

# Selected Cases in Inflammatory Dermatopathology

**Scott R. Florell, M.D.**

Professor, Dermatology

10 February 2019

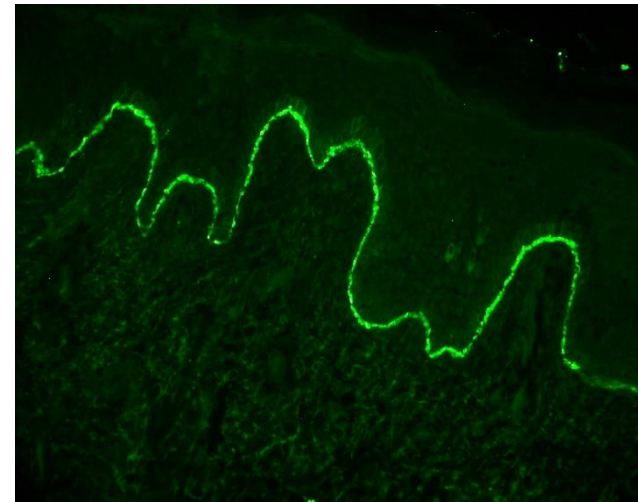
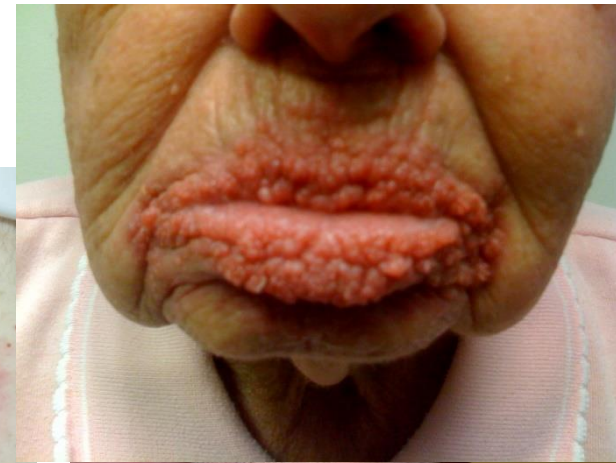


I have no relevant financial disclosures



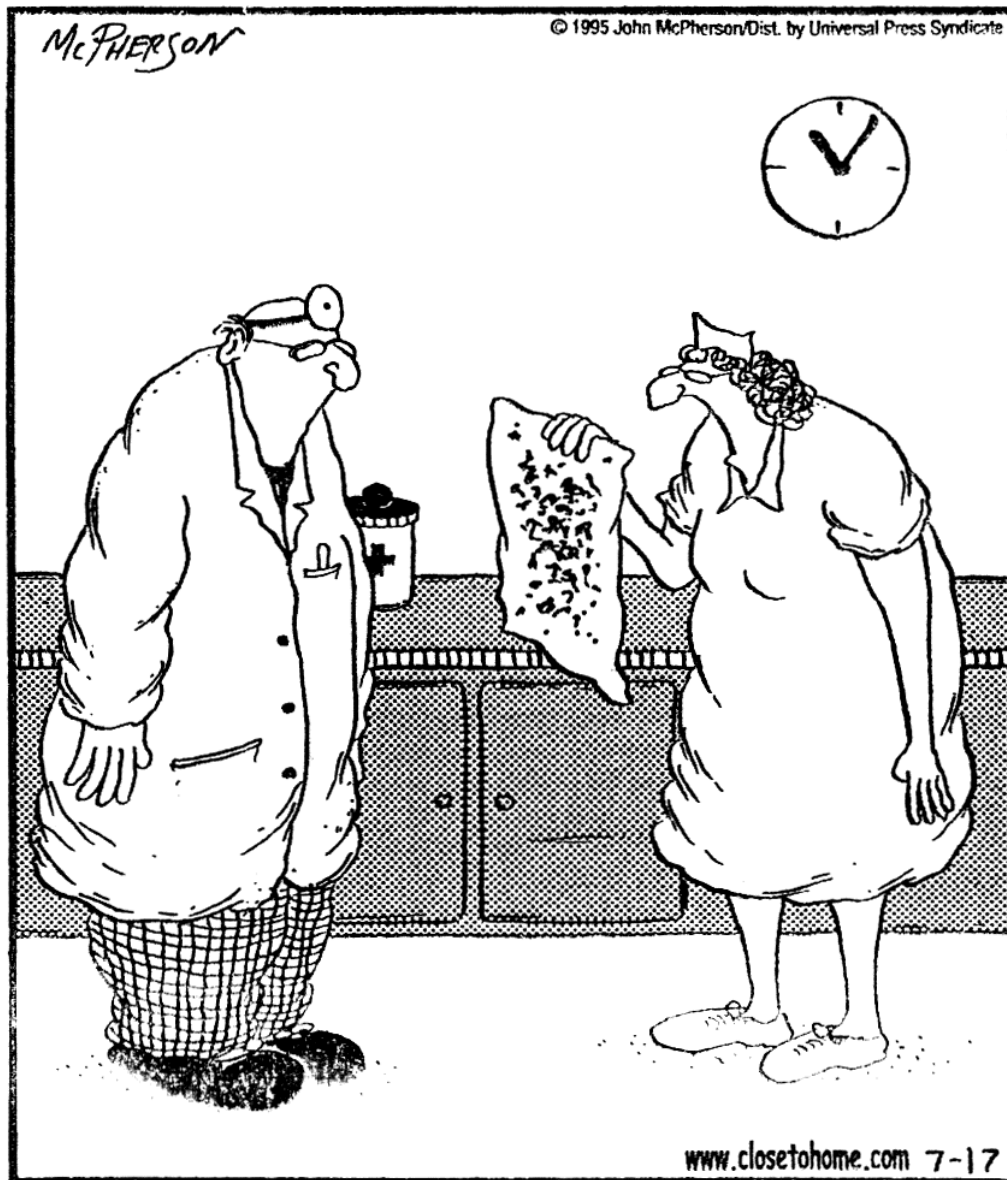
Inflammatory dermatopathology is probably the most difficult part of my job as a dermatopathologist.

# Rashes





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"Mrs. Nortman just sent in this fax of a rash that she's got on her stomach."

Garbage in, garbage out!



Ronald M Harris MD, MBA

Pathologists often get very limited clinical information

# The Uninformed Dermatopathologist: An Occult Epidemic

“We believe patient care can be rapidly and significantly improved by providing accurate history and physical examination findings, relevant clinical images, and a clinical differential diagnosis.”



Keith L Duffy MD

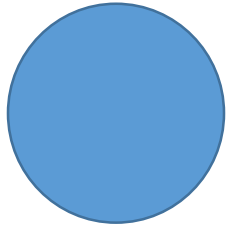


Anneli R Bowen MD

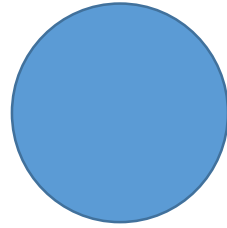


Scott R Florell MD

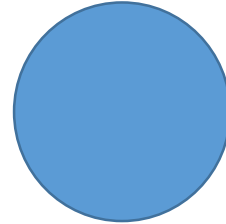
# Common inflammatory patterns



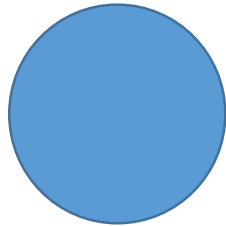
Immunobullous



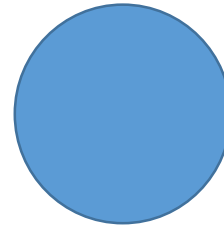
Spongiotic



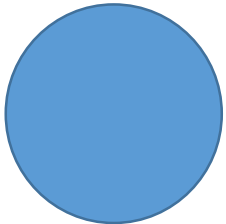
Interface



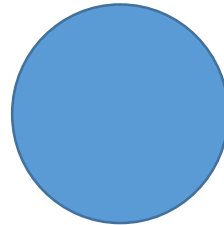
Vasculitis



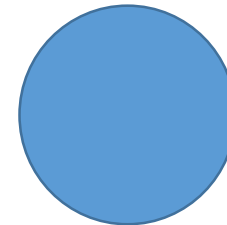
Urticarial



Psoriasiform



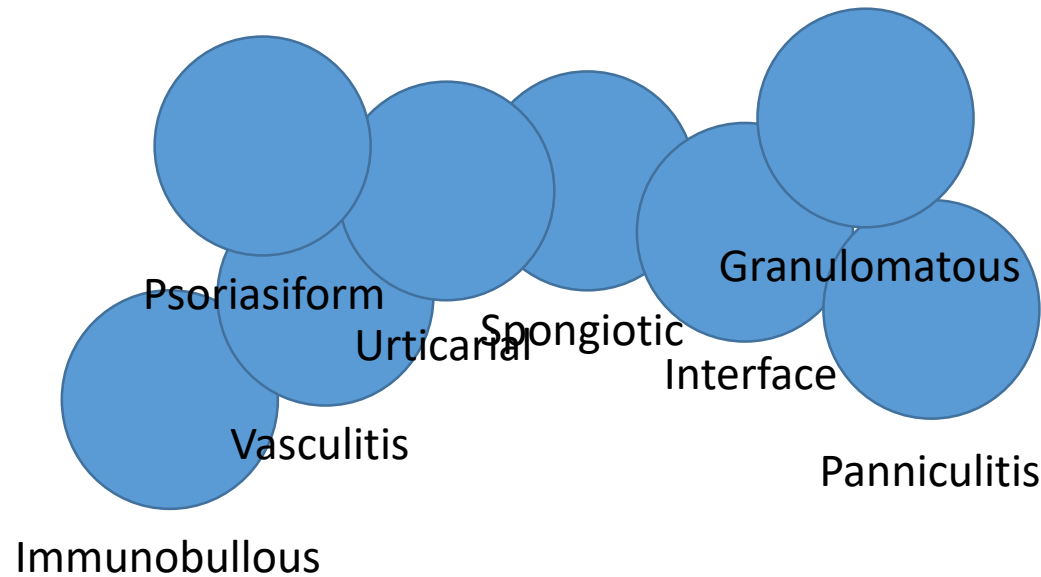
Panniculitis



Granulomatous



# Inflammatory patterns – they aren't specific



*Although most cutaneous eruptions can be categorized into one of several inflammatory patterns, more specific diagnosis is only possible with careful clinical-histologic correlation*

# Objectives

- Understand that:
  - There are hundreds of inflammatory skin disorders
  - Gross/clinical examination of the skin predicts histologic features
  - Histology is a critical component in diagnosis of inflammatory disorders
  - **Clinician must provide an appropriate biopsy**
  - Clinical correlation is essential to narrowing the differential
- Review four common inflammatory patterns
- Provide a few tips on findings that can point to a specific diagnosis

# Flinner Conference – The importance of the gross examination



Neoplastic liver disease



Blistering skin disease



Robert Flinner, MD  
1930 – 2009  
'Yoda'

# Proper diagnosis of inflammatory skin disease

- Gross / clinical examination findings are important
- Clinician must recognize the part(s) of the skin involved





# Inflammatory Dermatoses

- Inflammatory processes can affect any part of the skin
- The level of inflammation within the skin or appendage involved has a clinical correlate:

<u>Level of skin</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Clinical</u>
• Epidermis	Eczema	Redness, scale, itchy
• Blood vessels	Vasculitis	Purpura
• Dermis	Hives, urticaria	Welts, not scaly, itchy
• Follicles	Folliculitis	Pustules
• Fat	Panniculitis	Inflammatory nodules



Epidermal



Dermal



Folliculitis



Vasculitis - purpura



Panniculitis

# Proper diagnosis of inflammatory skin disease

- Clinician must recognize the part(s) of the skin involved
- Appropriate biopsy to examine the area of inflammation:
  - Punch into the subcutaneous adipose tissue probably best
  - Shave biopsy ok for superficial inflammatory processes, not for panniculitis



# Proper diagnosis of inflammatory skin disease

- Clinician must recognize the part(s) of the skin involved
- Appropriate biopsy to examine the area of inflammation:
  - Punch biopsy into the subcutaneous adipose tissue probably best
  - Shave biopsy ok for superficial inflammatory processes, not for panniculitis
- Sampling an appropriate lesion for histopathology:
  - New lesion if possible
  - Not traumatized – secondary changes of scratching can mask pathology
  - Not treated – topical corticosteroids can mask pathology



# Dermatopathologist relies on . . .

- Clinical information provided on the requisition
- Relationship with the submitting provider
- Chart review
- Photography
- Collaboration with other dermatopathologists for challenging cases
- Medical literature



Dr. Anneli Bowen  
correlating clinical images  
and chart review with  
pathologic findings

