Bullous Pemphigoid

Bullous pemphigoid is an autoimmune skin disorder where blisters are formed, known as bullae. These form at the junction between the epidermis and dermis because of IgG antibodies against hemidesmosomes at the epidermal basement membrane. Clinically, this disease is notable for causing tense blisters, which rarely affect the oral mucosa, and are Nikolsky negative. These blisters contain eosinophils.



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Linear Deposits of IgG
Line of Depositing Gold-immune-goblins
This disease is described as an autoimmune disorder, in which linear deposits of IgG against a component of hemidesmosomes results in a separation of the dermoepidermal junction.

Affects Hemidesmosomes
Half-diamond-gnome
This disease is characterized by bullae which are formed by an immune reaction. IgG autoantibodies are formed against dystonin, which is a component of hemidesmosomes.

Epidermal Basement Membrane
E-pick Basement Membrane
As IgG autoantibodies affect hemidesmosomes (by attacking dystonin), separation along the dermoepidermal junction occurs. It is this separation of the epidermis from its basement membrane which causes stretch bullae.

Tense Blisters on Skin
Tense-tent Blisters on Skin
Separation of the dermoepidermal junction results in stretch bullae, which are tense fluid-filled blisters.

Nikolsky Negative
Nickel-ski (-) Negative
Unlike a similar disease pemphigus vulgaris, bullous pemphigoid is Nikolsky sign negative. This means that on clinical exam, rubbing the skin does not result in exfoliation of the outermost layer.

Contain Eosinophils
Eosinophillic-eagle
The tense blisters formed in bullous pemphigoid contain eosinophils.

Rarely Affect Oral Mucosa
Rare-steak and FX Mouth
The tense blisters seen with this disorder rarely affect the oral mucosa, which differentiates this disorder from pemphigus vulgaris.

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