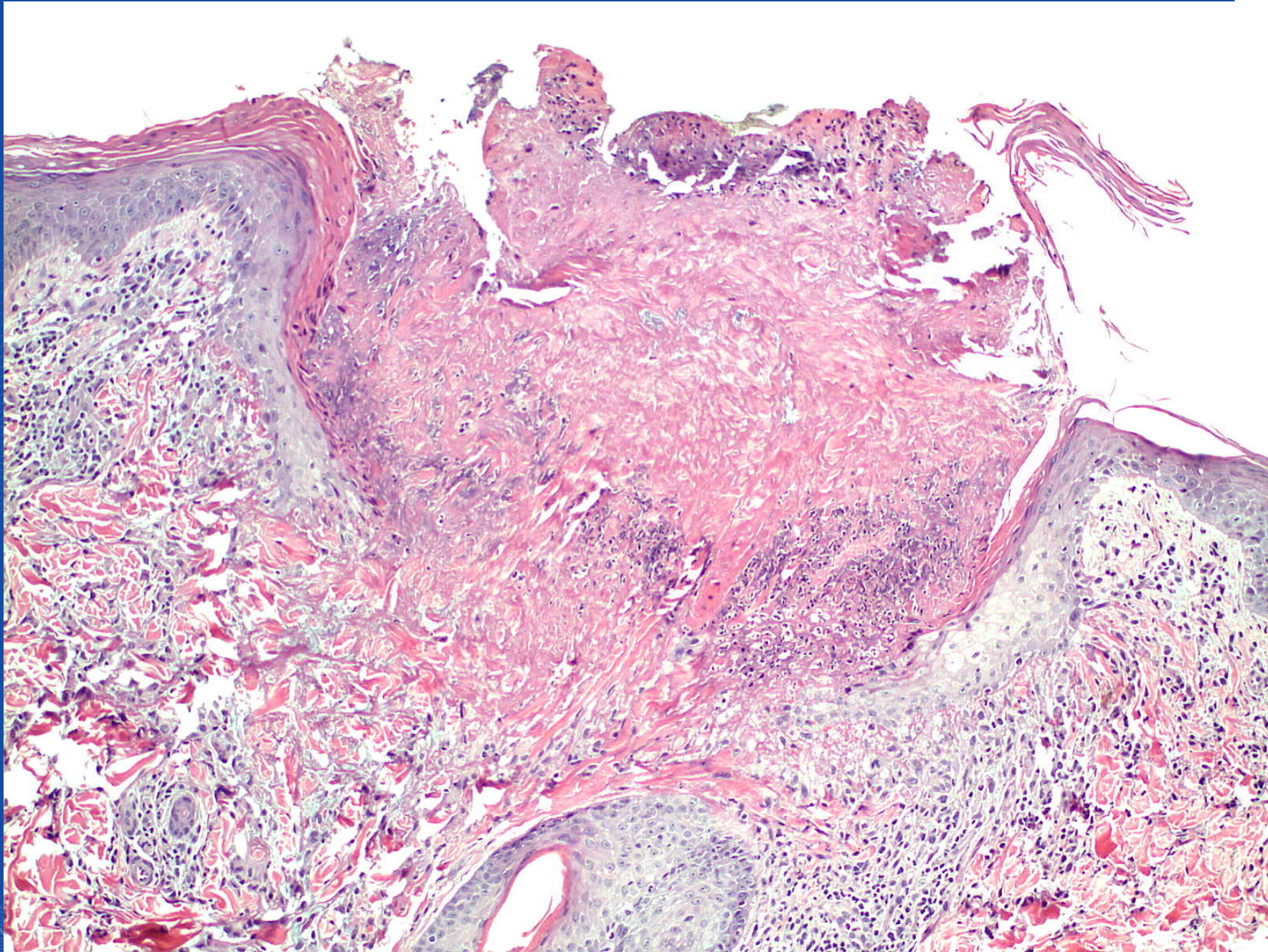


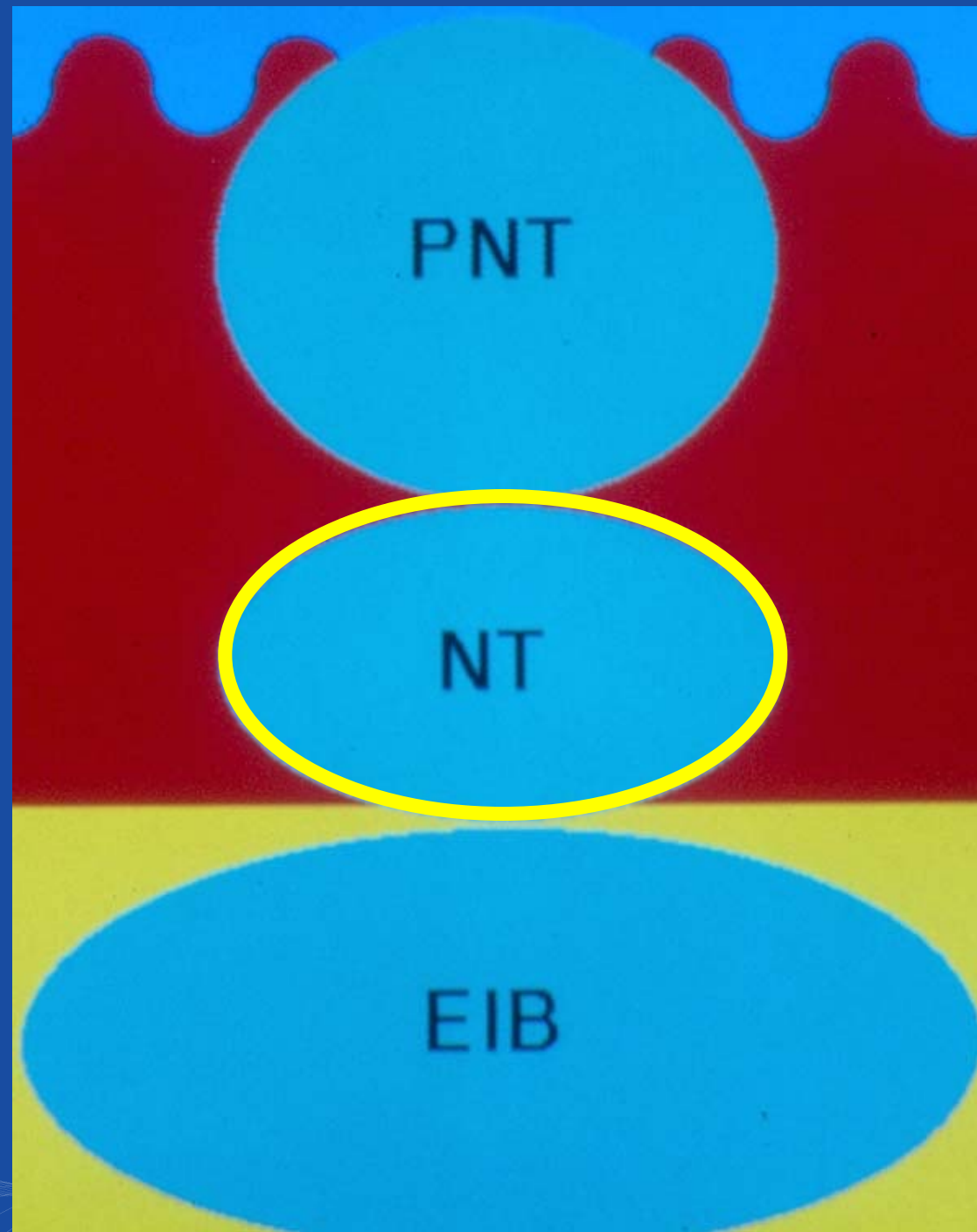


