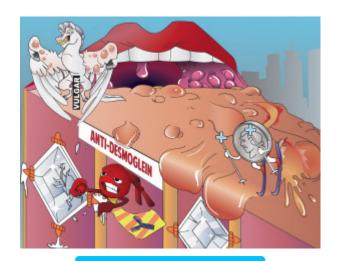


# **Anti-desmoglein Antibodies**

Anti-desmoglein antibodies are autoantibodies directed against the protein desmoglein, which is contained in desmosomes that hold keratinocytes together. This results in the condition Pemphigus Vulgaris, which is characterized by acantholysis (loss of epithelial cell cohesion) and resultant oral erosions and skin blisters.



**PLAY PICMONIC** 

## Pemphigus Vulgaris

### Pegasus Vulgar with blisters

Antibodies directed against desmoglein result in acantholysis, loss of epithelial cell cohesion, and the condition Pemphigus Vulgaris. It is treated with glucocorticoids.

#### Flaccid Blisters

#### Floppy Blisters

Pemphigus vulgaris often demonstrates as extensive flaccid blisters. Pressure applied to these blisters leads to separation of the epidermis.

#### Skin and Oral Mucosa

## Skin and Mouth Blisters

Blisters appear on the skin and are easily ruptured. Skin and oral mucosa: Erosions of the oral mucosa in addition to skin blisters distinguish Pemphigus Vulgaris from Bullous Pemphigoid which does not have oral involvement.

#### Positive Nikolsky's Sign

## Positive Nickel-ski

Nikolsky's sign is positive when slight rubbing of the skin results in exfoliation of the outermost layer, forming a blister within minutes. <strong>This does not occur in Bullous Pemphigoid.</strong>