

# **VIRAL PROLIFERATIVE LESIONS OF THE ORAL MUCOUS MEMBRANE. SECOND PART: EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS AND HUMAN HERPES VIRUS TYPE 8**

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## **Summary**

*Usually oral lesions induced by Epstein Barr Virus and Human herpes virus type 8 are uncommon in dental practice. These infections affect more frequently patients with immune deficiency disorders (HIV positive) or therapeutical depressions and are less frequent described in immunocompetent hosts.*

*The clinical aspects of these diseases are an important matter, for their presence reflects the individual immune status.*

*Oral lesions induced by these viruses are asymptomatic during early stages. Functional alterations of different degrees are a sign of disease progression. The aim of specific therapy depends on the intensity and gravity of clinical manifestations, most of it bearing a palliative character.*

*In immunocompromised hosts, Epstein Barr virus is the causal agent of oral hairy leukoplakia and lymphomas involving oral cavity or regional lymph nodes.*

*Human herpes virus-8 (HHV-8) infection produces Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). This is a malignant, multifocal systemic disease that originates from the vascular endothelium and has a variable clinical course. The most frequent manifestation of the disease is skin lesions, but oral cavity, the lymphatic system and viscera - in particular the lung and gastrointestinal tract - can be involved.*

**Key words:** EVB, HHV8, oral hairy leukoplakia, oral lymphomas, oral Kaposi sarcoma