

Efflorescence

Efflorescence is a cutaneous manifestation of the disease. Individual efflorescences can merge into diseased deposits or areas. The set of efflorescences is called a rash. If the rash is on the mucosa, it is called an **enanthema**. **Primary** efflorescence is the primary manifestation of the disease. **Secondary** arises from the development of primary efflorescence or as a secondary manifestation on deposits or surfaces.

For efflorescences we evaluate:

1. localization,
2. size,
3. face,
4. color,
5. surface,
6. borders,
7. surroundings.

Primary efflorescences

The **macula (spot)** is a small surface change in color caused mainly by a change in blood flow, the number of blood vessels or pigment.

- freckles, vitiligo, some drug rashes

The **papule (bud)** is a small skin prominence up to 1 cm.

- psoriasis, warts
- papulopustular – a bud containing a cavity filled with pus (acne)
- papulovezicular – a bud with a tube with a clear content

Tuber (bump) is a papule of larger dimensions (over 1 cm).

- in furuncle, spinalioma, lipoma

Pomphus (urticaria bud, urtica) is a bud caused by corium edema, lasts short, usually itchy.

- urticaria (hives), insect bites (mosquito)

The **vesicle (blister)** is a cavity filled with clear contents.

- subcorneal – impetigo
- intraepidermal – pemphigus vulgaris, eczema, herpes simplex
- subepidermal – bullous pemphigoid, dermatitis herpetiformis (Duhring)

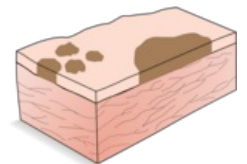
The **bullae** is larger, arises, for example, in Lyell's syndrome, bullous form of impetigo.

The **pustule** is a cavity filled with pus. More often, however, it occurs secondarily by turbidity of the vesicle contents.

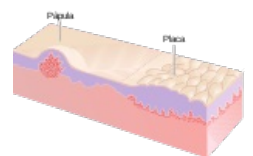
- primary – folliculitis, psoriasis pustulosa

The **nodule** is a bounded round formation that results from changes in the corium or subcutaneous tissue. It can be palpable below the surface or it can be raised.

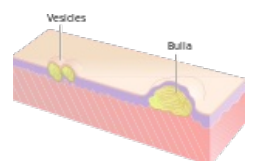
- For example: erythema nodosum, lipoma.



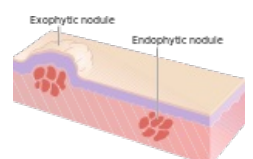
Macula and spot



Papule



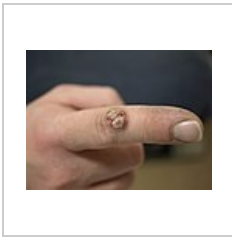
Vesicle and bulla



Nodules



Vitiligo – merging macules



Warts – papular lesions on the index finger



Pustula

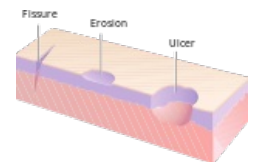
Secondary efflorescences

Squama (scale) a scale or plate-like structure, dry or greasy masses of keratin

- pityriaziform – bran-like scales (pityriasis versicolor)
- lamellar – flaky (chronic eczema)
- exfoliative – bar-shaped (scarlatina)

Crust (scab) is formed by drying of tissue fluid (yellow color), pus (yellow-green color) or blood (brown to black color).

- crustosquama – scale permeated with liquid and dried
- rupee – terraced



Ulcer, fissure a erosion

Eschara (plaque) is caused by the death of the skin, the dead tissue is initially whitish, later gray-brown to black, bordered by demarcation inflammation, leaves behind an ulcer, heals with a scar.

- eg burns, trophic circulatory disorders

Rhagade (fissure) is a cleft disruption of skin continuity, formed by rupture only of the epidermis; if it gets under the epidermis, it bleeds - fissura (crack).

- in case of impaired skin elasticity (edema, infiltrate, hyperkeratosis ...), in places of mechanical stress

Erosion – a superficial defect affecting only the epidermis or mucosa, wet when the stratum spinosum is exposed, rupture of the papillae will cause fine bleeding.

Excoriation is caused by mechanical scraping (in pruritus).

Ulcus (ulcer) is a deep skin defect, it always reaches the corium or deeper, we describe the size and shape, the bottom (clean, coated; fine, bumpy, ...)

Aphtha is an efflorescence occurring only in the oral cavity, it is an erosion covered by fibrin, bounded by a reddened rim.



Ulcus cruris



Aphtha

Other terms used to describe skin changes

Erythema – red skin color.

Edema – diffuse swelling of the skin.

Madidatio (maceration) – wetting of tissue fluid; softening and turning white due to being constantly wet

Cicatrix (scar) – is formed by the transformation of granulation tissue (loss of fibroblasts and capillaries), fresh is pink, old is whitish. The scar can be atrophic, hypertrophic, keloid.

Lichenification is thickening of the skin.

Links

Related articles

- Infectious exanthematous diseases in childhood
- Configuration of efflorescences
- Localization of efflorescences

Refferences

- ŠTORK, Jiří, et al. *Dermatovenerologie*. 1. vydání. Praha : Galén, Karolinum, 2008. ISBN 978-80-7262-371-6.
- JIRÁSKOVÁ, Milena. *Dermatovenerologie pro stomatology*. 1. vydání. Praha : Professional Publishing, 2001. ISBN 80-86419-07-X.
- Kangle S, Amladi S, Sawant S. Scaly signs in dermatology. Indian J Dermatol Venereol Leprol [serial online] 2006 [cited 2020 Nov 24];72:161-4. Available from: <https://www.ijdvl.com/text.asp?2006/72/2/161/25653>