# Dermatopathology Consensus Conference

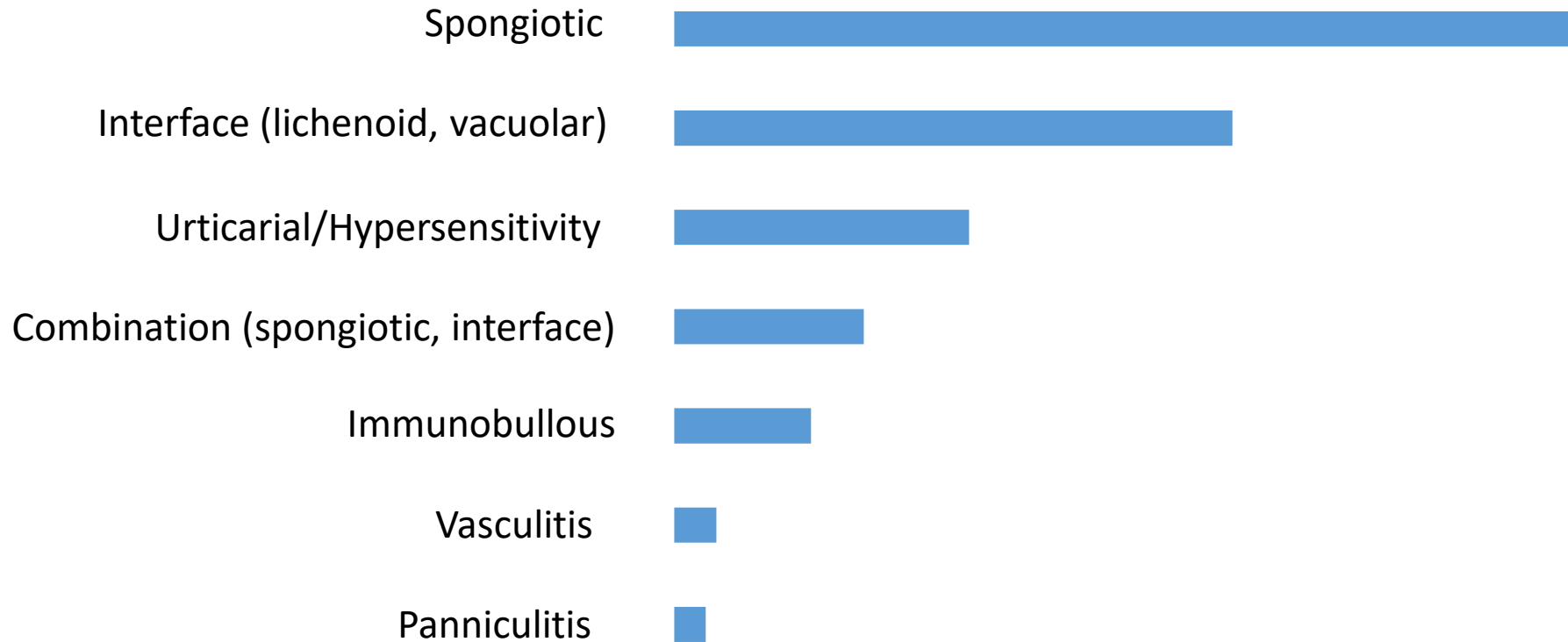




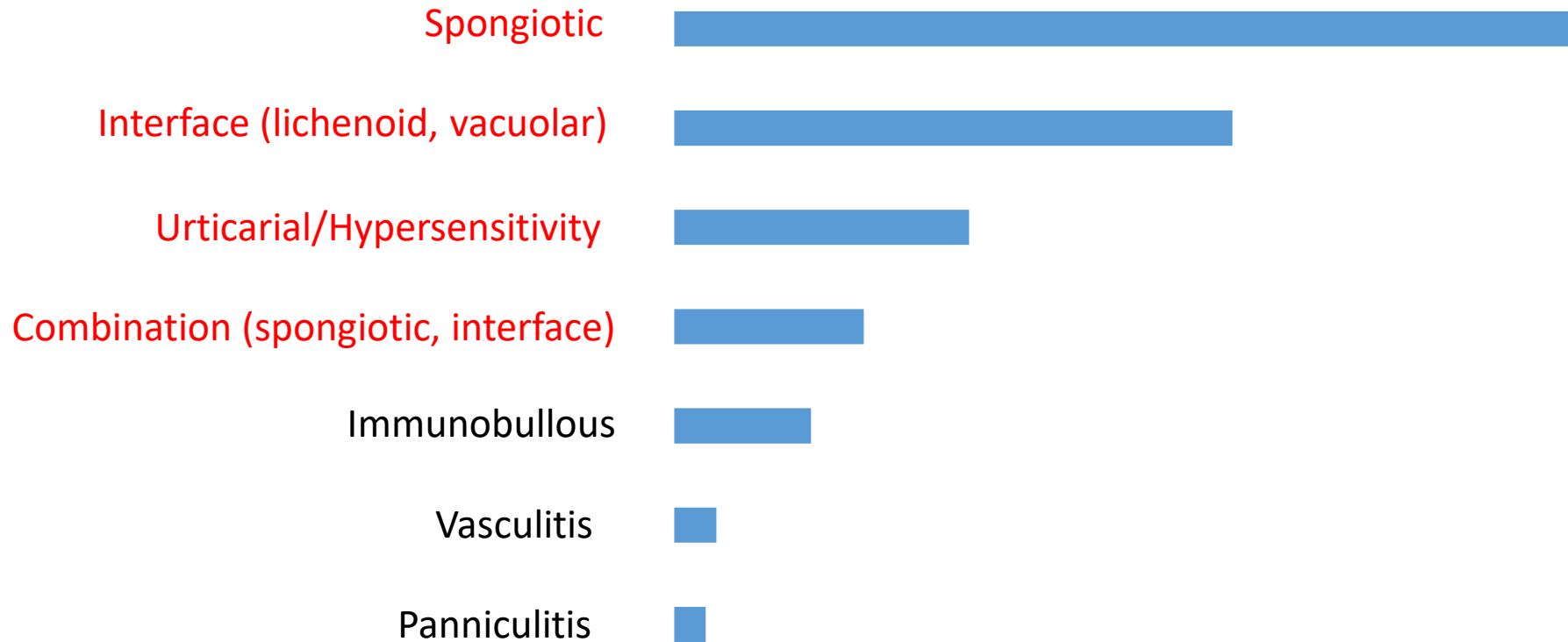




# Inflammatory Patterns – University of Utah Dermpath

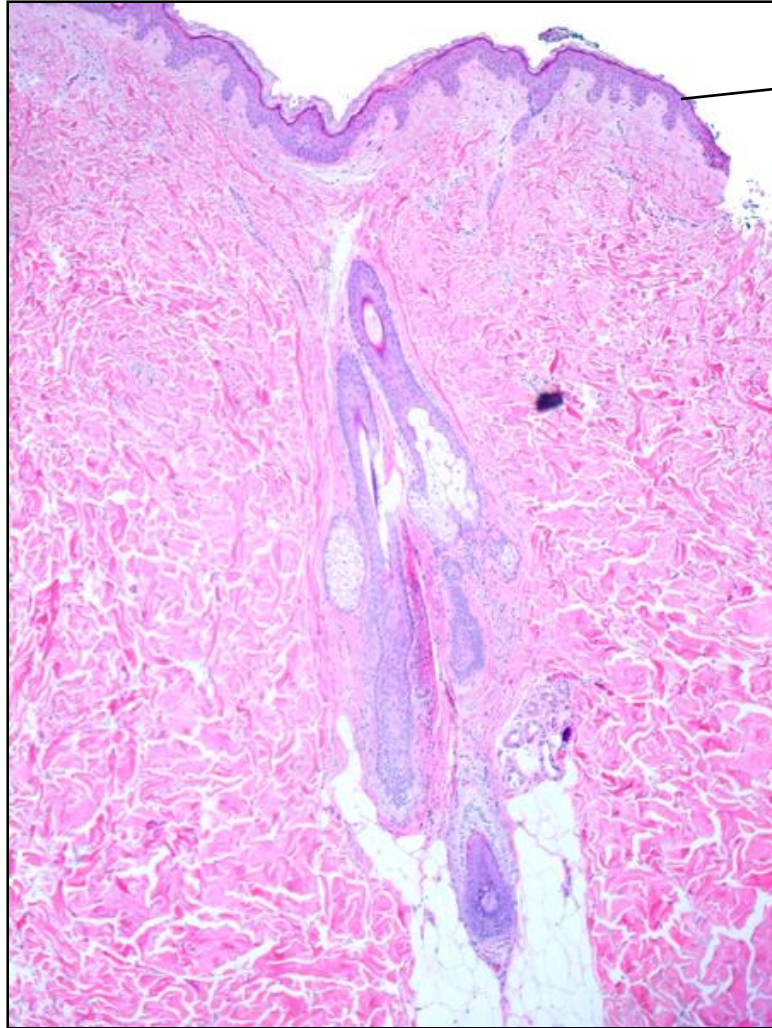


# Inflammatory Patterns – University of Utah Dermpath





# What Part of the Skin is Involved?

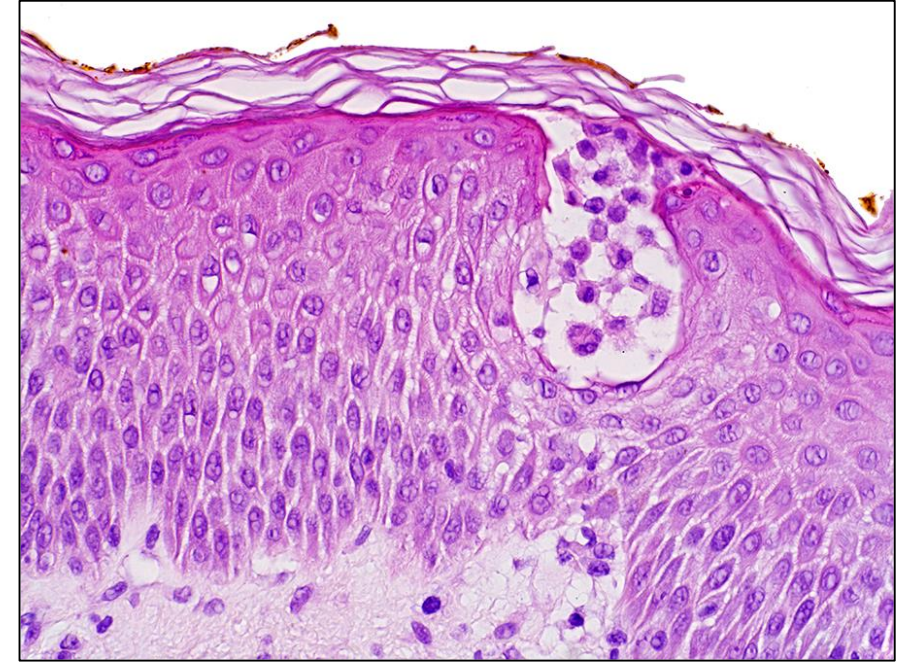


Epidermis

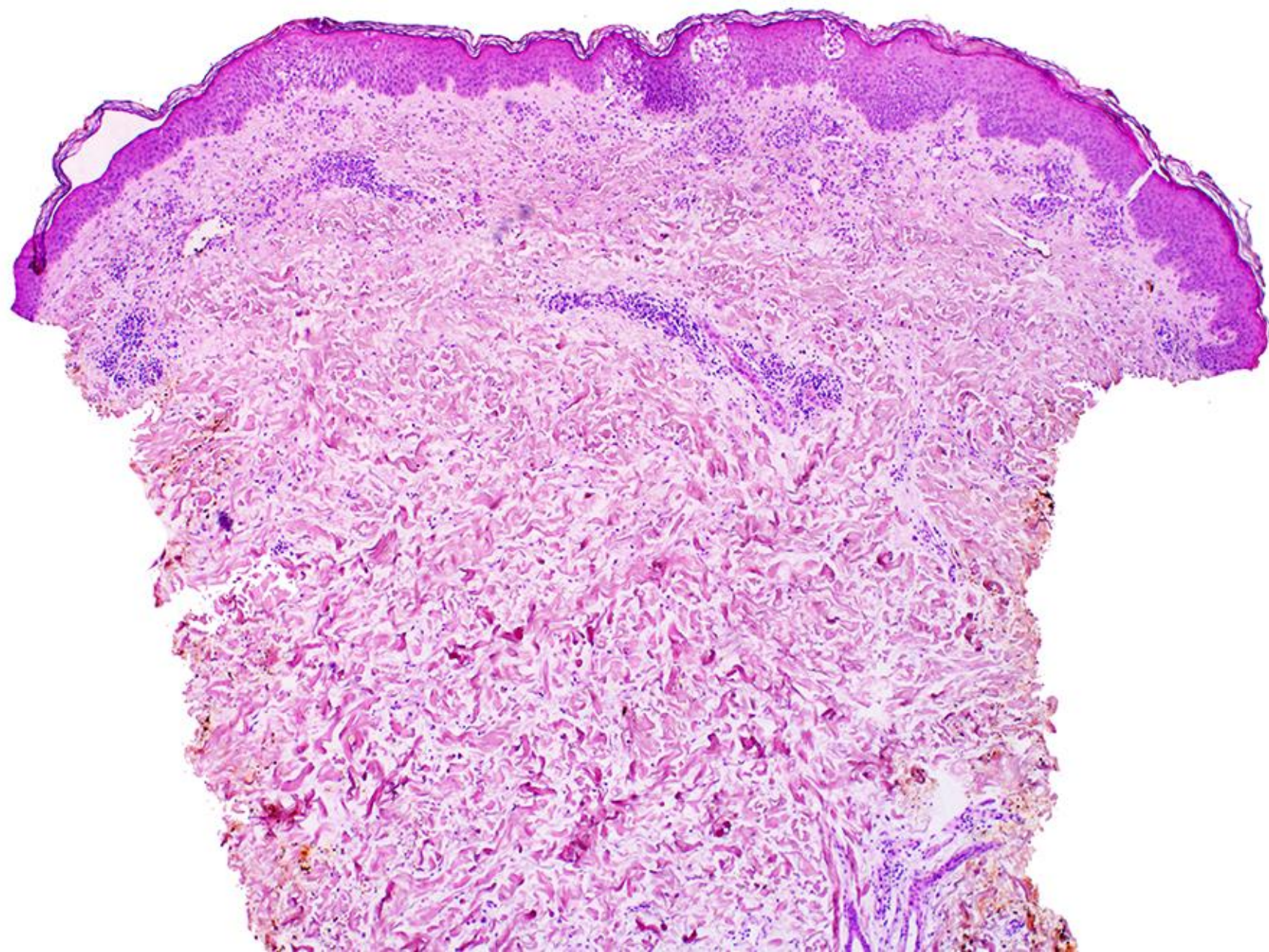
Spongiotic pattern

# Spongiotic reaction pattern

- Defined by intercellular edema:
  - Increased space between keratinocytes
  - 'Stretching' of desmosomal connections between keratinocytes
- Langerhans cell microgranulomas
- Lymphocyte exocytosis
- Parakeratosis variable, acute vs. chronic

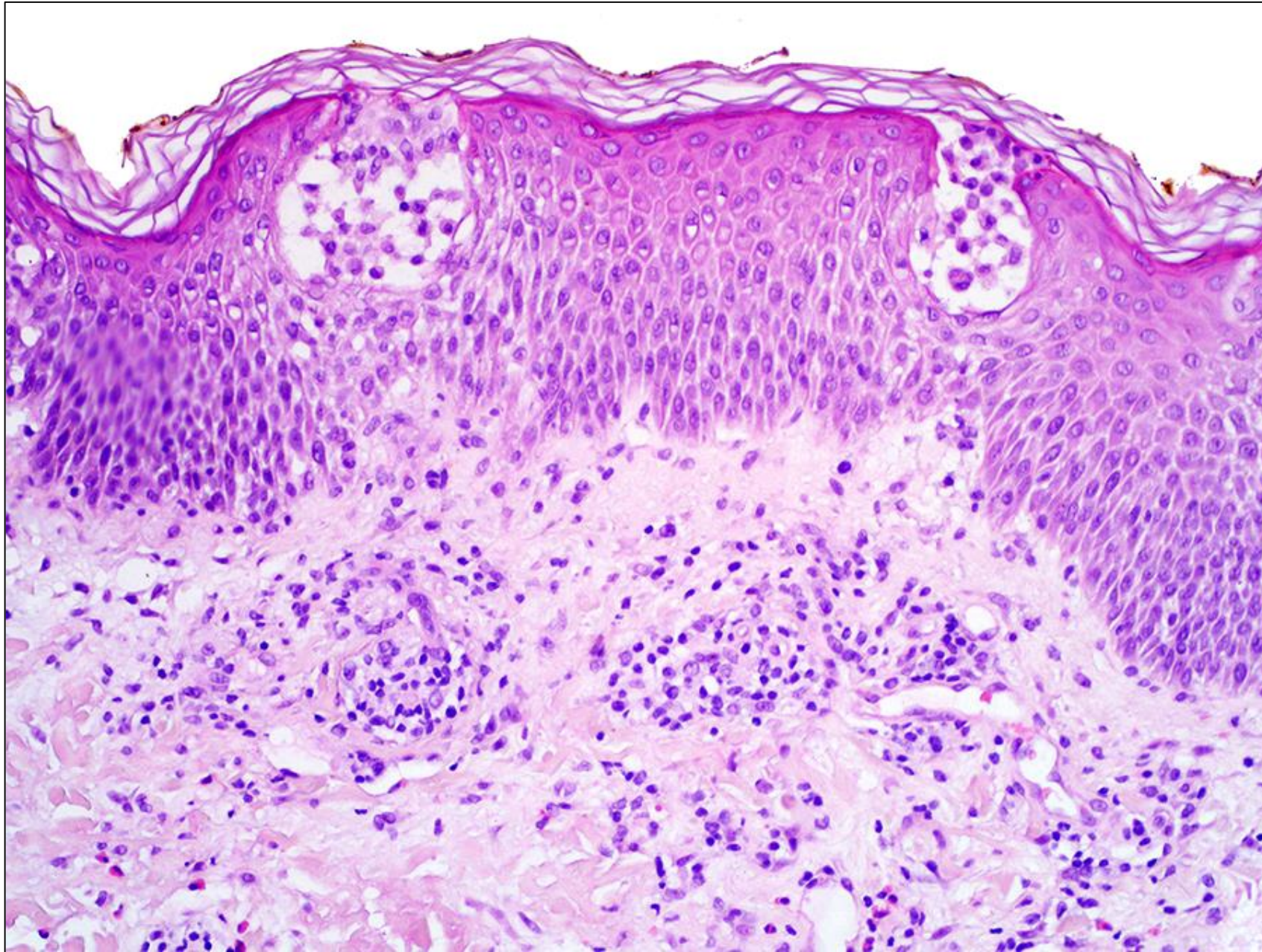








Basketweave stratum corneum and epidermal spongiosis





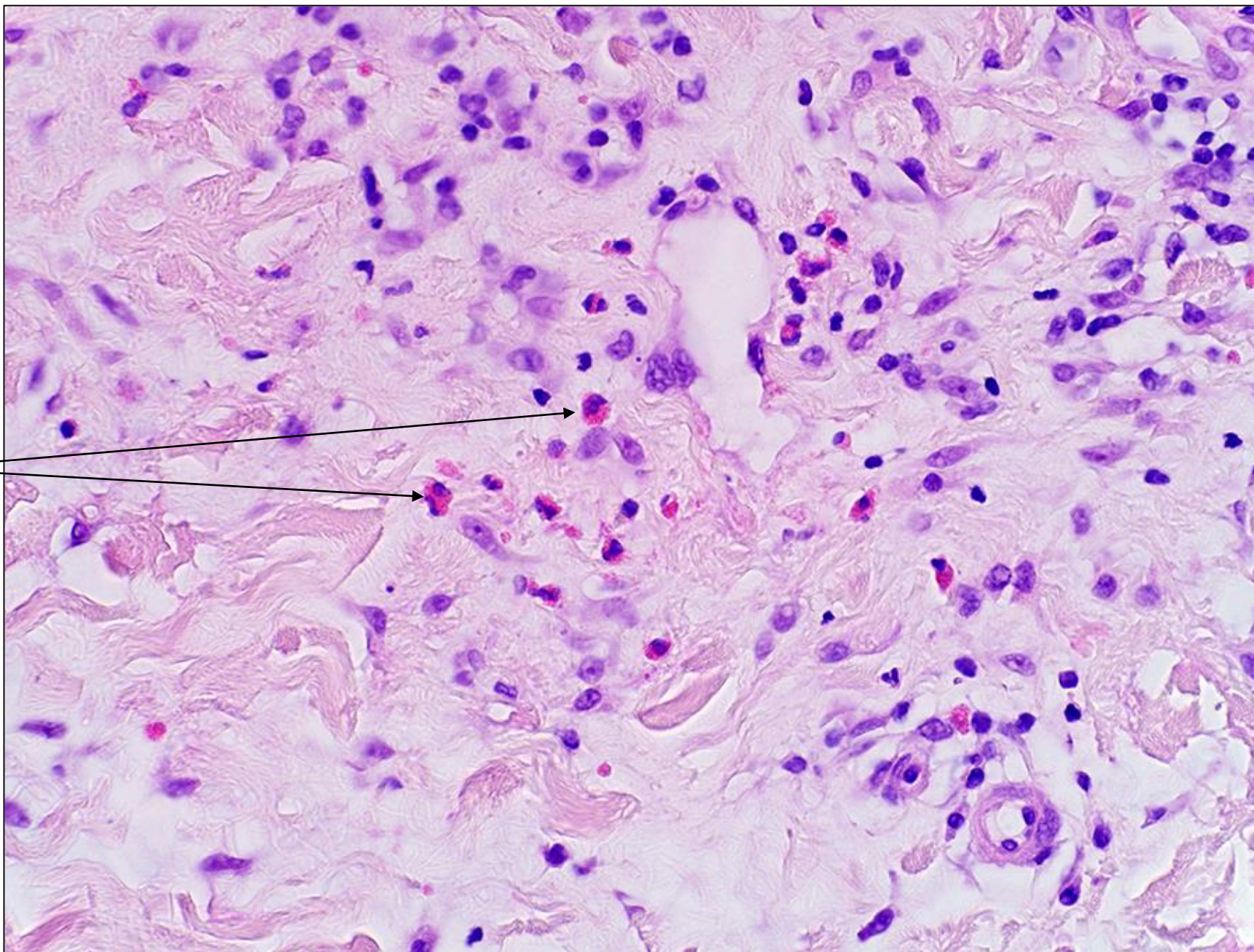
Langerhans cell microgranuloma

Spongiosis =  
intercellular edema  
Desmosomes visible





Numerous eosinophils



# Spongiotic reaction pattern – eczematous eruptions

- Atopic dermatitis
- Nummular dermatitis
- Contact dermatitis
- Id reaction
- Eczematous drug eruption
- Seborrheic dermatitis





