

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.



PLAY PICMONIC

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.