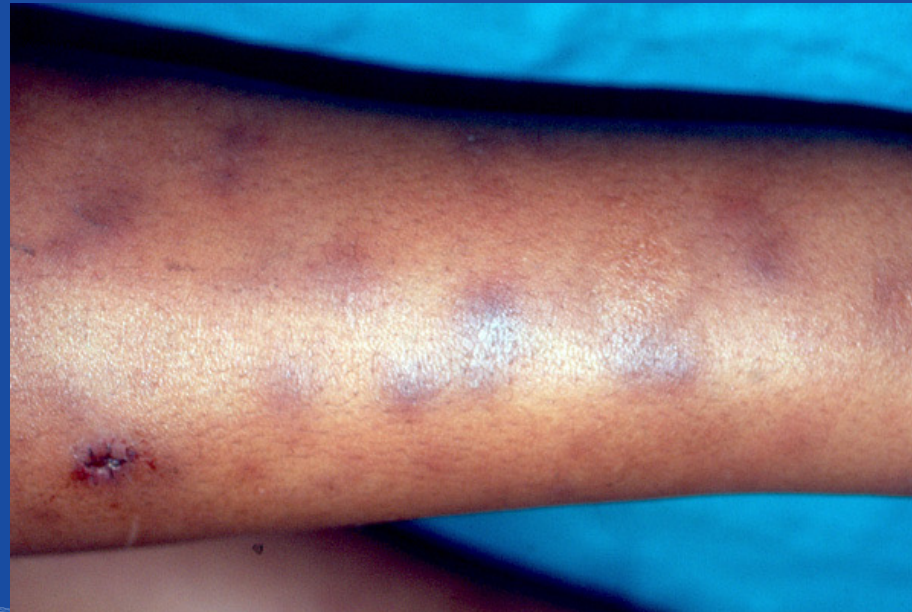






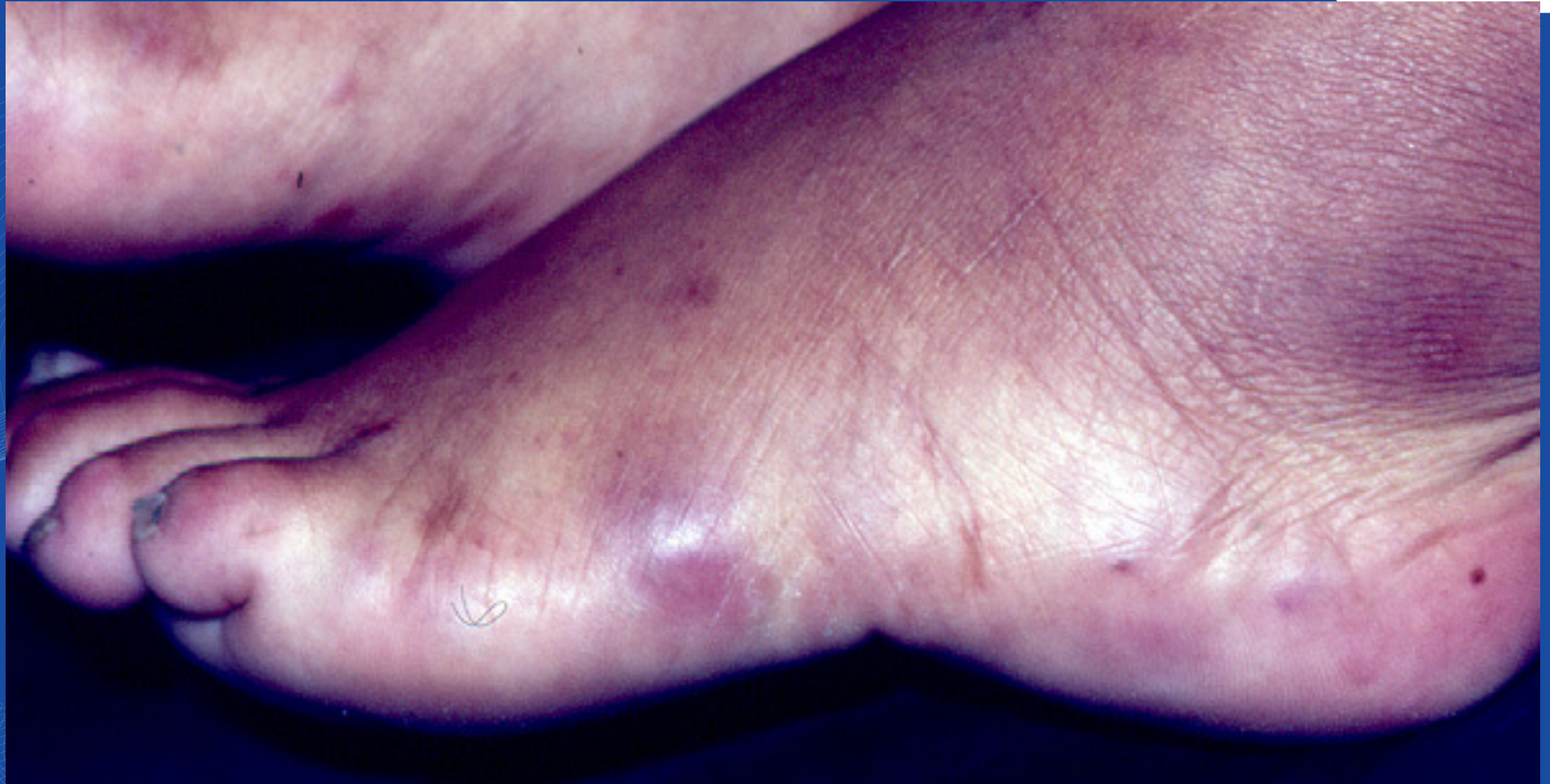