# Eczema



Red/weepy, red/scaly areas on skin

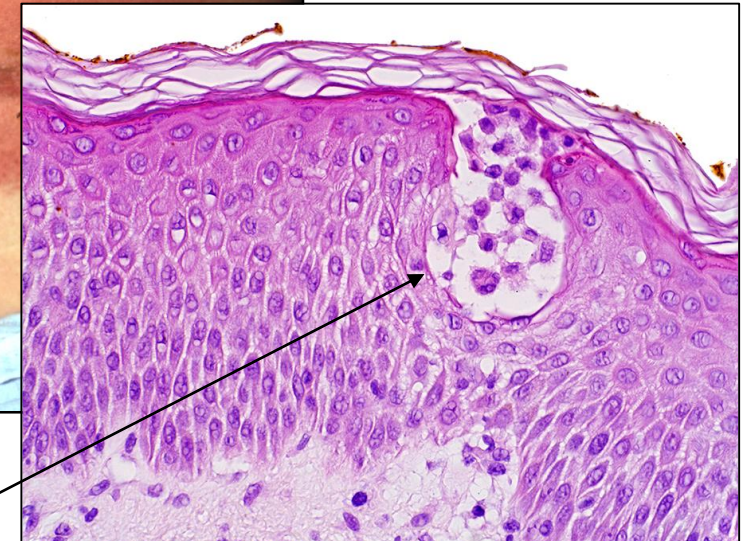
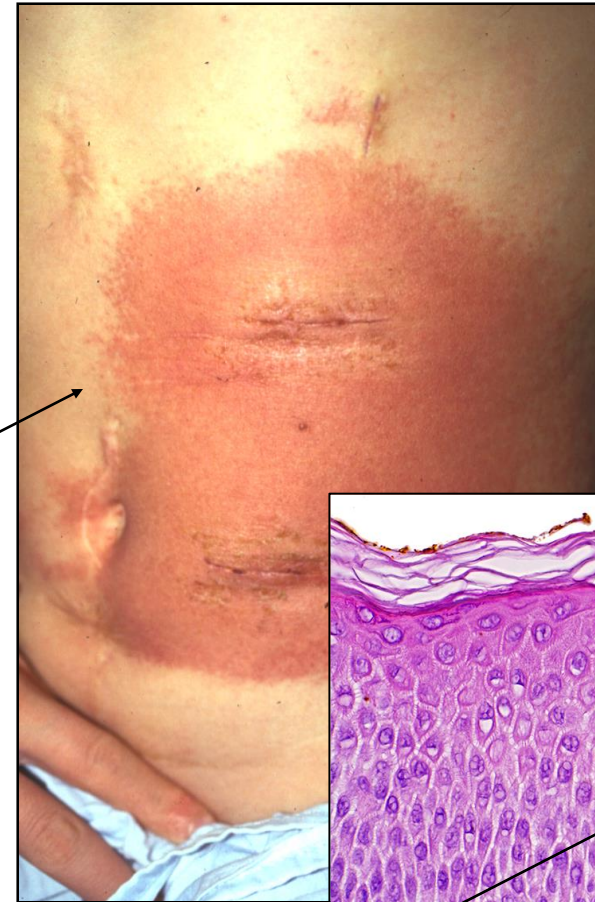
# Contact dermatitis

Rubber allergy



Well-demarcated, scaling plaques

Adhesive allergy



*Clue: Langerhans cell microabscess*



# Nummular dermatitis



Erythematous, scaling papules coalesce into nummular plaque



num·mu·lar

'nəmyələ/

*adjective*

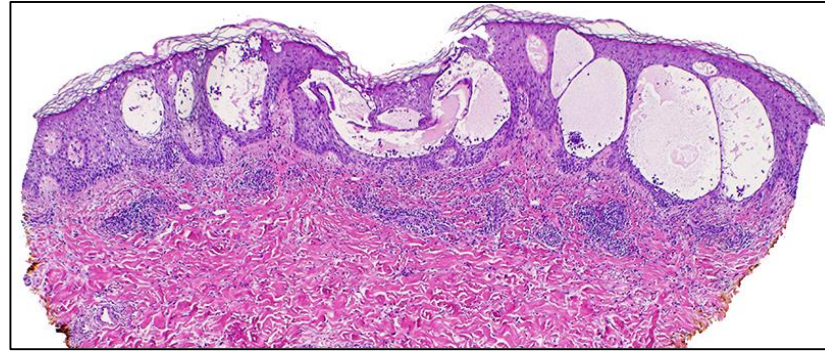
1. resembling a coin or coins.



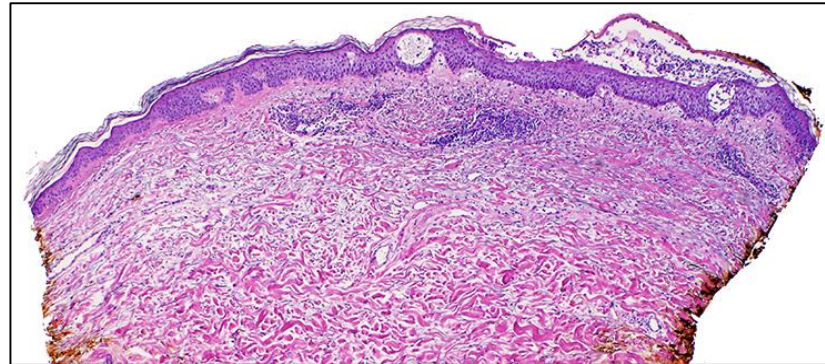
# Id reaction



Vesicular contact dermatitis



Few days later



- Autoeczematization
- Widespread, quick dissemination of a previously localized eczematous process
- Changes mimic the initial lesion, often blunted

*Requires several weeks of systemic corticosteroids to stop reaction*

# Diagnosis

## **SPONGIOTIC DERMATITIS WITH EOSINOPHILS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: The overall pattern is that of dermatitis and eczema, including atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, nummular dermatitis, spongiotic drug reaction, or id reaction.**

**Clinical correlation is necessary.**

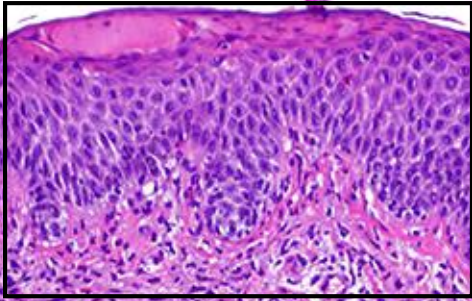
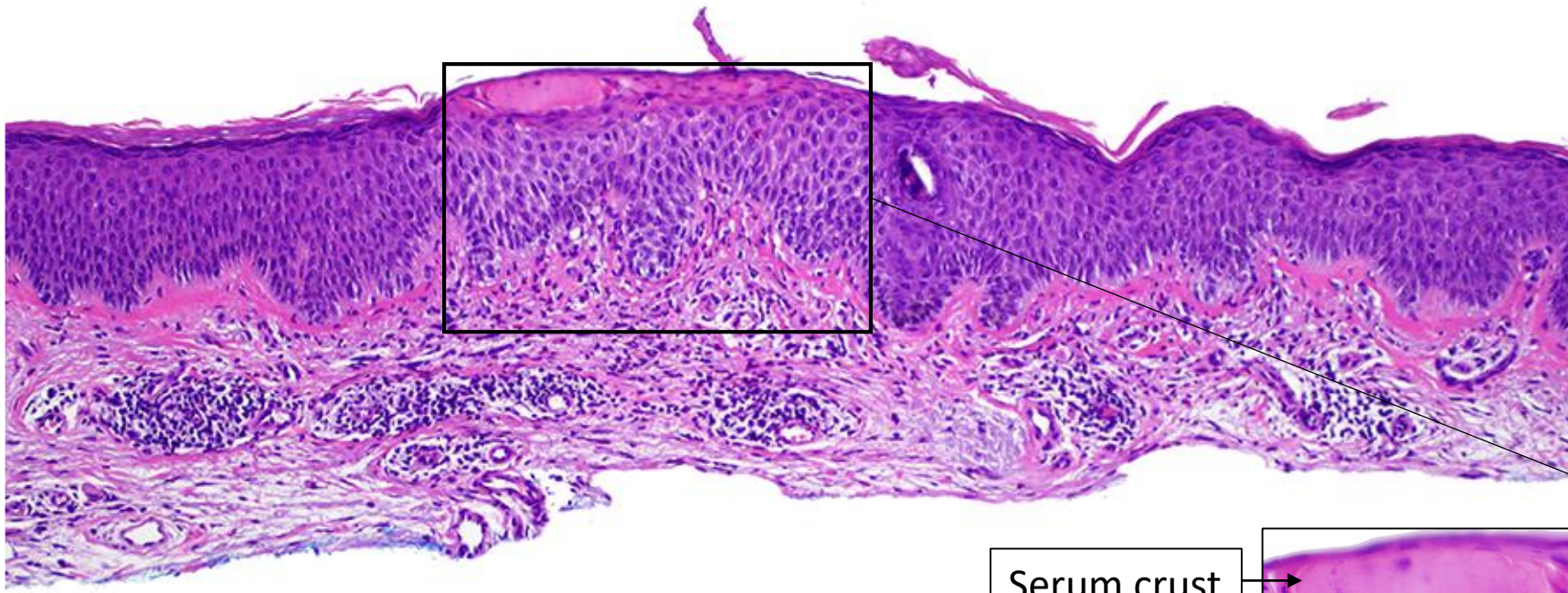


# Widespread itchy rash, 80 year old woman

Papules coalescing  
into plaques on trunk

Some with scale



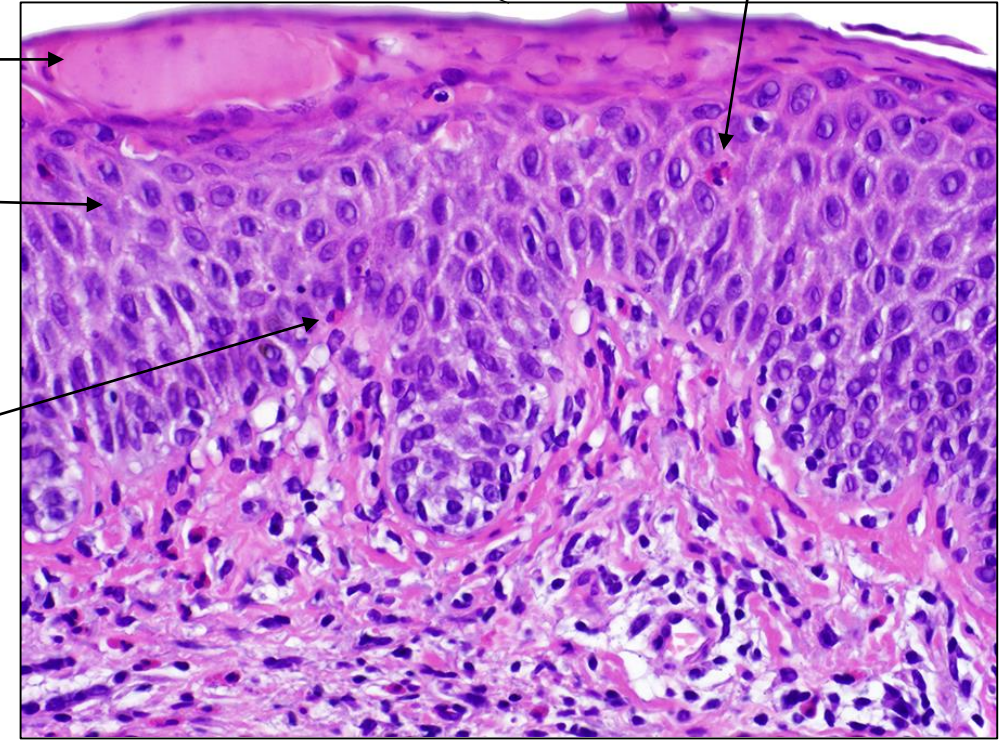


Eosinophilic spongiosis

Serum crust

Spongiosis

Eosinophils along junction



The histologic differential should include which of the following?

1. Contact dermatitis
2. Drug reaction
3. Arthropod assault reaction
4. Autoimmune bullous dermatosis
5. All of the above



The histologic differential should include which of the following?

1. Contact dermatitis
2. Drug reaction
3. Arthropod assault reaction
4. Autoimmune bullous dermatosis
5. *All of the above*

# Eosinophilic spongiosis: A clinical, histologic, and immunopathologic study

Edward Ruiz, MD,<sup>a</sup> Jau-Shyong Deng, MD,<sup>a,b</sup> and Edward A. Abell, MB, MRCP  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

- Autoimmune bullous disorders:
  - Bullous pemphigoid
  - Pemphigus
- Contact dermatitis
- Arthropod assault reaction and scabies
- Drug reactions

Case Report/Case Series

## Bullous Pemphigoid as Pruritus in the Elderly A Common Presentation

Christiaan V. Bakker, MD; Jorrit B. Terra, MD; Hendri H. Pas, PhD; Marcel F. Jonkman, MD, PhD

*JAMA Derm* 2013

12 of 15 patients had spongiotic dermatitis

# Diagnosis

## **EOSINOPHILIC SPONGIOSIS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: Eosinophilic spongiosis may be associated with contact dermatitis, autoimmune blistering diseases (pemphigoid or pemphigus), drug reactions, or arthropod assault reactions.**

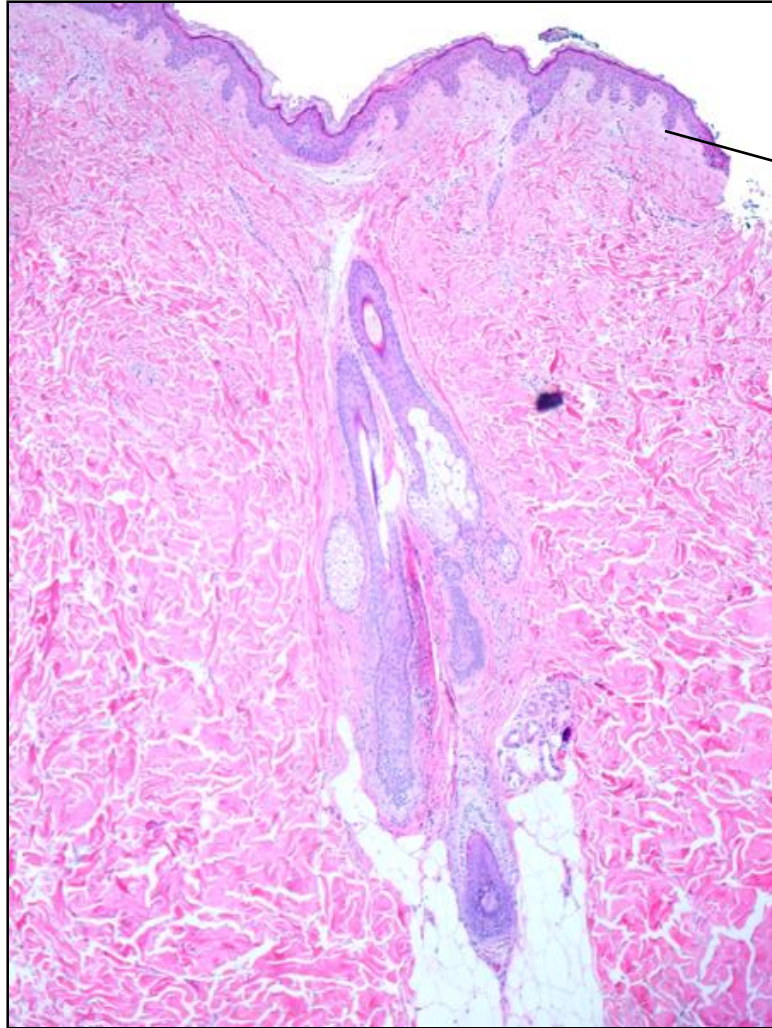
**Immunofluorescence studies may be indicated if an autoimmune blistering disorder is a clinical possibility.**







# What Part of the Skin is Involved?



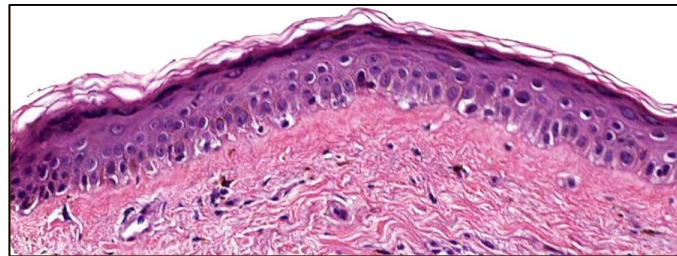
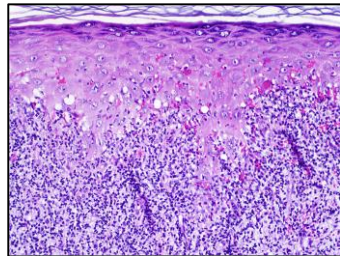
Dermoepidermal junction