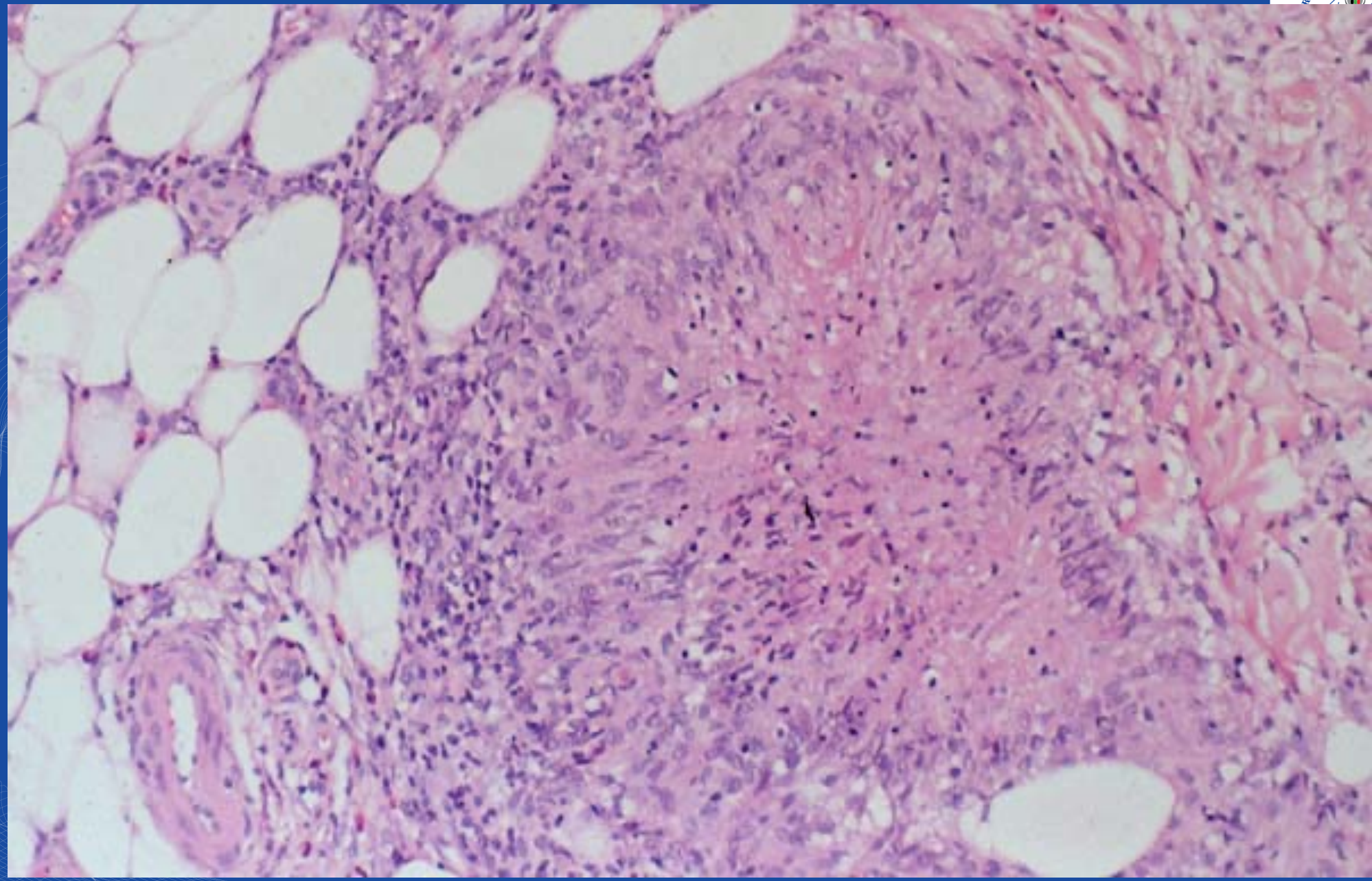


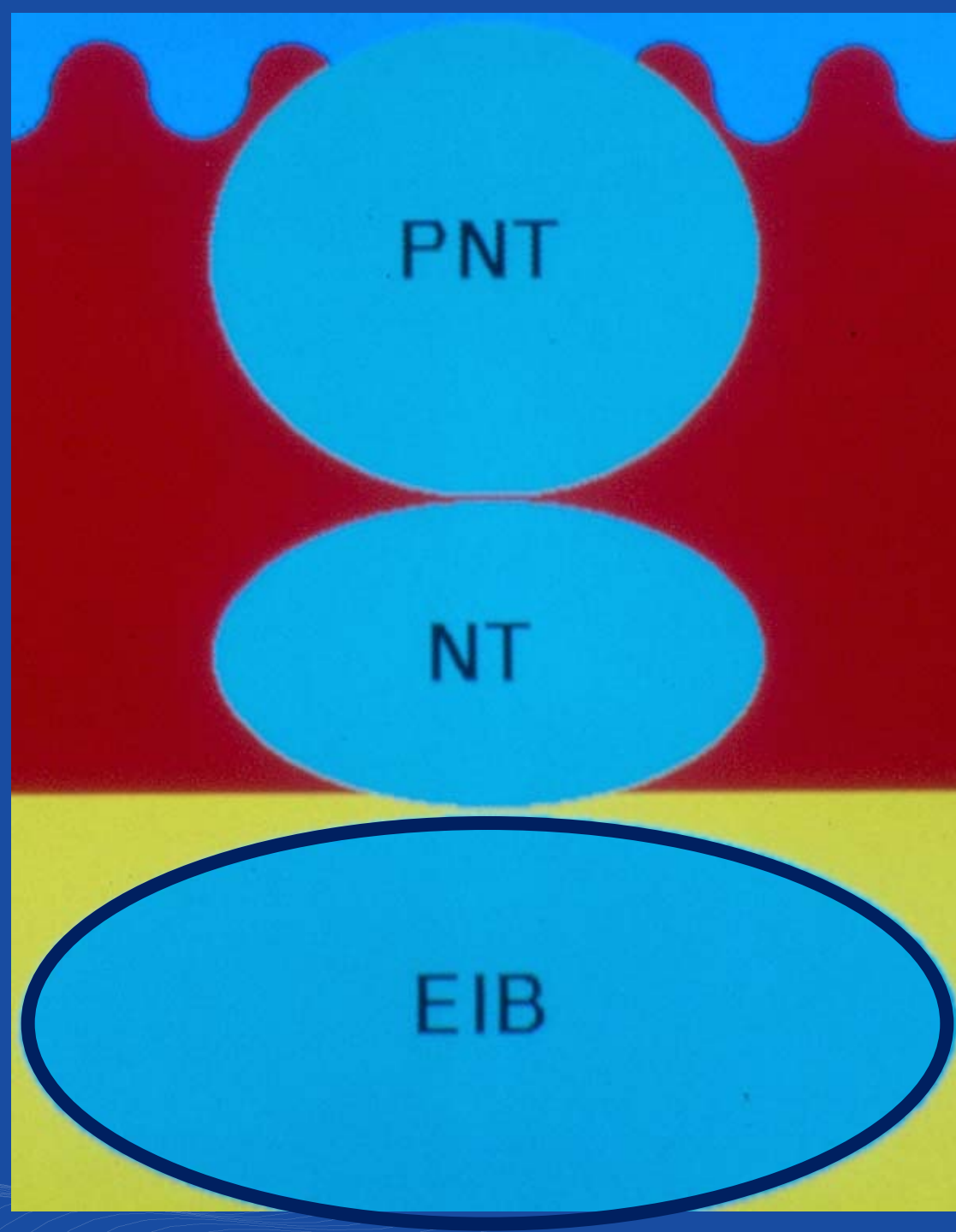












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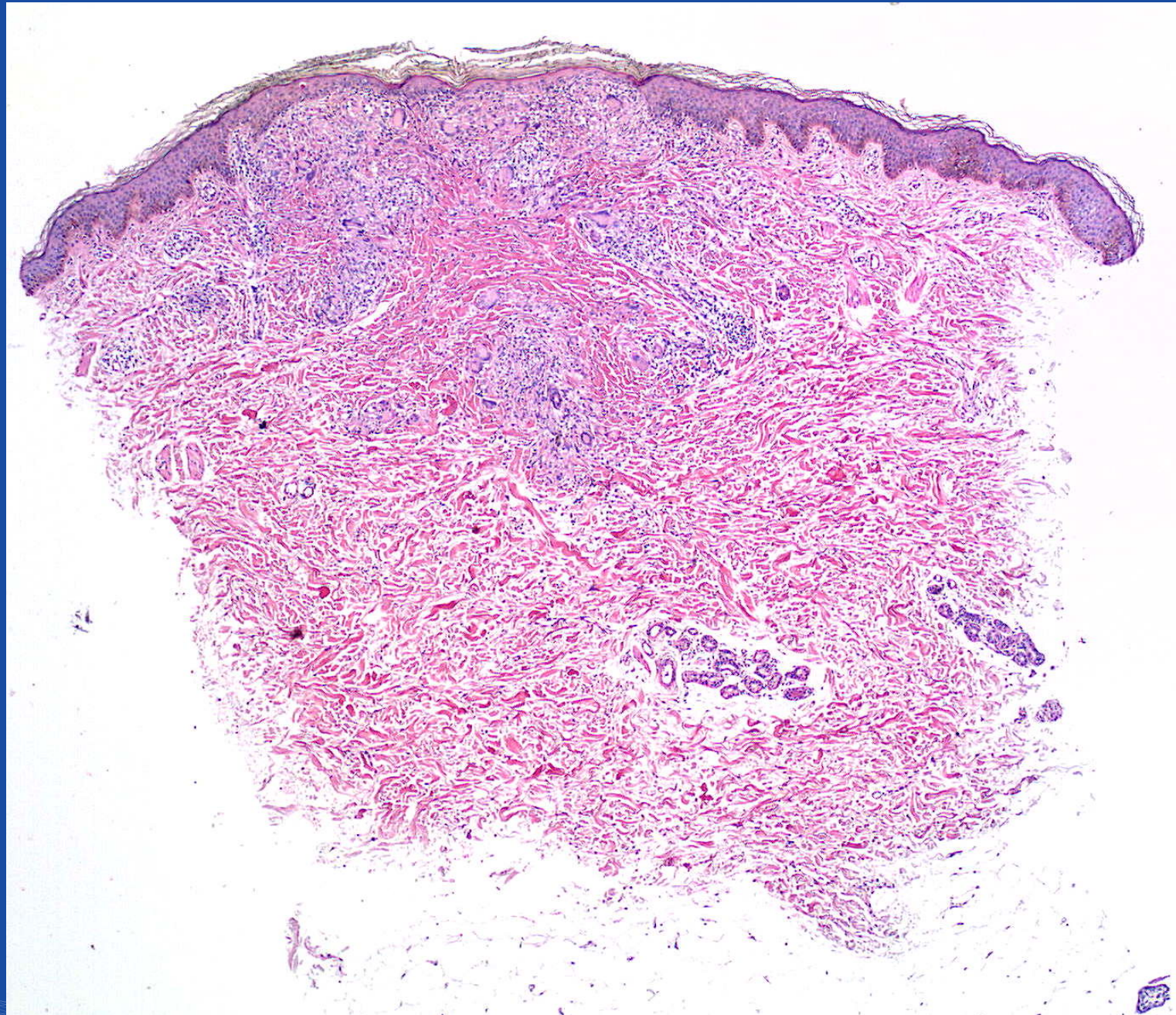