Lichenoid interface



# Lichenoid Interface Reaction Pattern

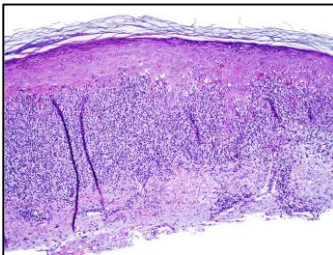
- Subdivided into:
  - Lichenoid interface dermatitis - band-like lymphocytic infiltrate
  - Vacuolar interface dermatitis - sparse lymphocytes tagging the dermal-epidermal junction
- Both are characterized by lymphocyte-mediated destruction of the basal layer
- Destruction of the basal layer results in melanin incontinence



# Lichenoid Interface Reaction Pattern

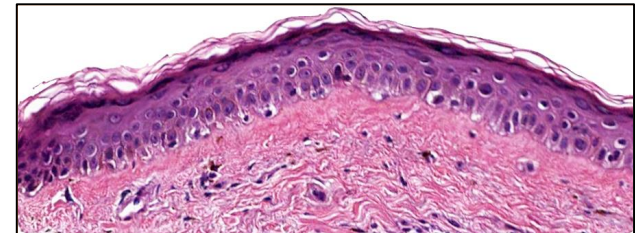
## Lichenoid

Lichen planus  
Lichenoid drug reaction  
Benign lichenoid keratosis  
Secondary syphilis



## Vacuolar

Erythema multiforme  
Viral exanthem  
Lupus erythematosus  
Dermatomyositis  
Interface drug reaction

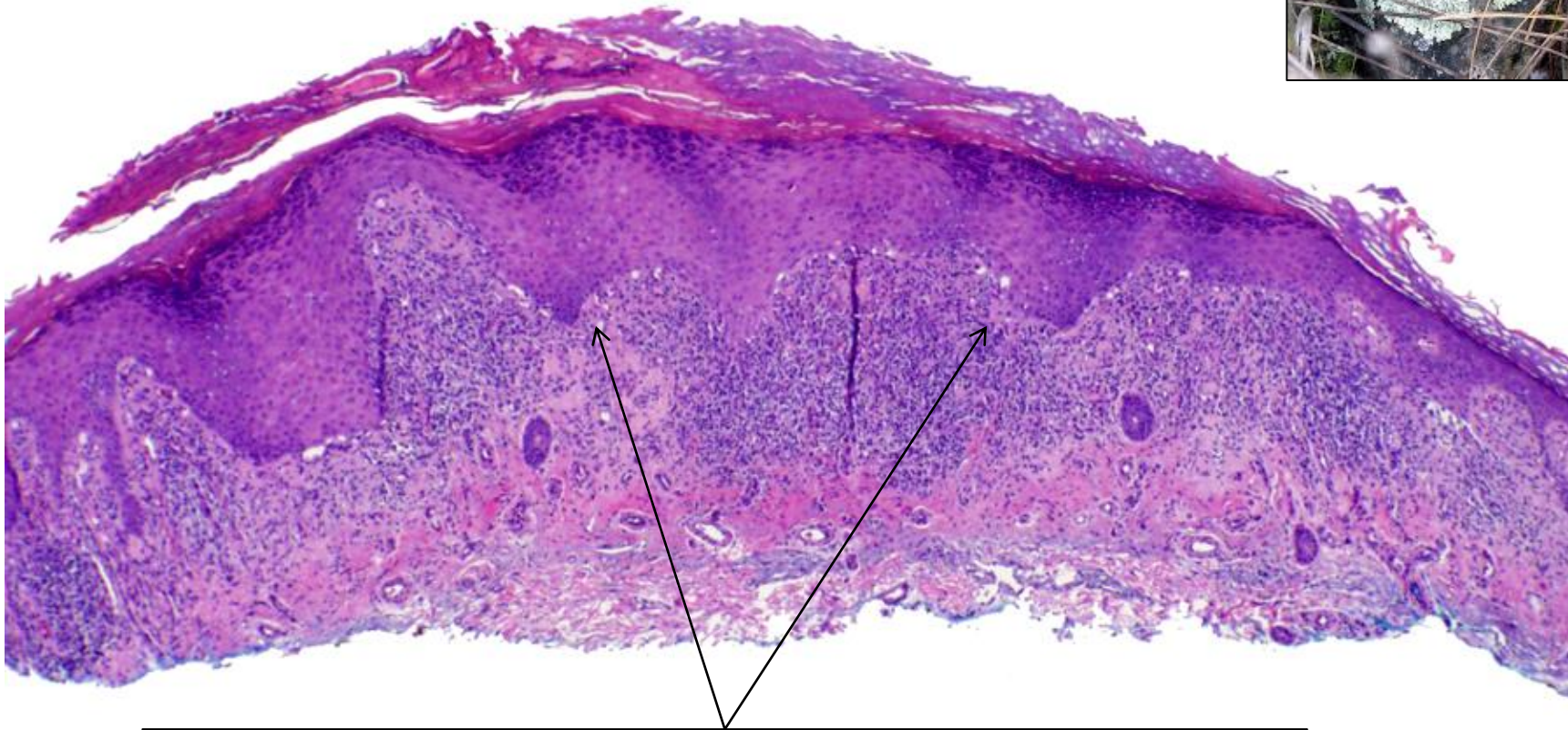


# Lichenoid Reaction

li·chen

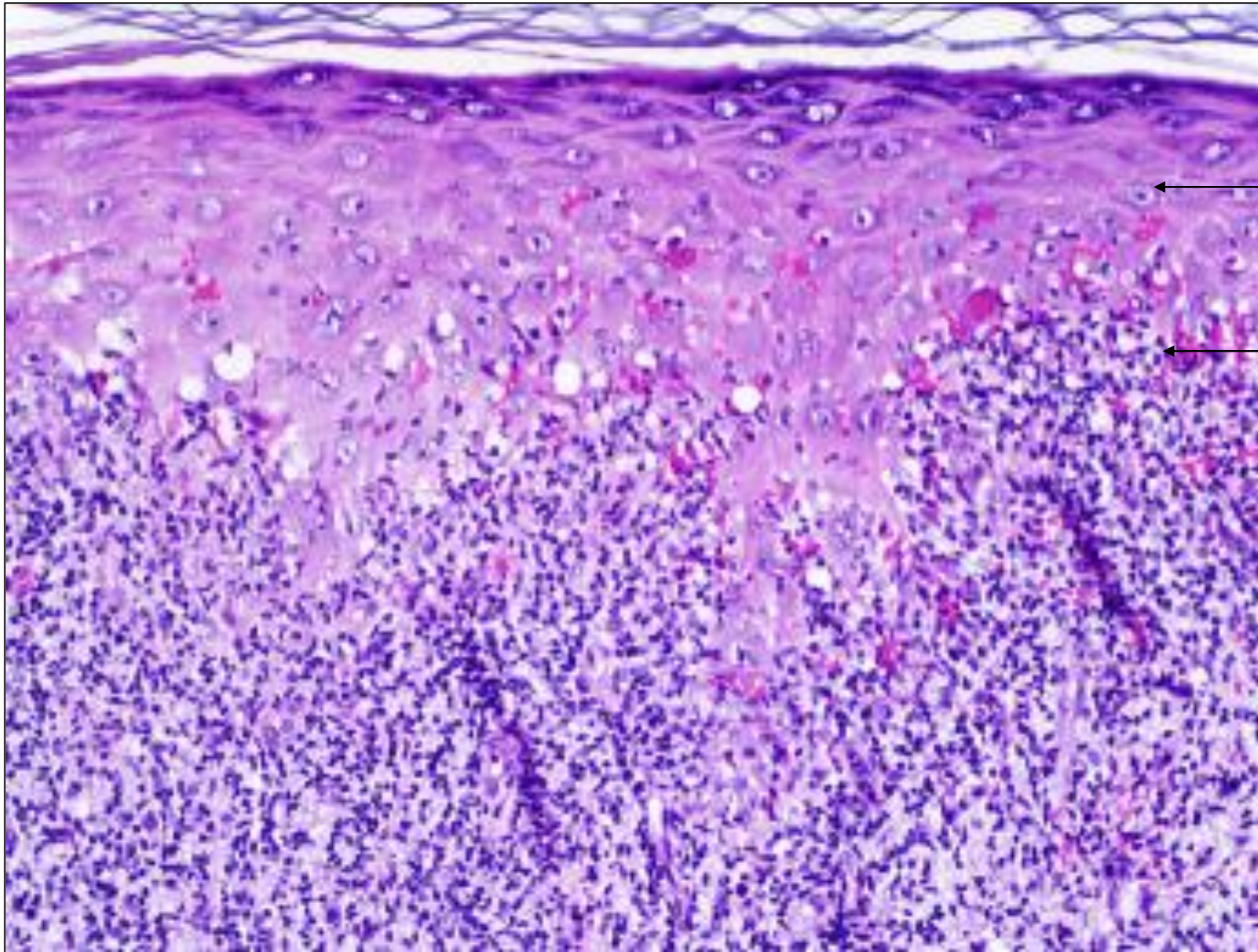
'līkən/

a simple slow-growing plant that typically forms a low crustlike, leaflike, or branching growth on rocks, walls, and trees.



Inflammation hugging the dermoepidermal junction - lichenoid



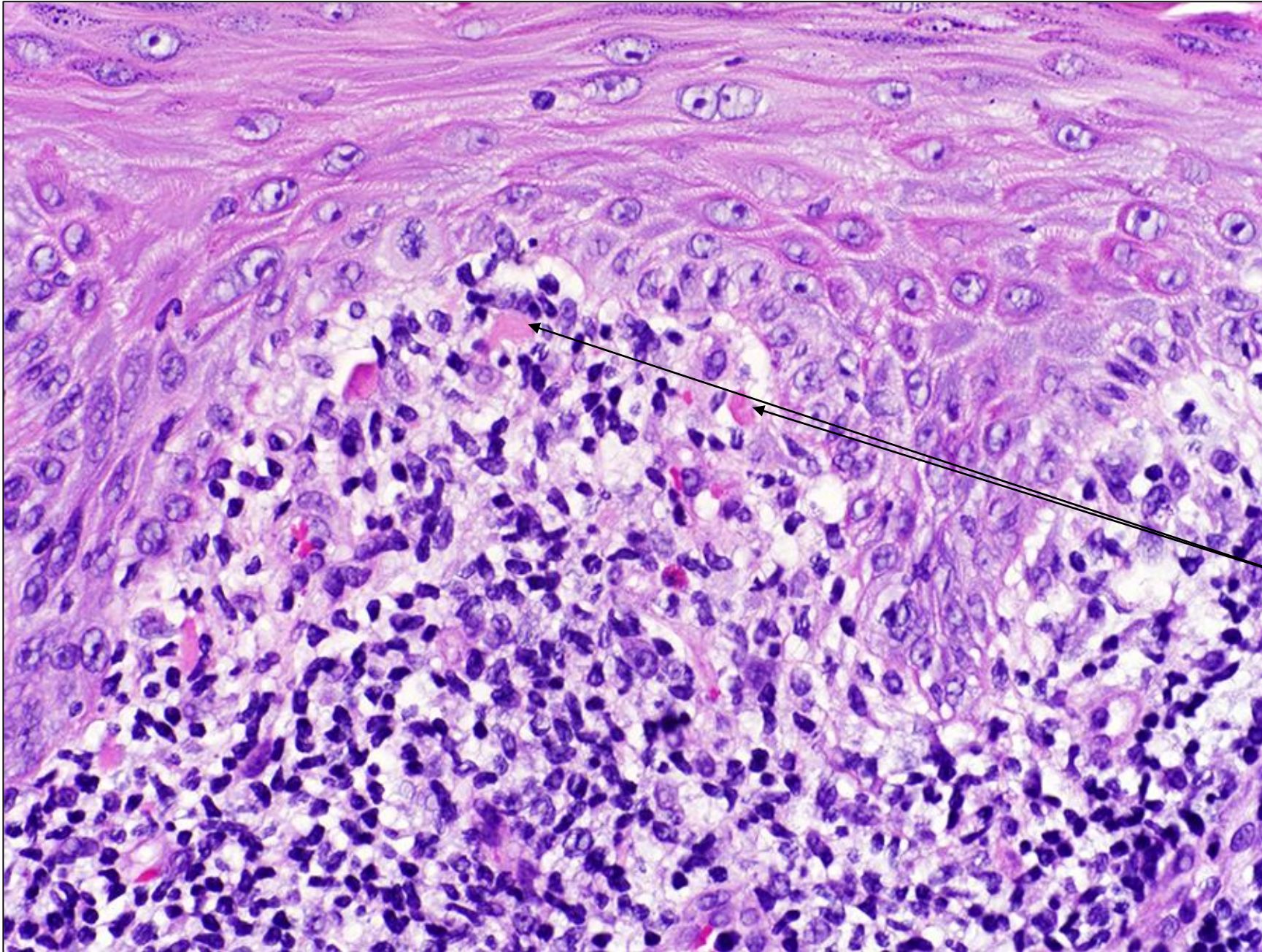


Large, hypereosinophilic  
keratinocytes

Inflammation obscures  
dermal-epidermal junction

Infiltrate mostly lymphocytes





Apoptotic keratinocyte  
Dyskeratotic keratinocyte  
Civatte body

Eosinophilic globules at the  
dermal-epidermal junction



# Lichenoid interface reaction pattern

- Lichen planus
- Lichenoid drug reaction
- Benign lichenoid keratosis
- Secondary syphilis



# Myth

A dermatopathologist doesn't need history  
to make a diagnosis.



Solitary red papule several months duration  
? skin cancer



Multiple polygonal papules with a white, net-like scale, pruritic



Scaling papules/plaques, trunk, extremities, palms, soles



Lichenoid reaction

Benign lichenoid keratosis

Lichen planus

Secondary syphilis

# Diagnosis

## **LICHENOID DERMATITIS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: If the lesion is solitary and of several months duration, this most likely represents a lichenoid keratosis. If multiple lesions are present, lichen planus or a lichenoid drug reaction would be in the differential diagnosis.**

**Clinical correlation is necessary.**



# Important Point!

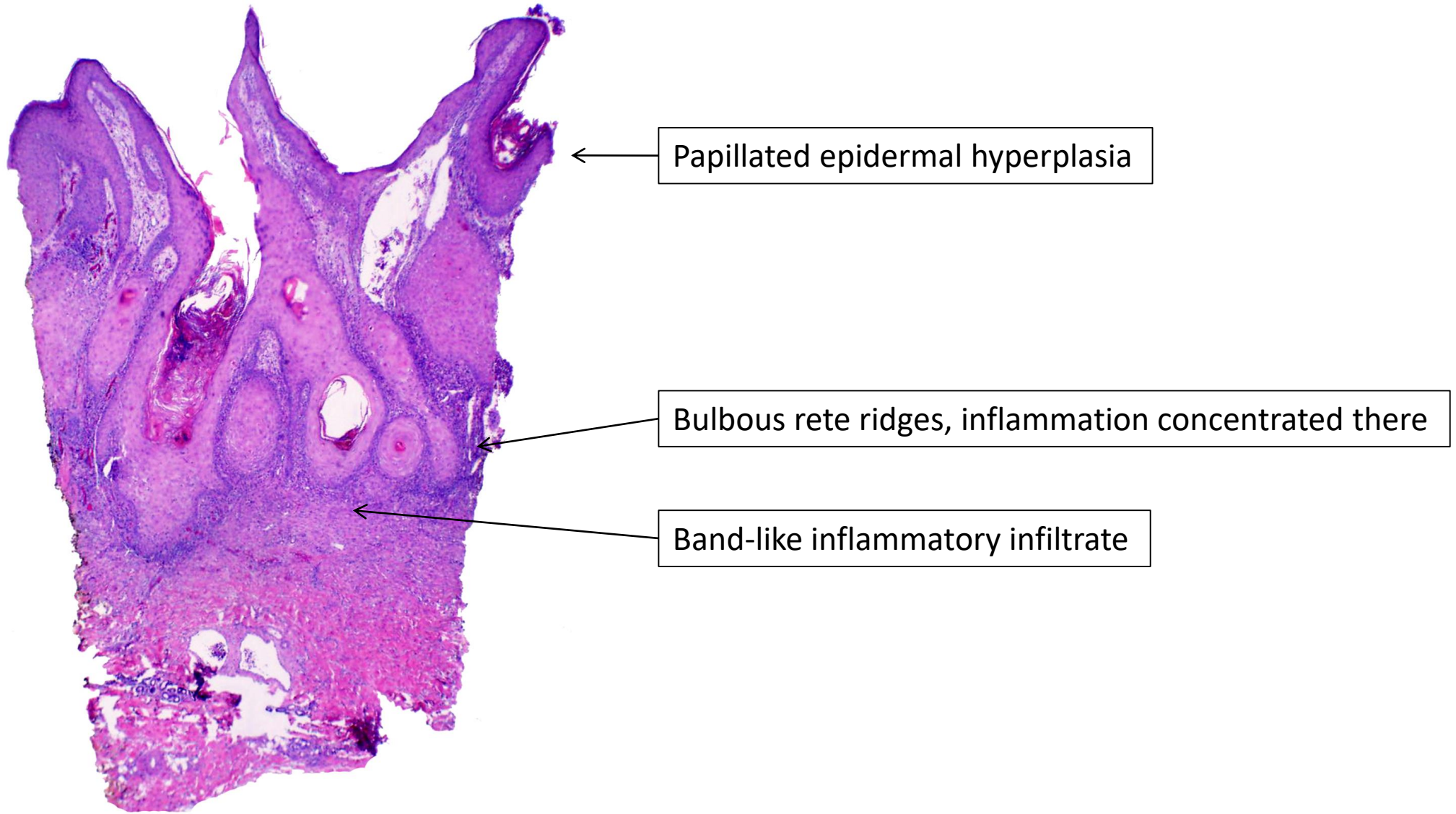
*Although most cutaneous eruptions can be categorized into one of several inflammatory patterns, more specific diagnosis is only possible with careful clinical-histologic correlation*

## Recent Challenging Clinicopathologic Correlation

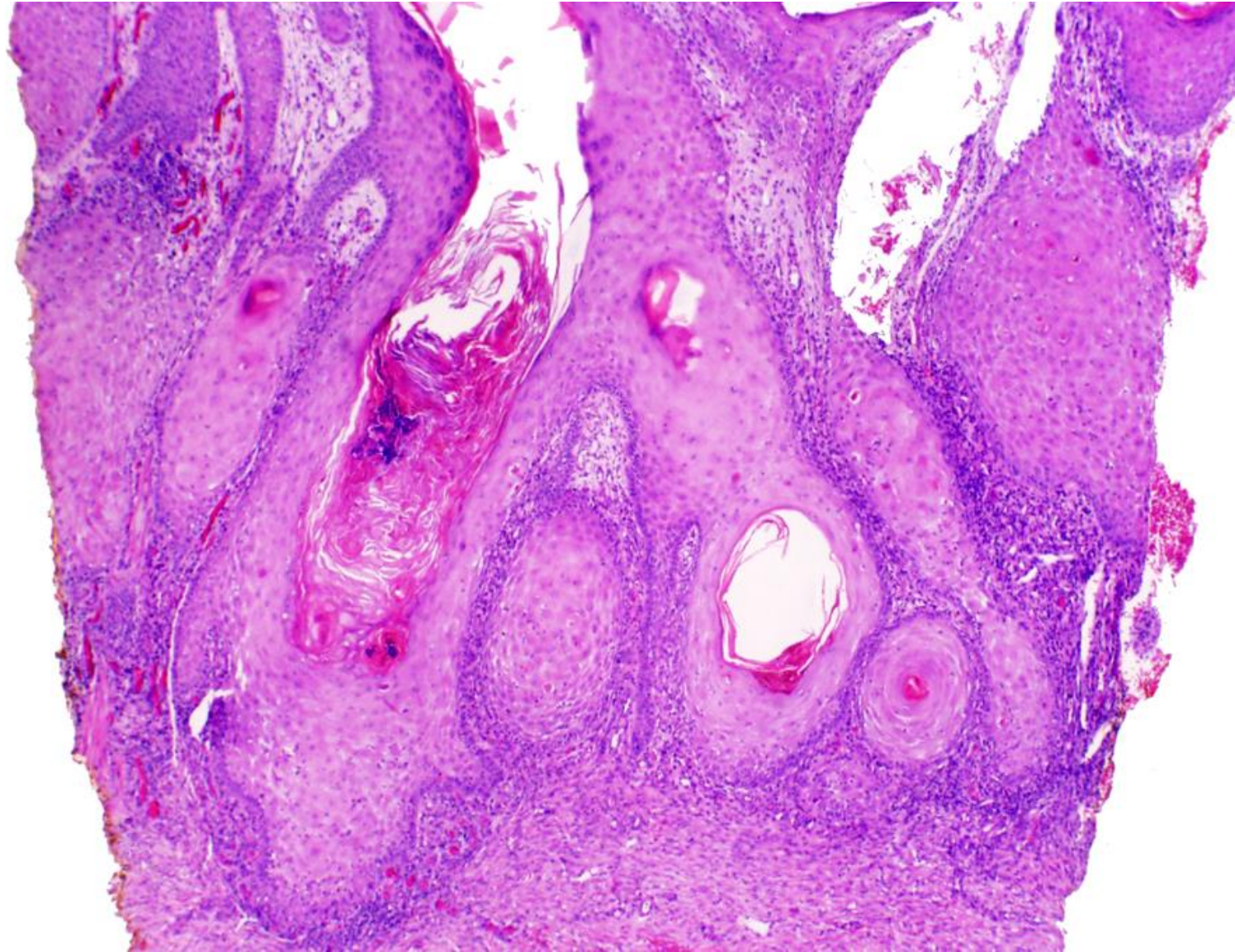
72 yo female with history of  
squamous cell carcinoma of the  
lower leg, recurrent x 2



## Right lower leg, punch biopsy

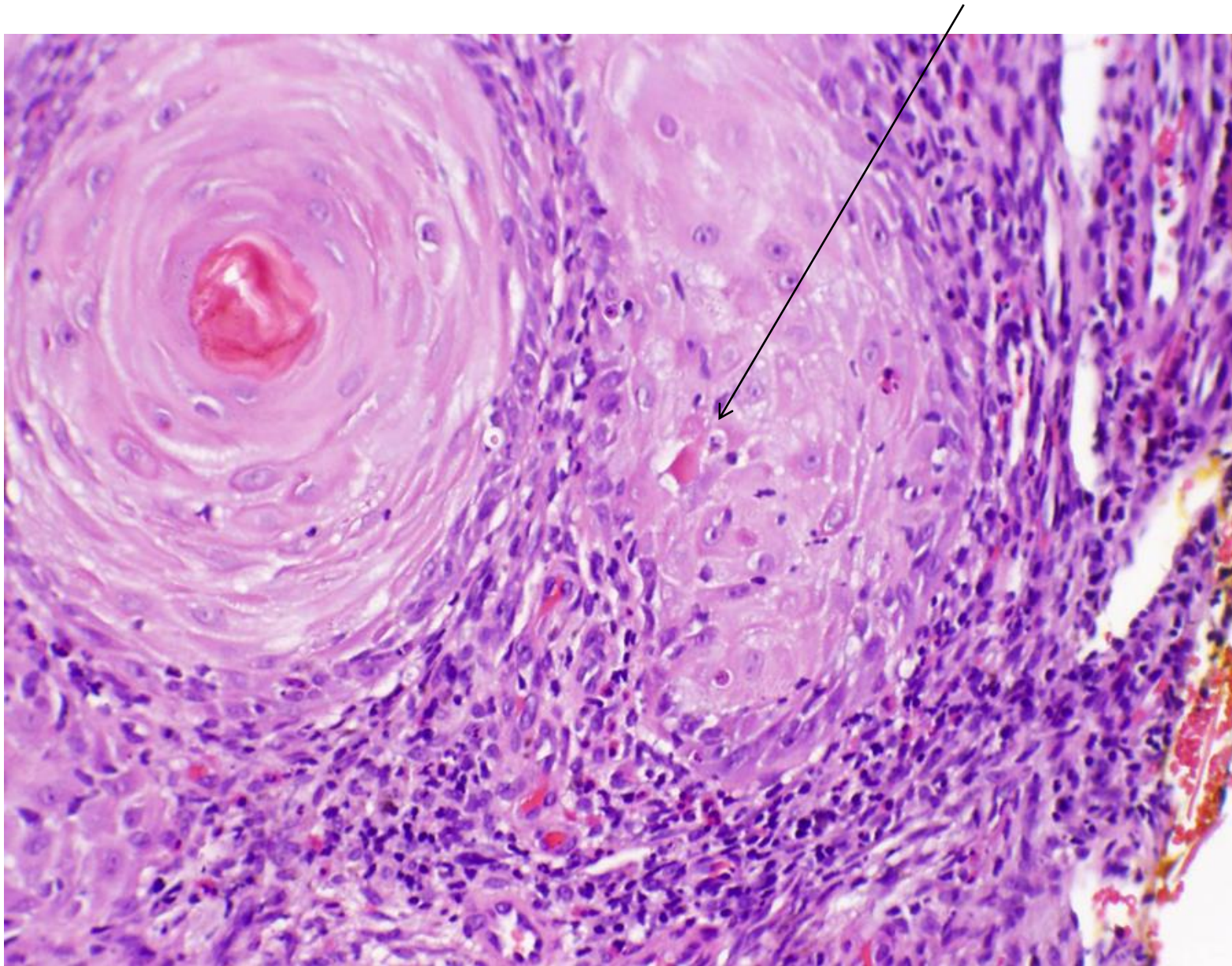


## Well-differentiated keratinocytes





Band like, lichenoid inflammation and occasional dyskeratotic keratinocytes





# Diagnosis so far . . .

Epidermal hyperplasia and lichenoid tissue reaction,  
*possible hypertrophic lichen planus*



- \* Is this person known to have lichen planus?
- \* Could you send a clinical image of the lesion?
- \* May we review the previous biopsies?