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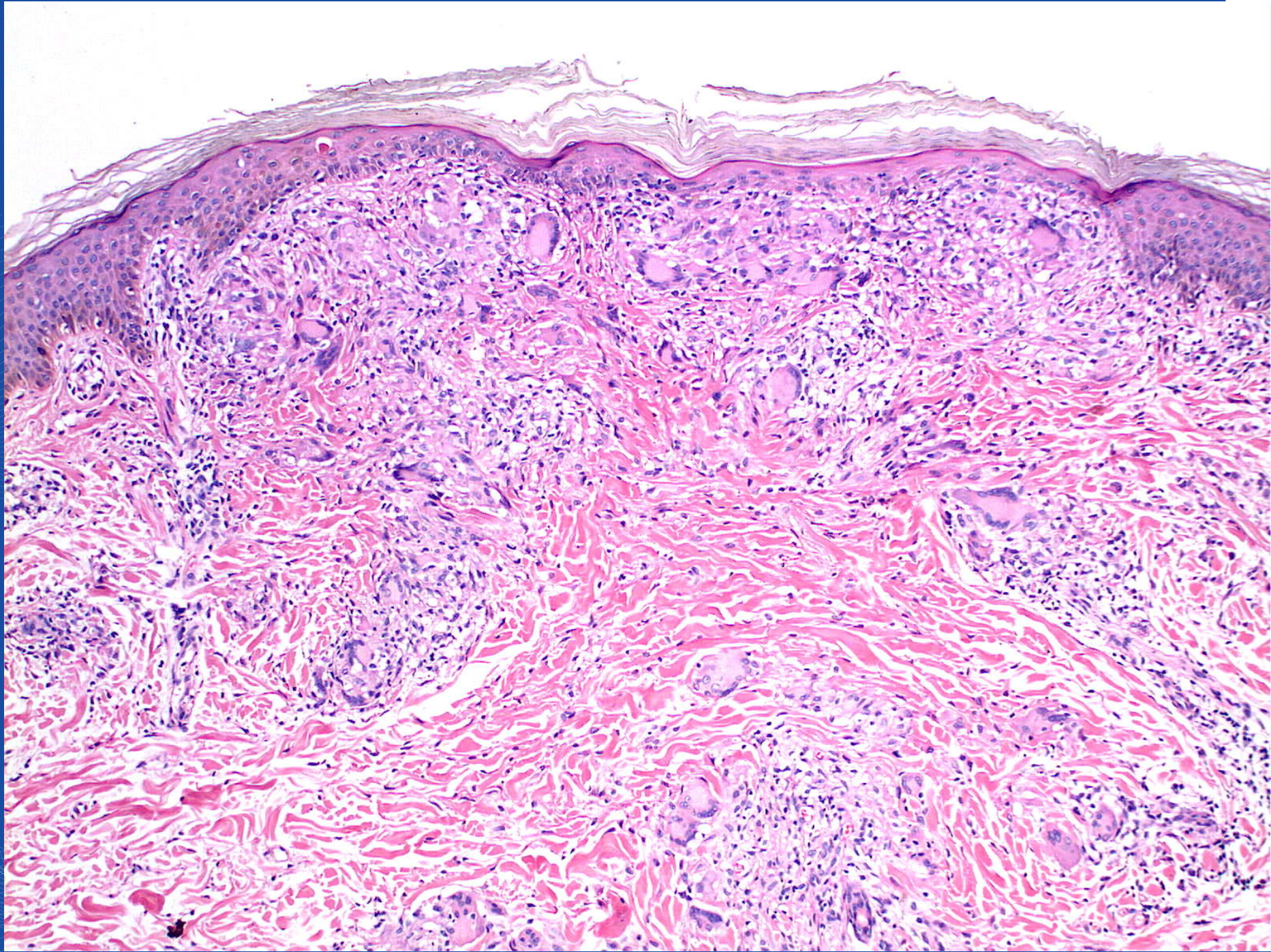