Right lower leg

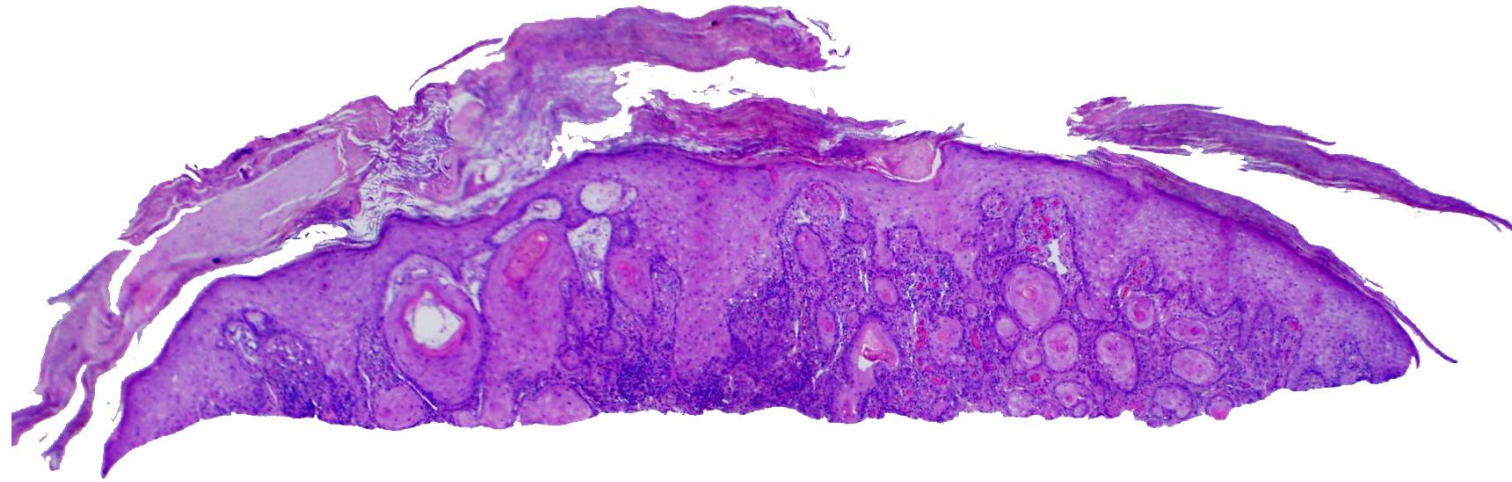


Large eroded plaque with velvety surface and yellow crust

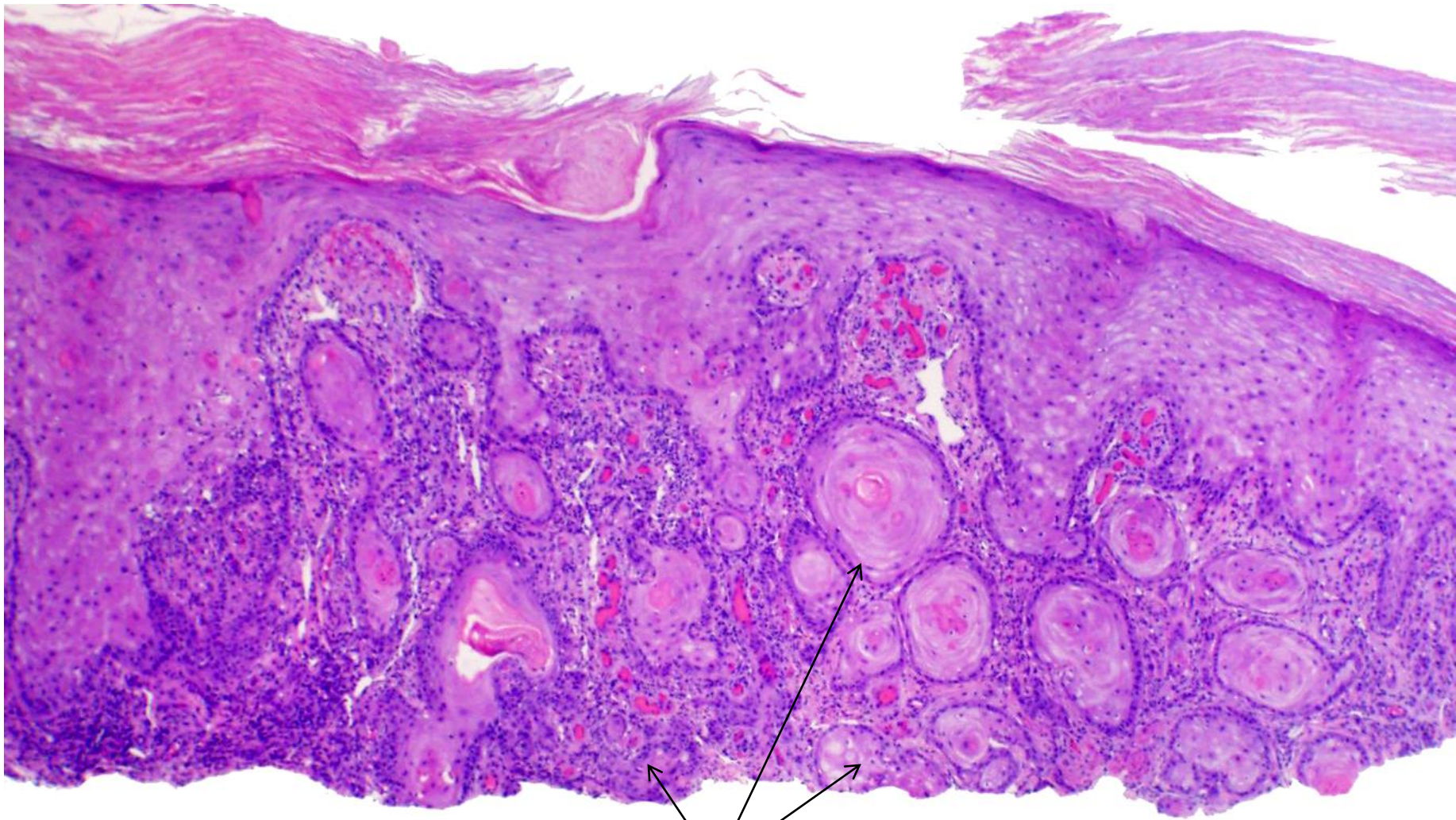
Original Biopsy – two years prior



Shave biopsy, lower leg

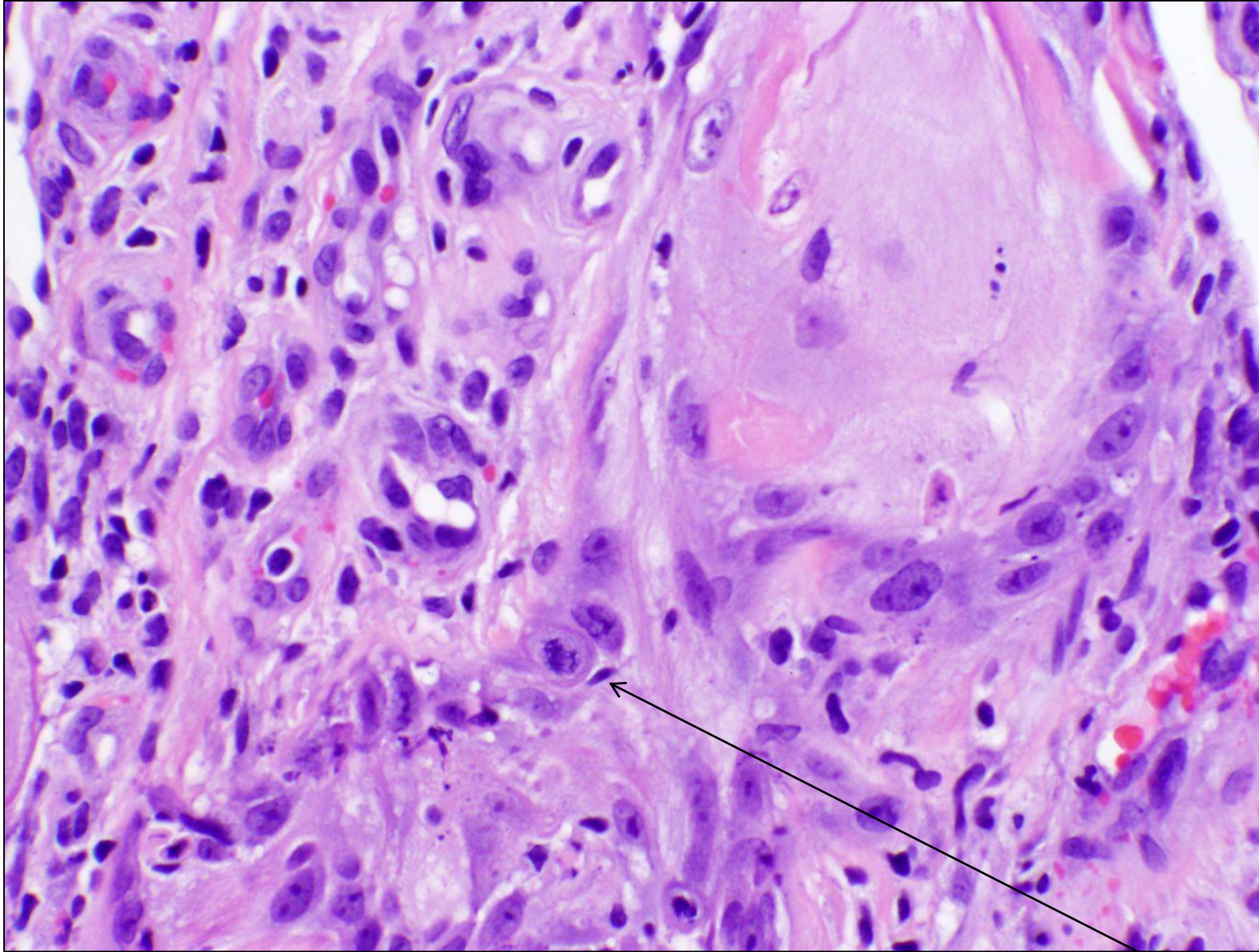






Lobules of epithelium invading the underlying dermis



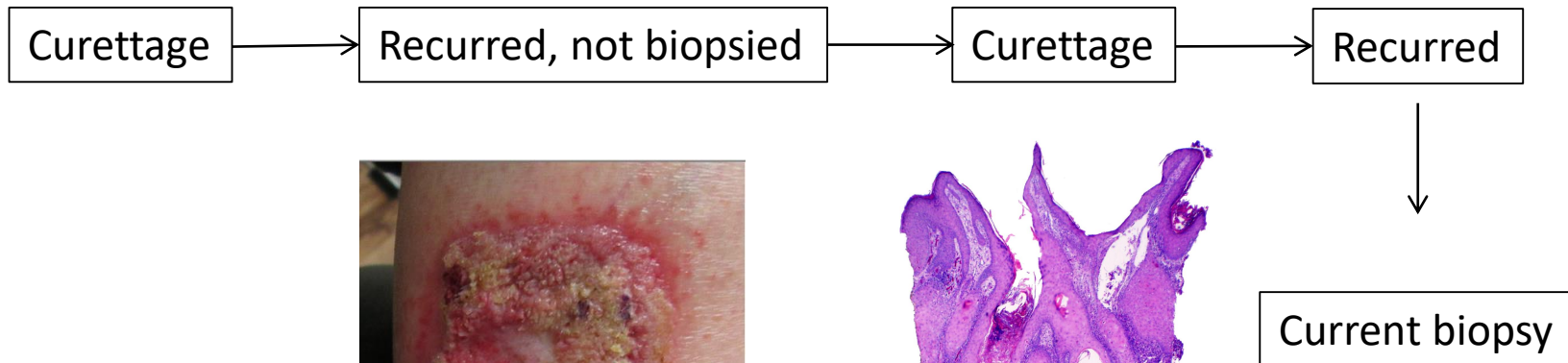


Keratinocytes are malignant appearing, poorly organized, and some are dividing

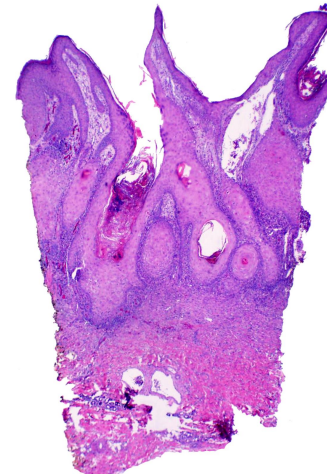
# Diagnosis – biopsy two years prior

## *Invasive squamous cell carcinoma*

Treatment:

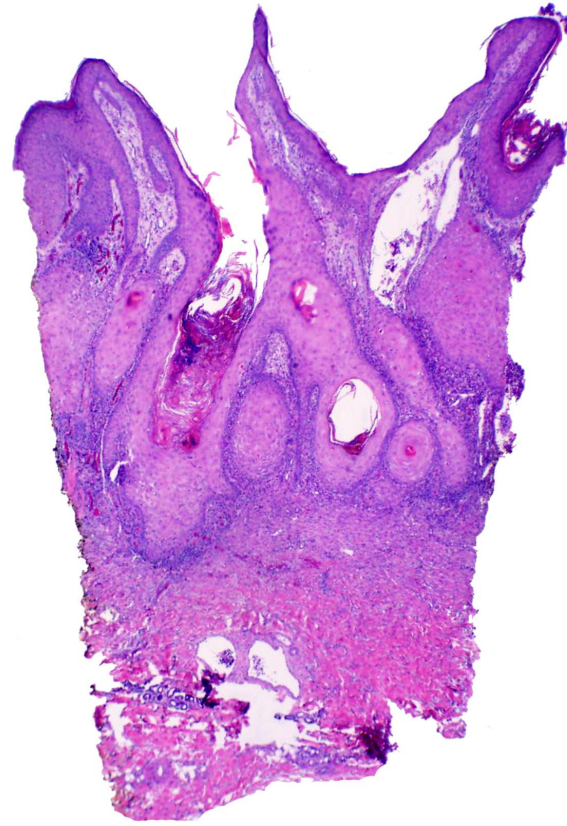


Original biopsy site



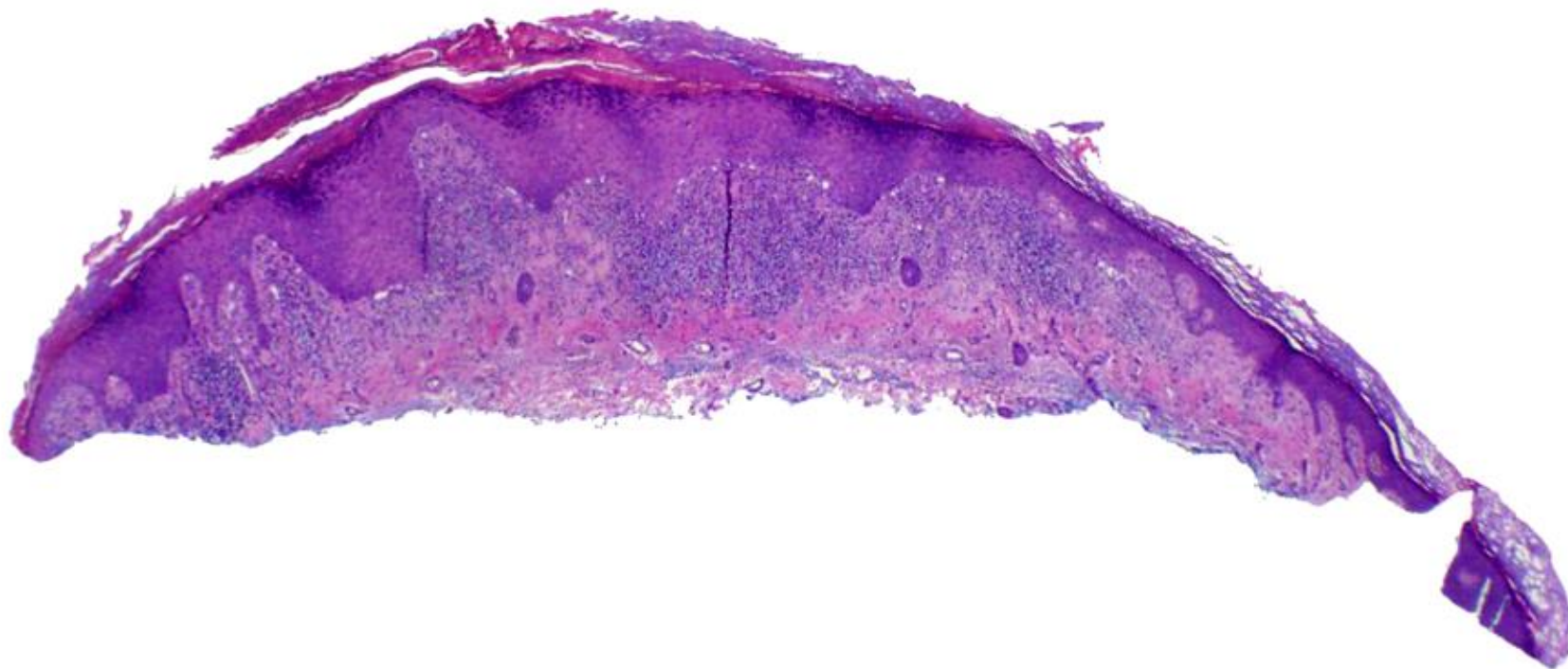


*Back to Current Case . . .*

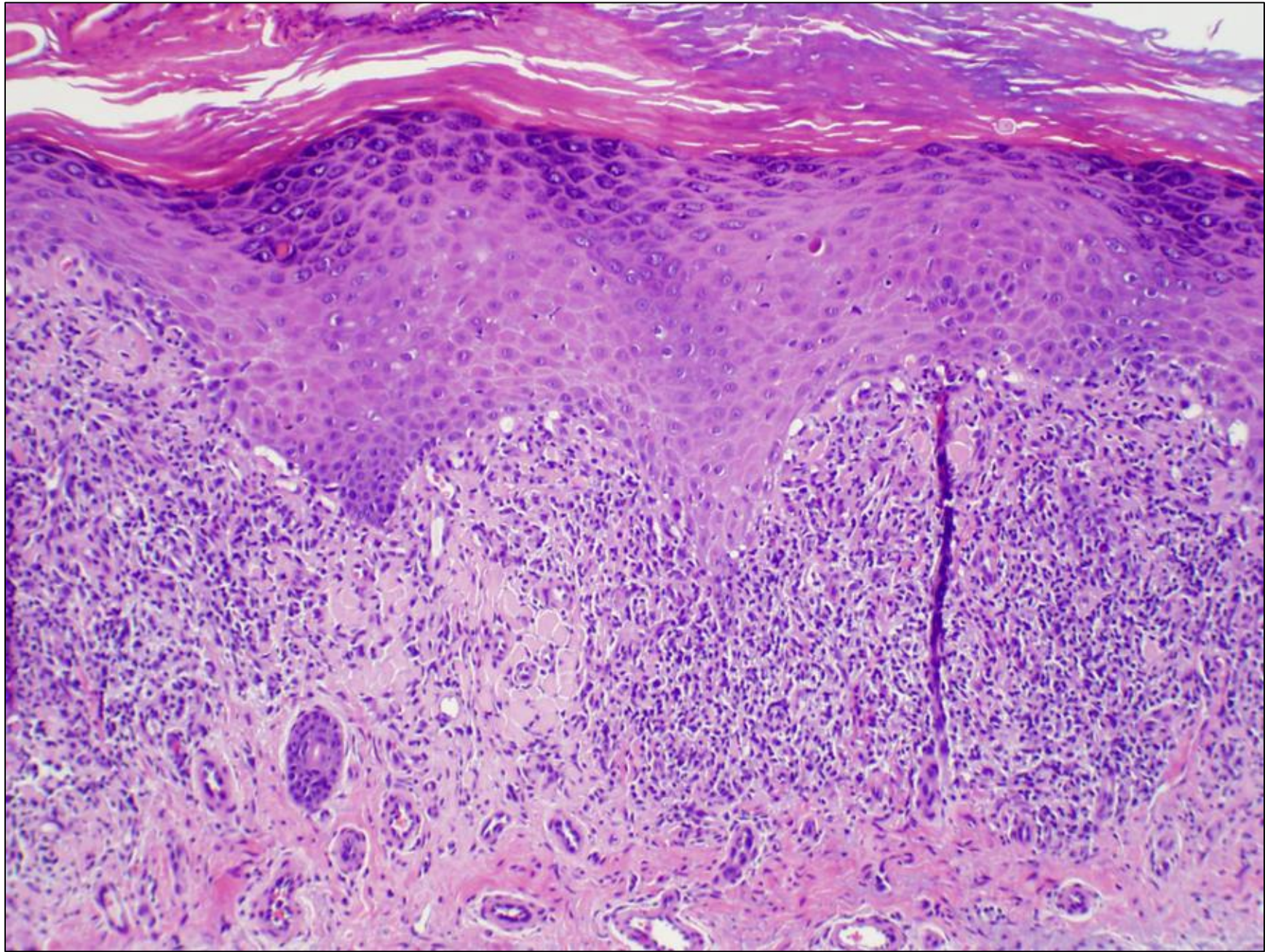


At follow-up, she was noted to have several itchy purplish papules













Flat-topped polygonal papules

# Diagnosis



*Lichen planus*



Hypertrophic variant



*Our patient had both patterns*

# Lichen Planus

- Cause unknown, some cases associated with hepatitis C
- Treatment topical corticosteroids, *avoid injuring skin*
- Skin injury (like surgery or biopsy) can cause outbreak of lichen planus – *koebnerization*

Koebnerization:

A process in which injury to the skin causes further formation of lichen planus



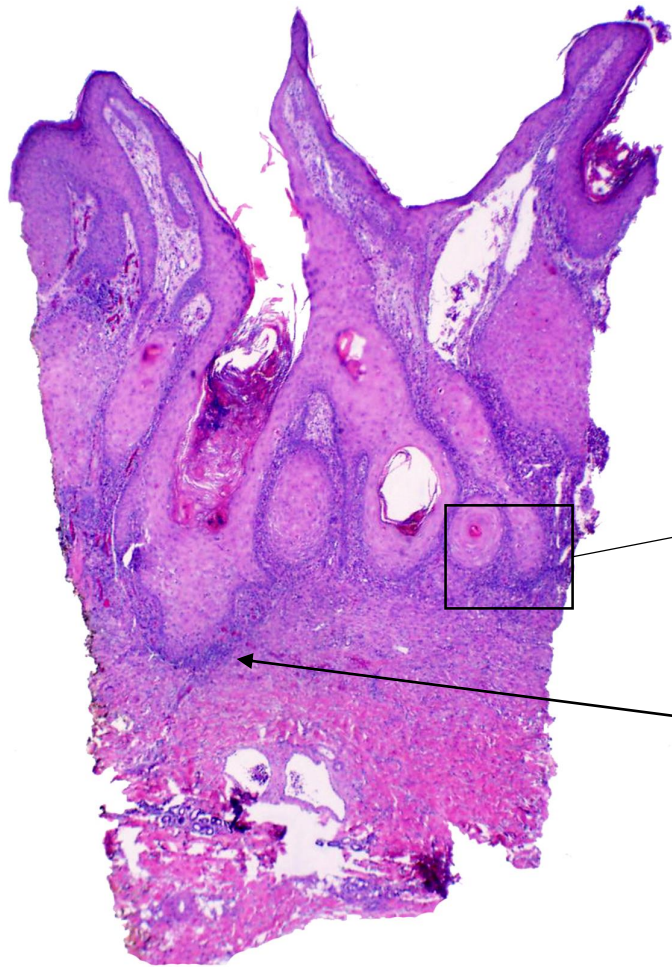


# Hypertrophic lichen planus

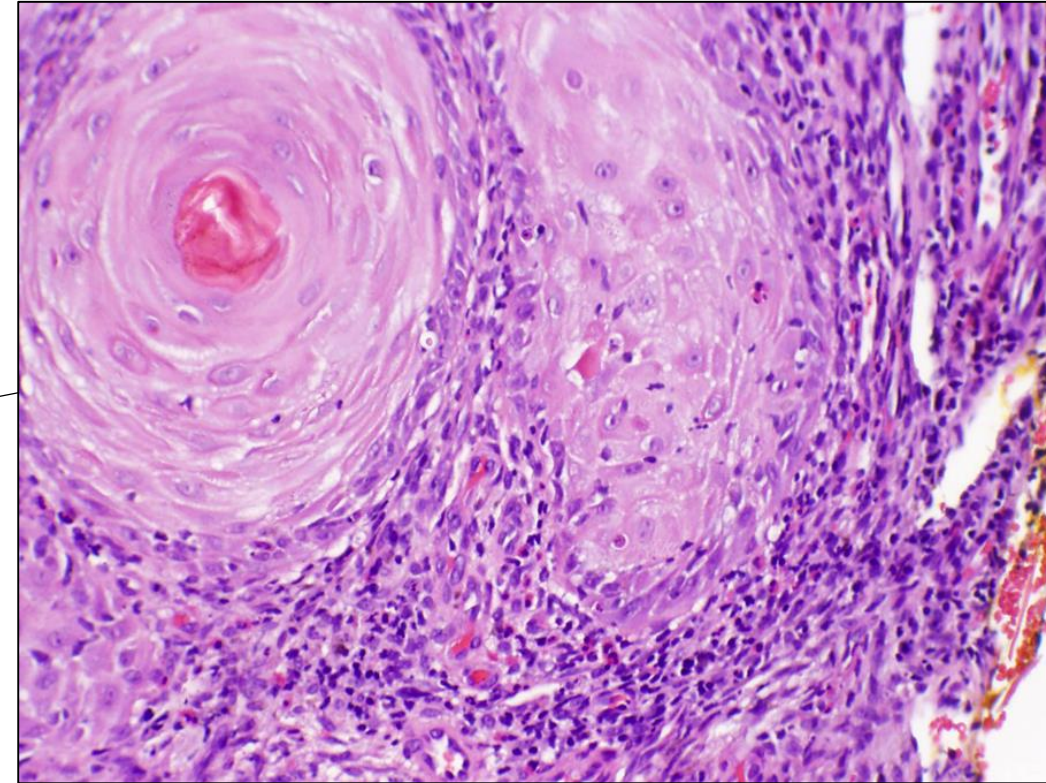
- Lichen planus variant usually presenting on the shins
- Multiple erythematous to violaceous nodules or plaques
- Epidermal hyperplasia can be difficult to distinguish from SCC
- Complicating things – SCC can develop in setting of HLP



# Helpful tips to diagnose hypertrophic LP



Concentration of lymphocytes  
at tips of bulbous rete



Eosinophils!

*Diagnosis of multiple SCCs/KAs on the legs should at least raise suspicion of HLP*

# Use of proliferation rate, p53 staining and perforating elastic fibers in distinguishing keratoacanthoma from hypertrophic lichen planus: a pilot study

**Background:** Distinguishing keratoacanthoma (KA) and hypertrophic lichen planus (LP) histopathologically can be difficult, and the challenge is compounded by the tendency of KA to arise in association with hypertrophic LP.

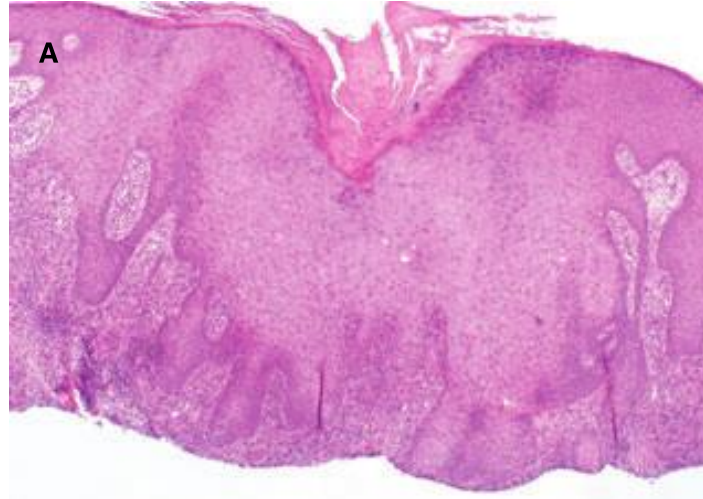
**Annell R. Bowen, Lindsay Burt,  
Kenneth Boucher,  
Payam Tristani-Firouzi  
and Scott R. Florell**

- Proliferation index similar between KA and hypertrophic LP
- p53 staining increased in KA > HLP ( $p = 0.024$ ), but present in both
- Perforating elastic fibers seen in KA > HLP ( $p < 0.0001$ )

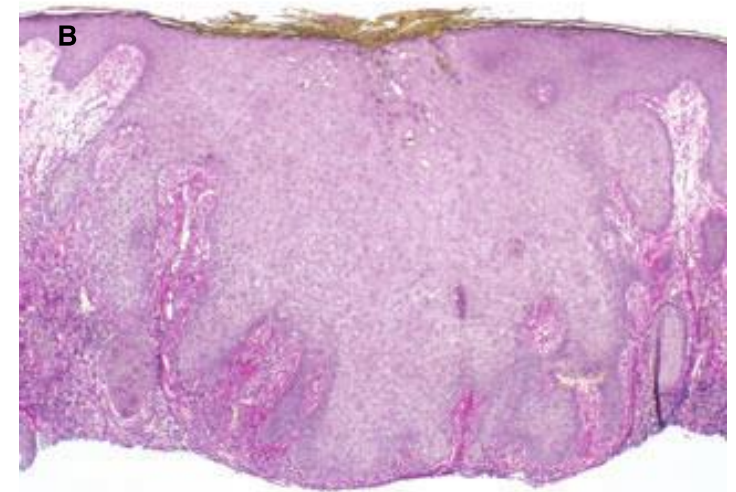


## Hypertrophic lichen planus

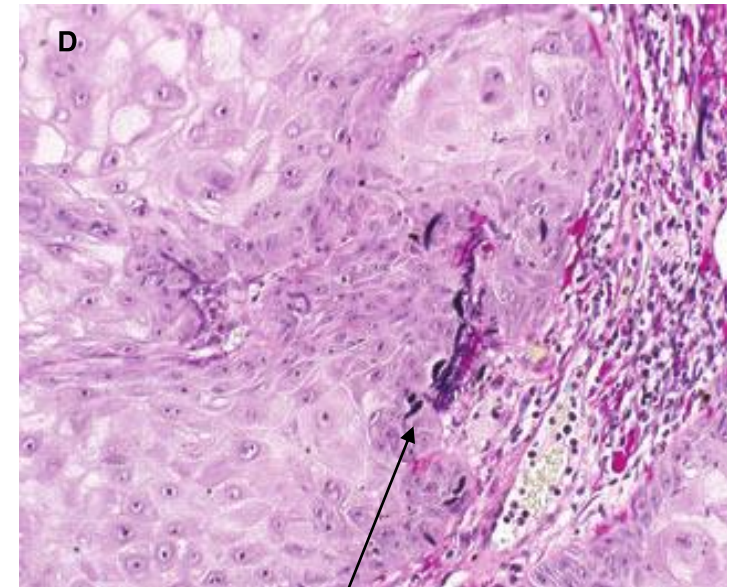
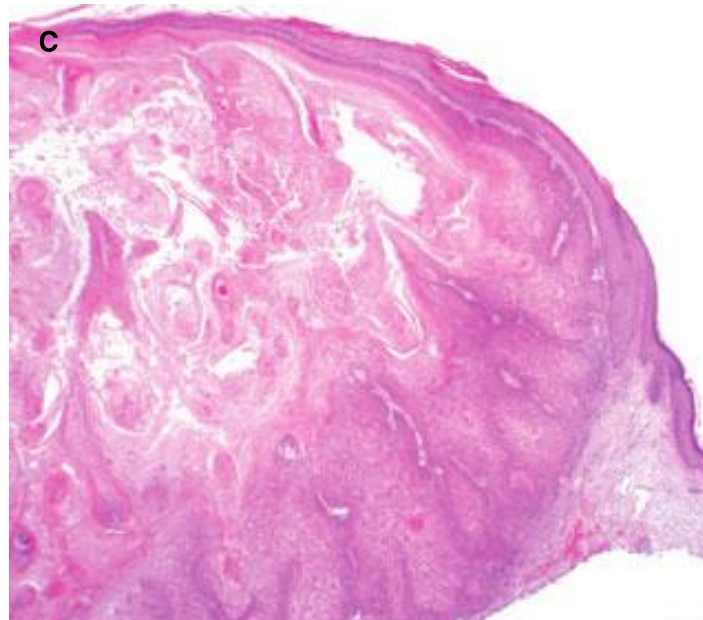
H&E



Elastic Verhoeff-van Gieson



## Keratoacanthoma



Transepidermal elimination of elastic fibers

After 3 weeks topical steroid



Lesion thinner



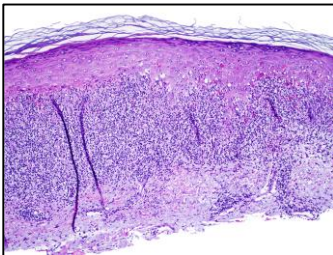




# Lichenoid Interface Reaction Pattern

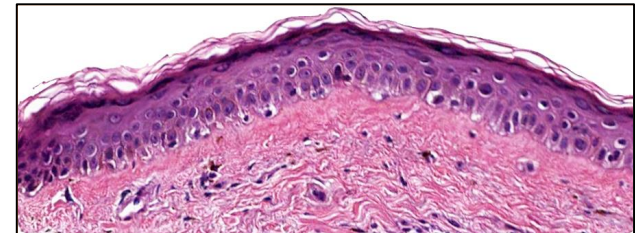
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Secondary syphilis

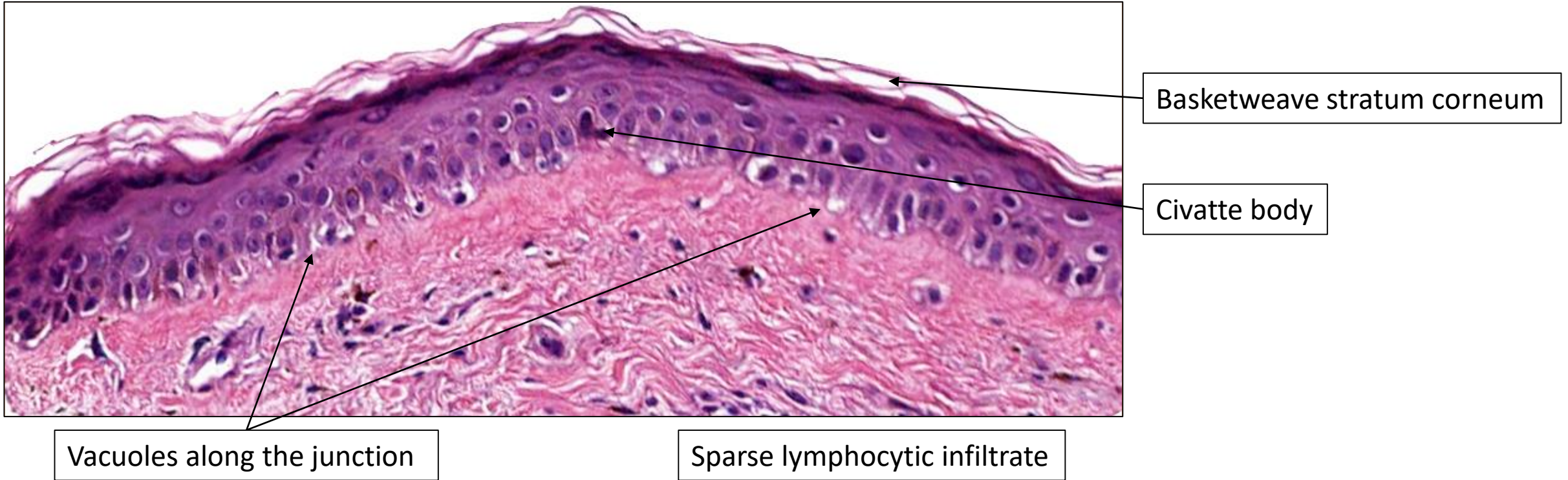


## Vacuolar

Erythema multiforme  
Viral exanthem  
Lupus erythematosus  
Dermatomyositis  
Interface drug reaction



# Vacuolar Interface Reaction Pattern



# Erythema Multiforme



Herpes labialis

- Usually seen in young adults, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> decade
- Males more often affected
- Eruption:
  - Asymptomatic
  - Erythematous, discrete macules, papules
  - Sometimes vesicles and bullae
  - Symmetrical distribution extremities, face, neck
- Most common cause - infectious agents, drugs
- Stevens-Johnson syndrome, toxic epidermal necrolysis with overlapping histology



Partial to full-thickness keratinocyte necrosis





Erythema  
multiforme



Stevens-Johnson  
Syndrome



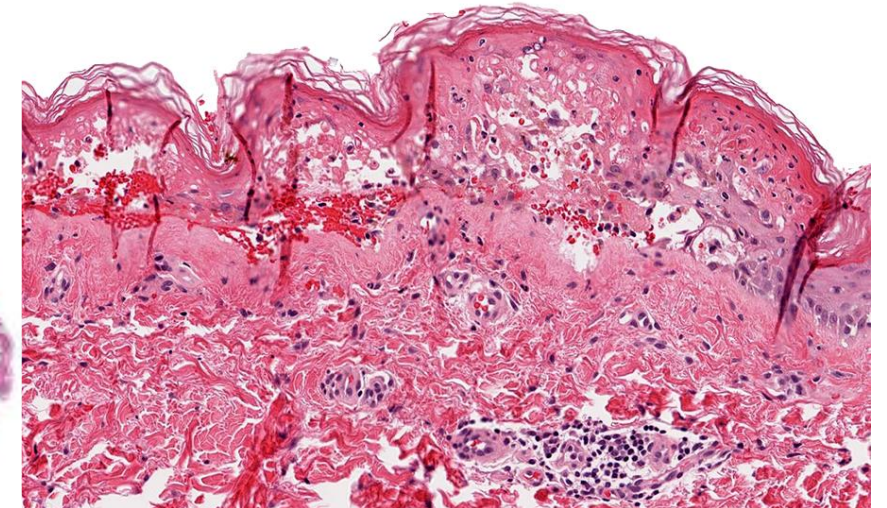
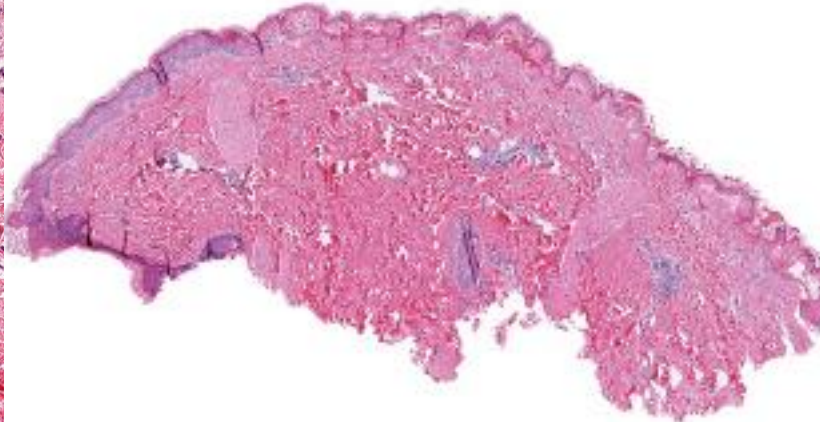
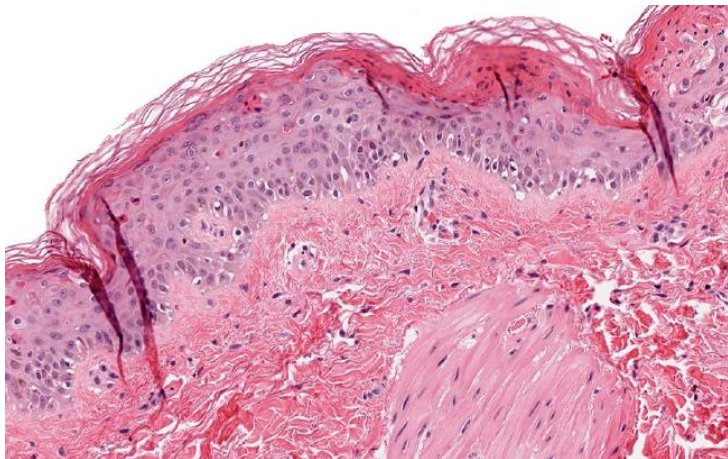
Toxic epidermal  
necrolysis



SJS-TEN Overlap  
←→

< 10% epidermal detachment

> 30% epidermal detachment



# Diagnosis

## **VACUOLAR INTERFACE DERMATITIS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: This histologic spectrum includes erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis. Clinicopathologic correlation is necessary.**





# Connective tissue diseases

- Lupus erythematosus, dermatomyositis
- Share vacuolar interface changes
- Varying degrees of dermal inflammation
- Dermal mucin
- Dermatomyositis and lupus erythematosus are variations on the same histologic spectrum

# Lupus erythematosus



Discoid LE



Subacute cutaneous LE



Systemic LE

- Several clinical variants
- Skin may be only organ involved
- Type I inflammatory environment
- Accumulation of apoptotic cells, worsened by UV, leads to release of endogenous nucleic acids (eNA)
- eNA may play role in cutaneous LE inflammation