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Case report

Superficial thrombophlebitic tuberculide

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Abstract

Background Tuberculides are the result of immunologic reactions to hematogenously spread antigenic components of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. There are three recognized tuberculides – papulonecrotic tuberculide, erythema induratum of Bazin, and lichen scrofulosorum. In 1997, in Japan, Hara and coworkers reported five patients with what they called “nodular granulomatous phlebitis,” which they proposed was a fourth type of tuberculide. We describe a patient who presented with features identical to those reported by Hara *et al.* in order to draw attention to the previous report and to support the concept of a fourth tuberculide which clinically resembles superficial thrombophlebitis.

Methods A black South African man presented with cord-like thickening of superficial veins on the antero-medial aspects of the lower legs. Nodular swellings were palpable along the course of these veins. There was no evidence of tuberculosis elsewhere in the body, but the patient had a strongly positive tuberculin reaction. Skin biopsies were performed for histologic examination, culture, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

Results Histologic examination showed a granulomatous infiltrate localized to the veins in the subcutaneous fat. Stains for acid-fast bacilli and culture were negative, but PCR was positive for *M. tuberculosis* DNA. The lesions responded promptly to antituberculous therapy.

Conclusions Our patient showed features identical to those of cases described by Hara and coworkers and assigned as a fourth type of tuberculide. As the lesions clinically resemble superficial thrombophlebitis, we propose the term “superficial thrombophlebitic tuberculide” rather than “nodular granulomatous phlebitis.”

Int J Dermatol 2006; 45: 1337-1340



Phlyctenular

conjunctivitis/keratoconjunctivitis
= a hypersensitivity reaction to antigens

Staphylococcal
Chlamydia

TB

Cooccidiodes immitis

Some parasites

Candida

Idiopathic

Tuberculids

Papulonecrotic tuberculid

Erythema induratum of Bazin

Nodular tuberculid

Lichen scrofulosorum

Phlebitic tuberculid

Management

- The current consensus: **standard 6-month TB treatment regimen** (2-month intensive phase with rifampicin, isoniazid, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol (RHZE) followed by 4 months of rifampicin and isoniazid)
- **Trial of treatment:** standard TB treatment for 5-6 weeks, then review for response
- **Treatment of tuberculids:** the same as for other forms of cutaneous TB
- Recommended treatment for Erythema induratum is the standard 6-month regimen, with the **addition of a longer treatment period of isoniazid 400mg/day for up to 2 years (11,21,28).**
- Pyridoxine should be added in all cases to prevent peripheral neuropathy.

Cutaneous Tuberculosis: A Retrospective Review at a South African Tertiary Dermatology Unit

Principal investigator

Dr Barbara van der Westhuizen

Division of Dermatology, Stellenbosch University



Study period of 5 years, from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2022

Table 1: Demographics of patients with cutaneous TB ($n = 29$)

Variable	Frequency, n	Percentage, %
<i>Age</i>		
<10y	8	27.6
11-20y	2	6.9
21-30y	5	17.2
31-40y	7	24.1
41-50y	5	17.2
51-60y	2	6.9
<i>Gender</i>		
Male	18	62.1
Female	11	37.9
<i>HIV infection</i>		
Yes	4	13.8
No	23	79.3
Unknown	2	6.9
<i>Known TB contact</i>		
Yes	2	6.9
No	10	34.5
Not documented	17	58.6

Morphology by subtype

<u>Erythema induratum of Bazin</u>	Nodules	14	100
<u>Lupus vulgaris</u>	Plaques	5	55.6
	Papules and plaques	2	22.2
	Nodules	1	11.1
	Plaques/nodules with ulceration	1	11.1
Papulonecrotic tuberculid	Papules	3	100
Scrofuloderma	Plaques/nodules with ulceration	2	100
Miliary TB	Papules	1	100





Cutaneous tuberculosis (lupus vulgaris-type)

January 2022

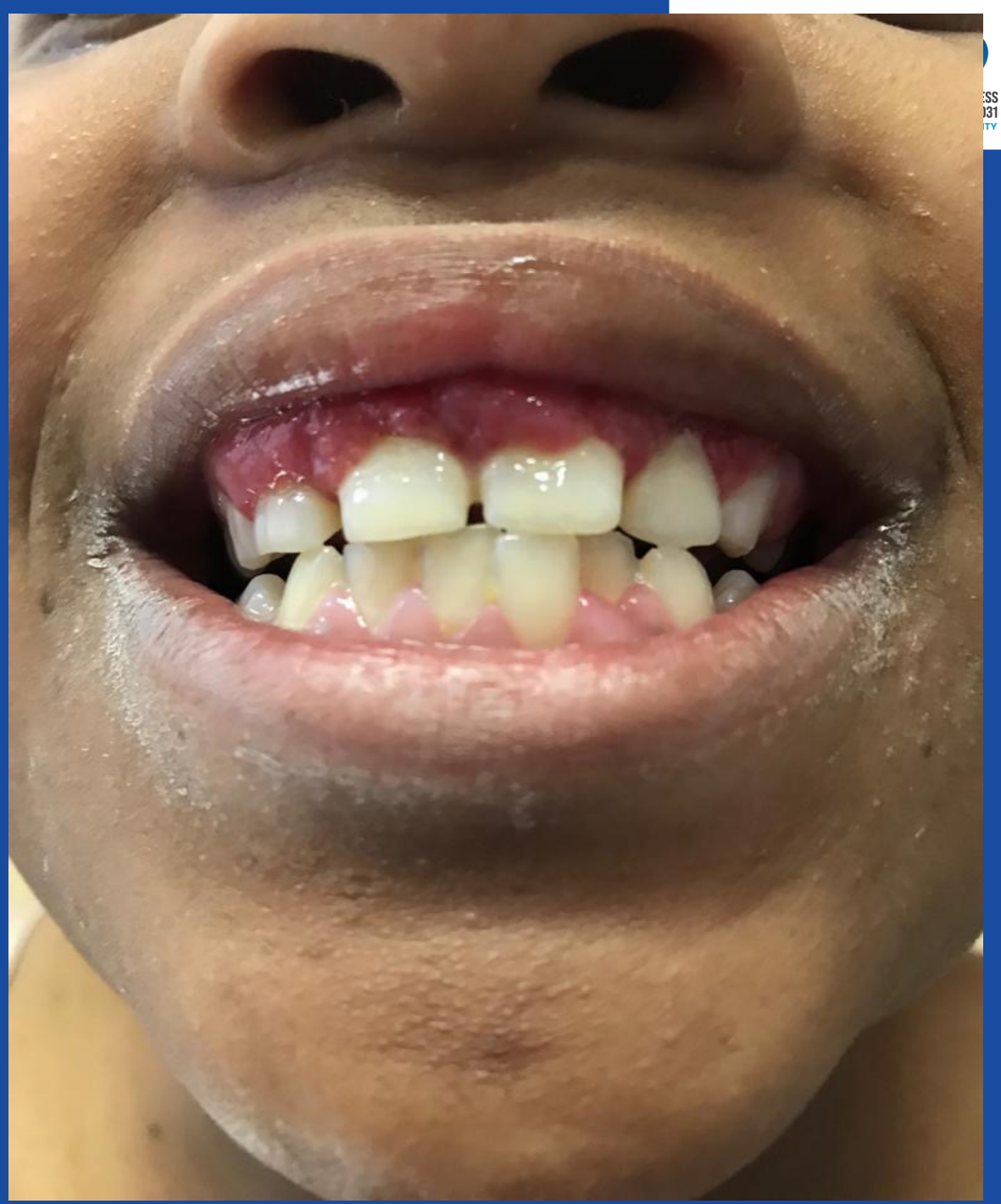
• [IDCases](#) 27(4):e01394

• DOI: [10.1016/j.idcr.2022.e01394](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.idcr.2022.e01394) JC Gallo, S Claasens, WI Visser











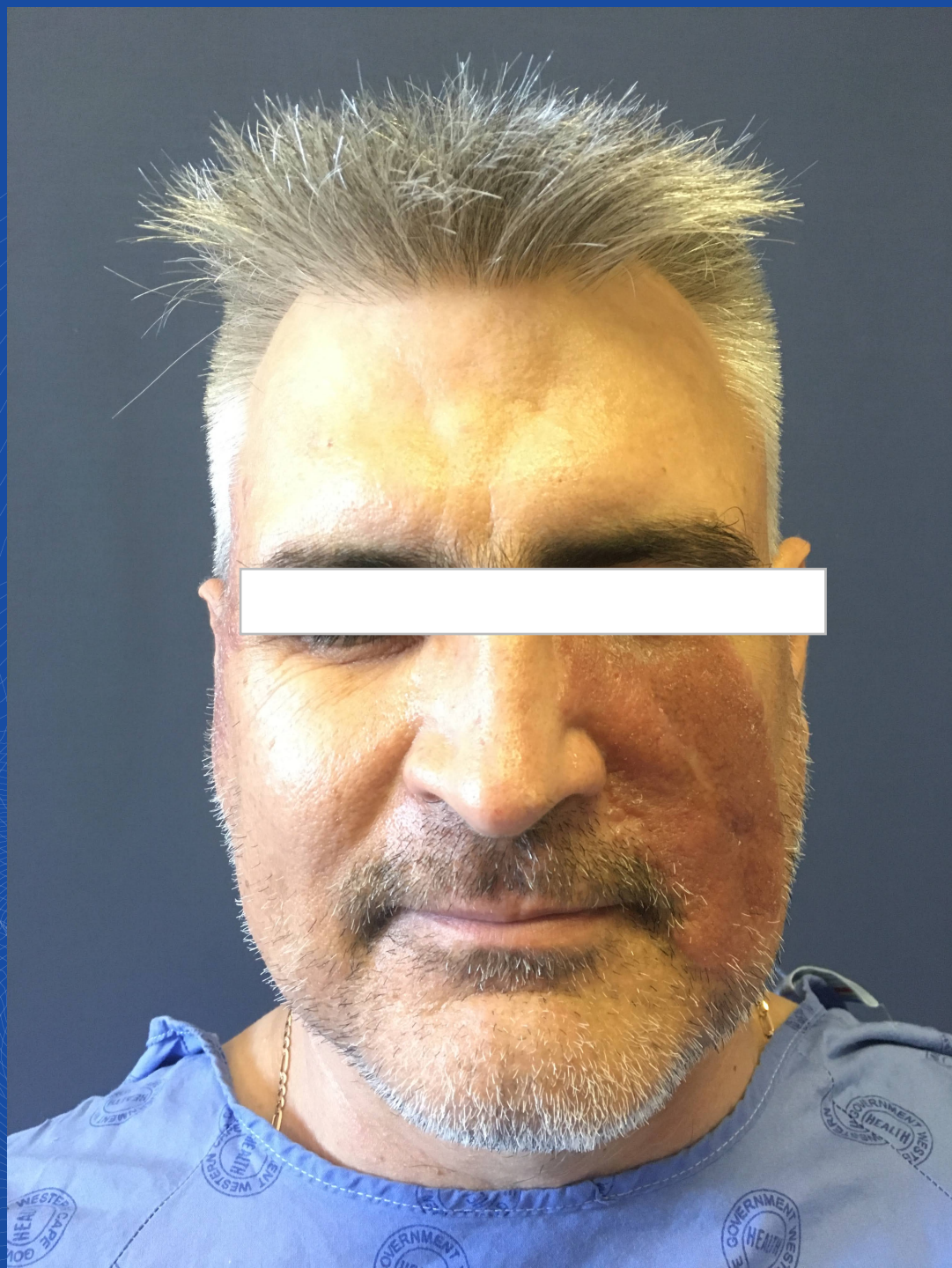














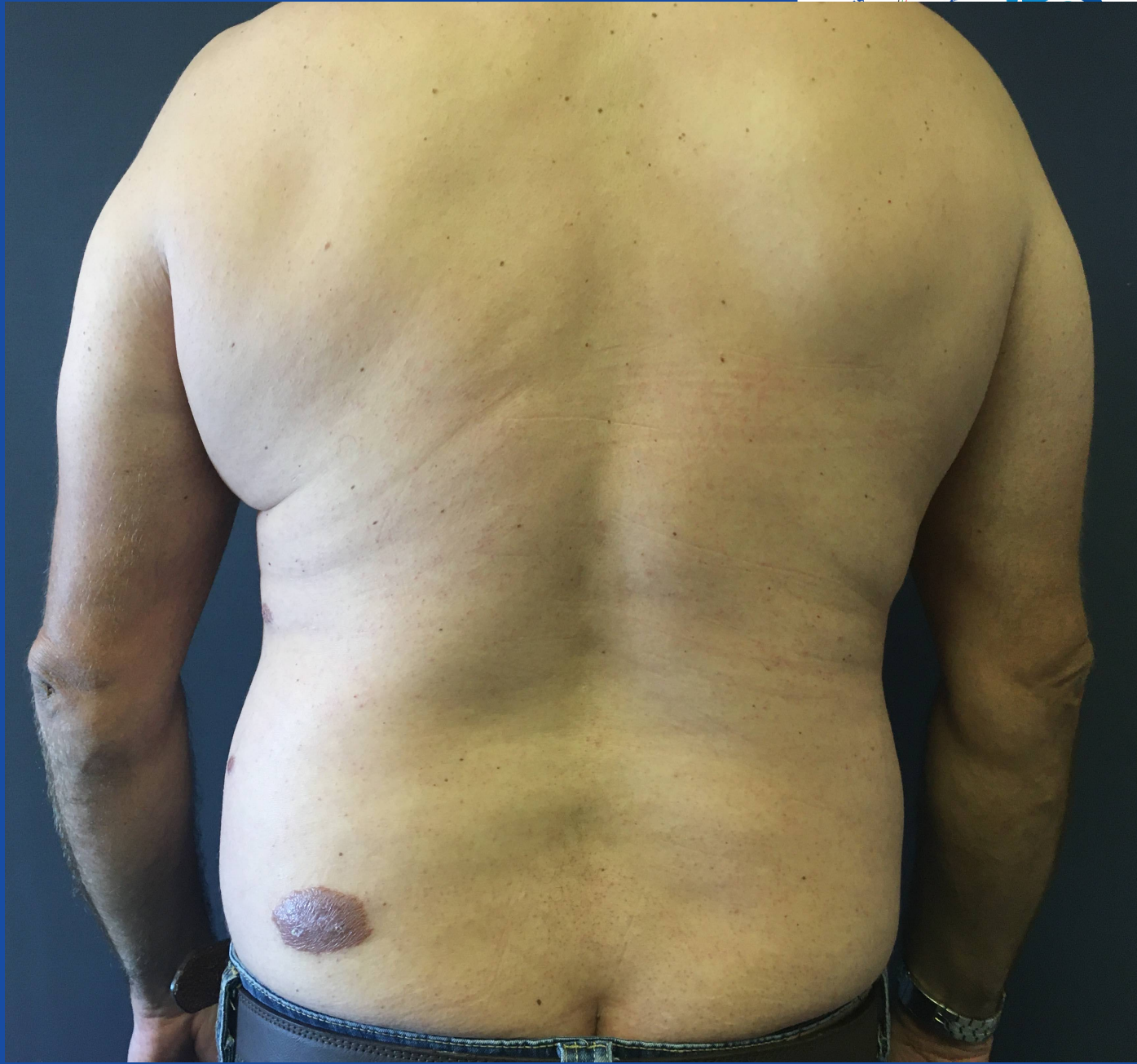












Image 14,15,16. At 4 months



Baseline



At 6 weeks



At 10 weeks





Conclusion

- Cutaneous TB is **uncommon**
- Cutaneous TB has **diverse morphologies**
- Diagnosing cutaneous TB is **challenging**
- **Awareness** of cutaneous TB could aid in early diagnosis and treatment

Thank you