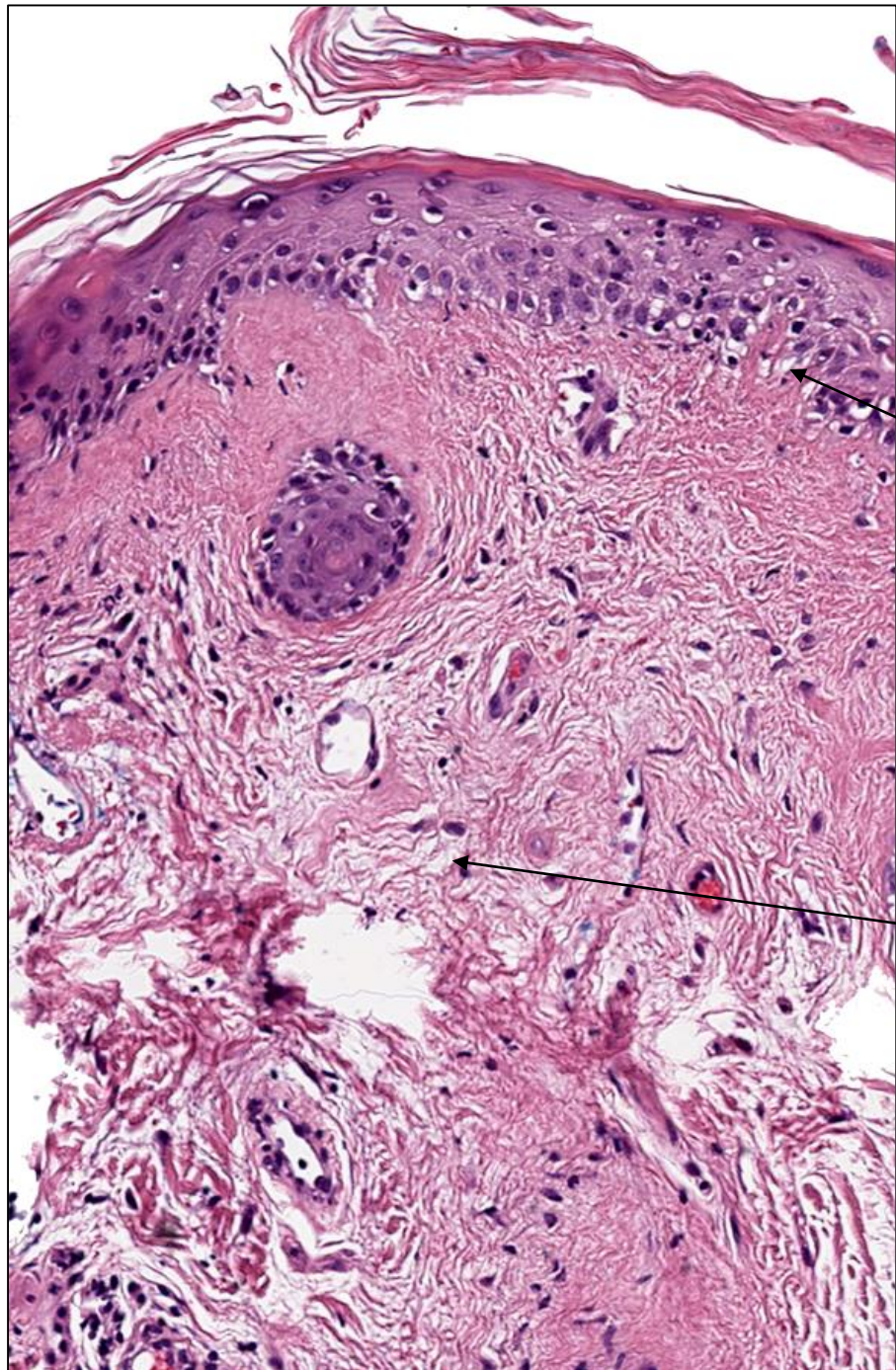




Follicular plugging

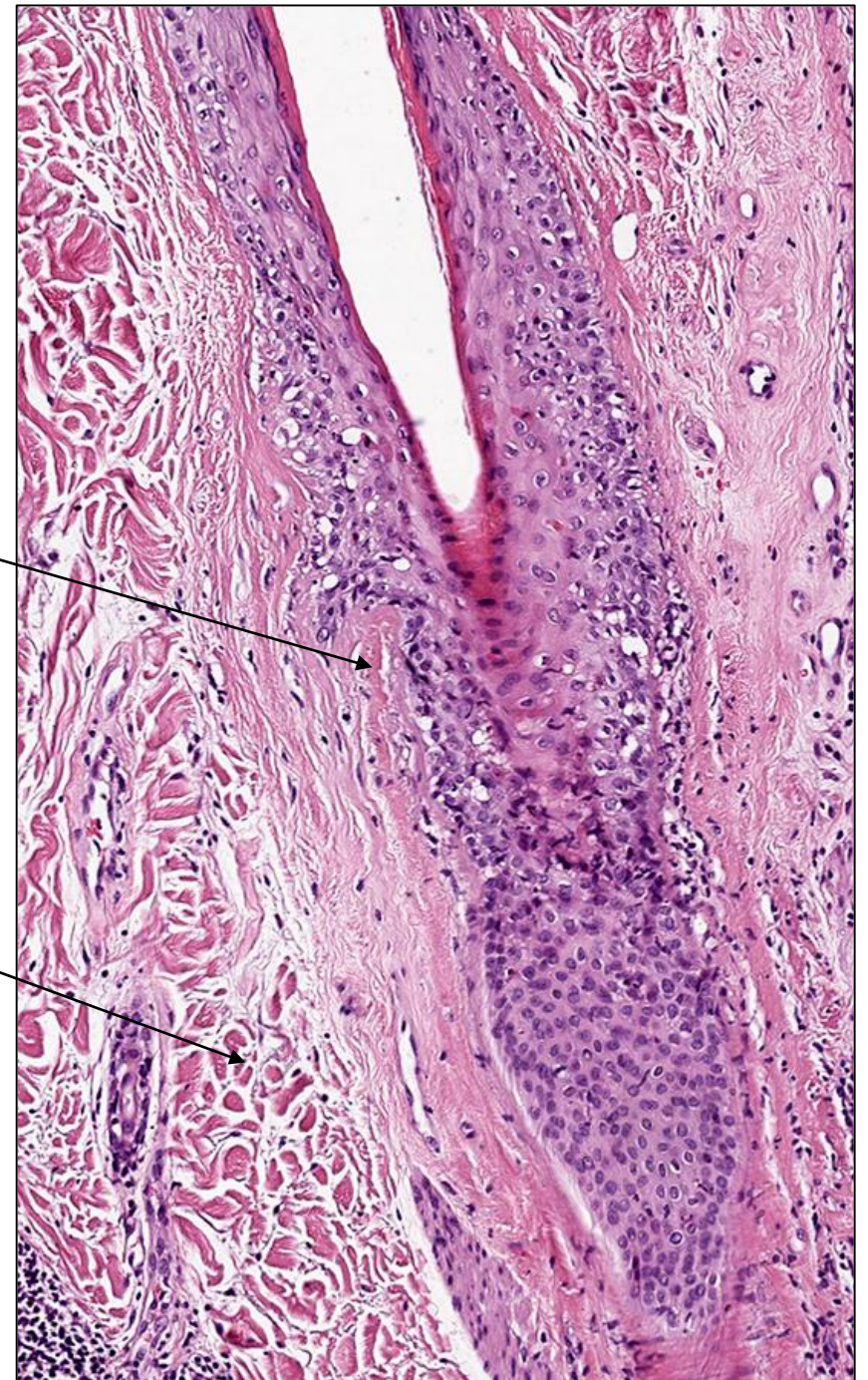
Superficial and deep perivascular and  
periadnexal inflammation





Vacuolar interface  
changes involving  
epidermis and  
follicular epithelium

Stainable tissue  
mucin in the  
reticular dermis





# Dermatomyositis

- Autoimmune disease affects skin and muscles
- Associated with increased risk of malignancy
- Complications include calcification

Gottron's papules



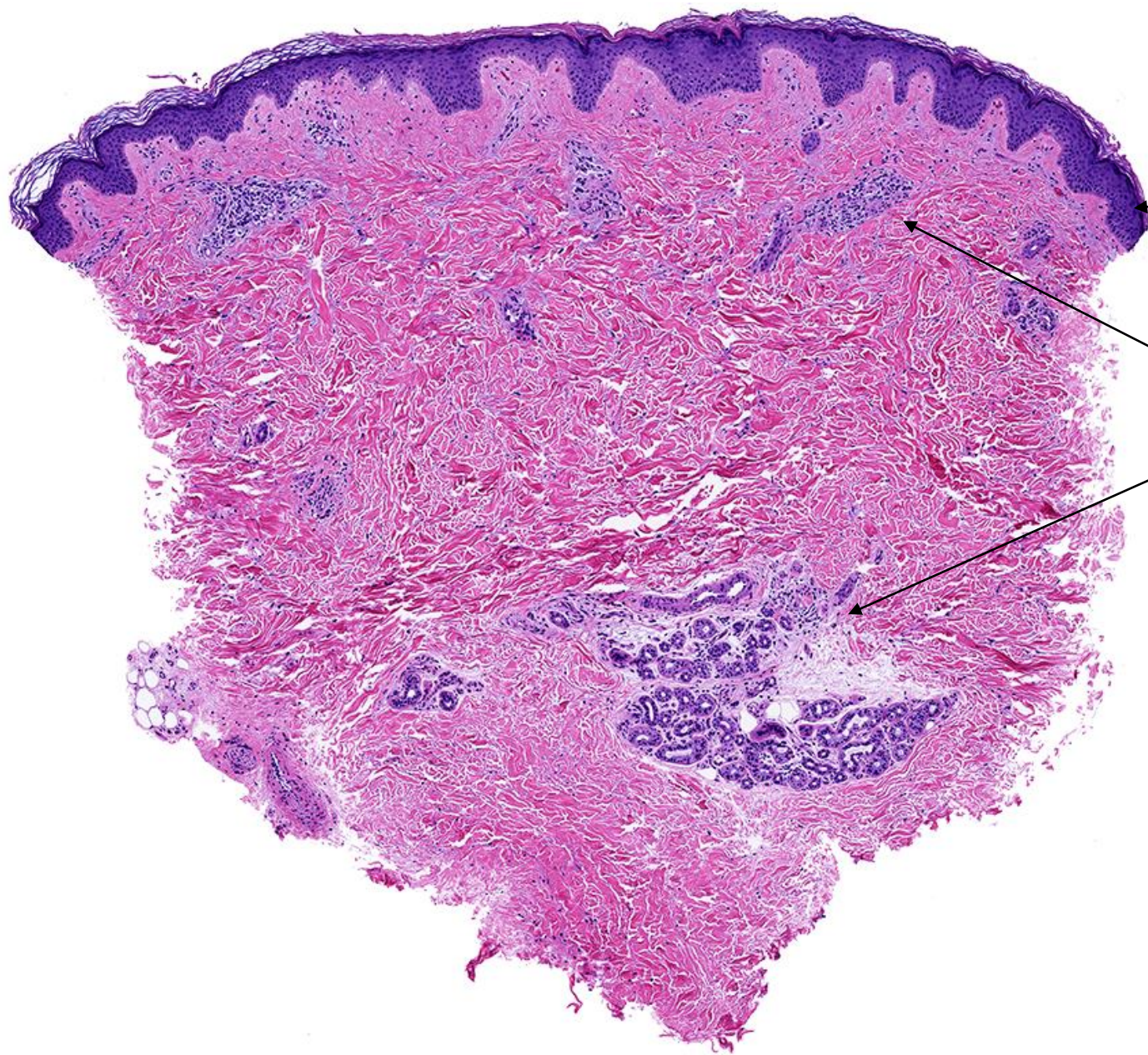
Violaceous erythema of eyelids - heliotrope



Poikiloderma, chest







Mild epidermal acanthosis

Superficial and deep  
perivascular and periadnexal  
lymphocytic inflammation



Subtle vacuolar interface changes

Mild keratinocyte enlargement and hypereosinophilia

Rare Civatte bodies

*Similar changes can be seen in drug reaction or viral exanthem*

*Findings can be quite subtle in dermatomyositis!*



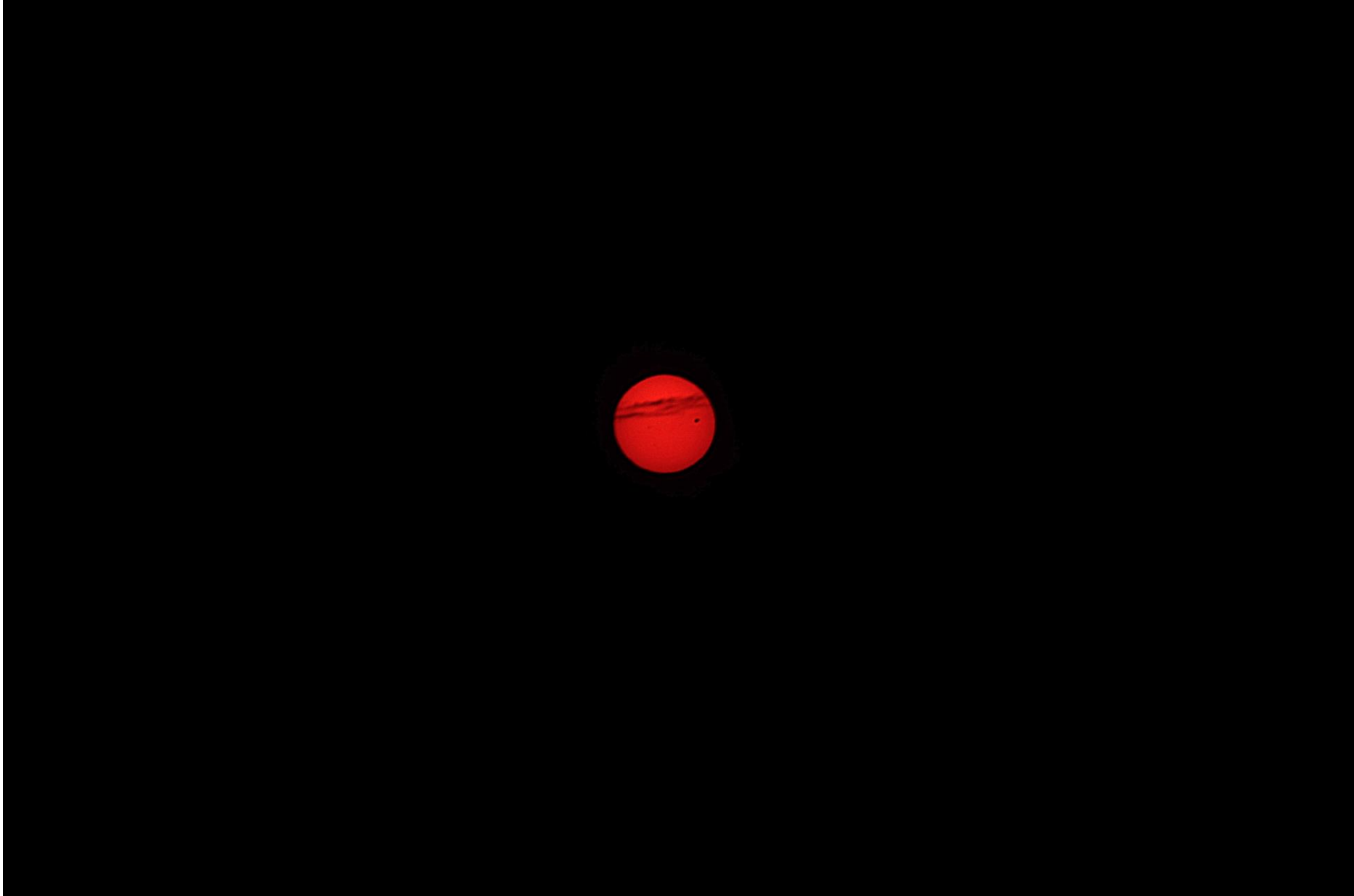
# Diagnosis

## **VACUOLAR INTERFACE DERMATITIS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: The histologic differential diagnosis includes a connective tissue disorder such as dermatomyositis or lupus erythematosus, or an interface drug reaction or viral exanthem.**

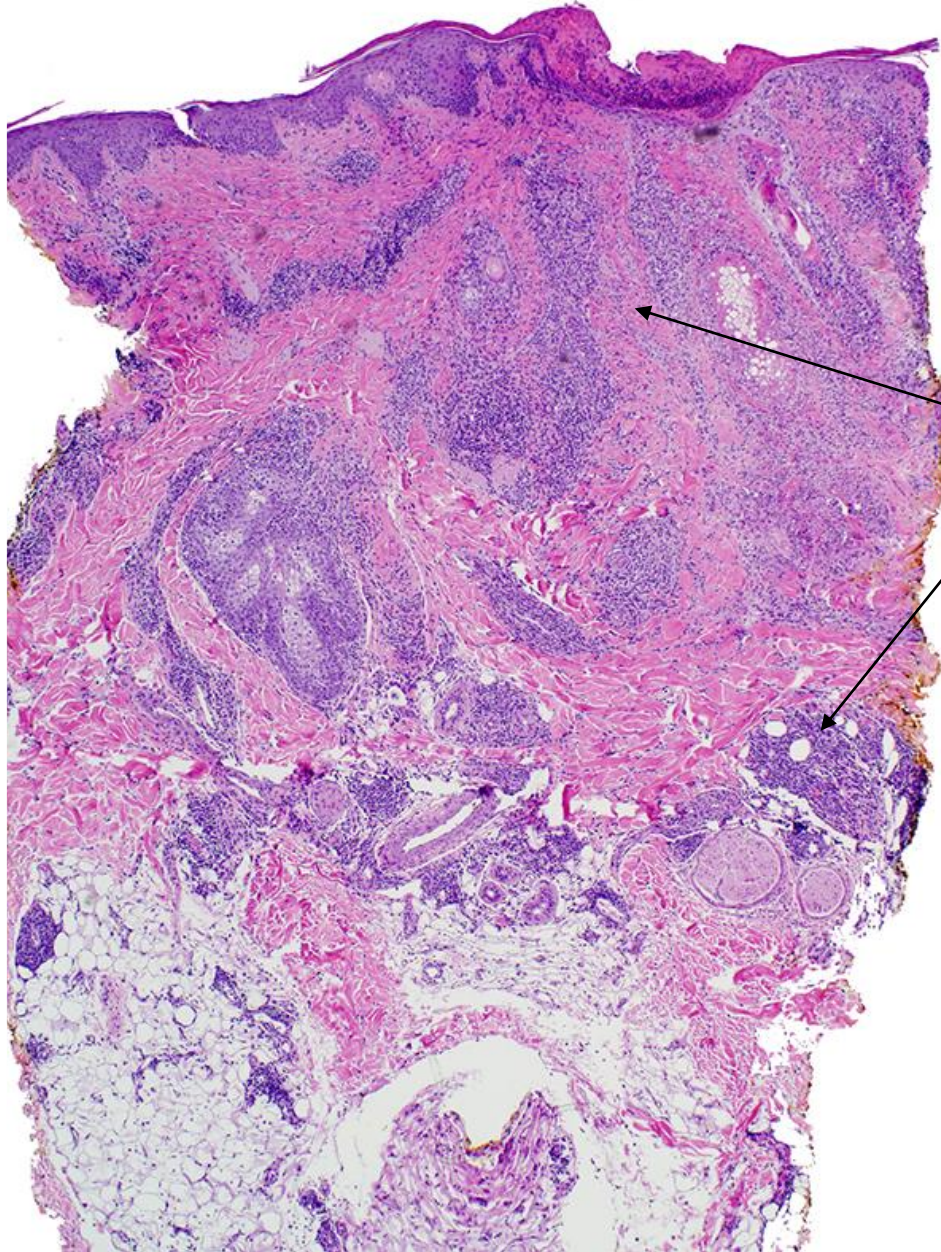


# Venus Transit, June 6, 2012



Case 2 – tender scalp plaque

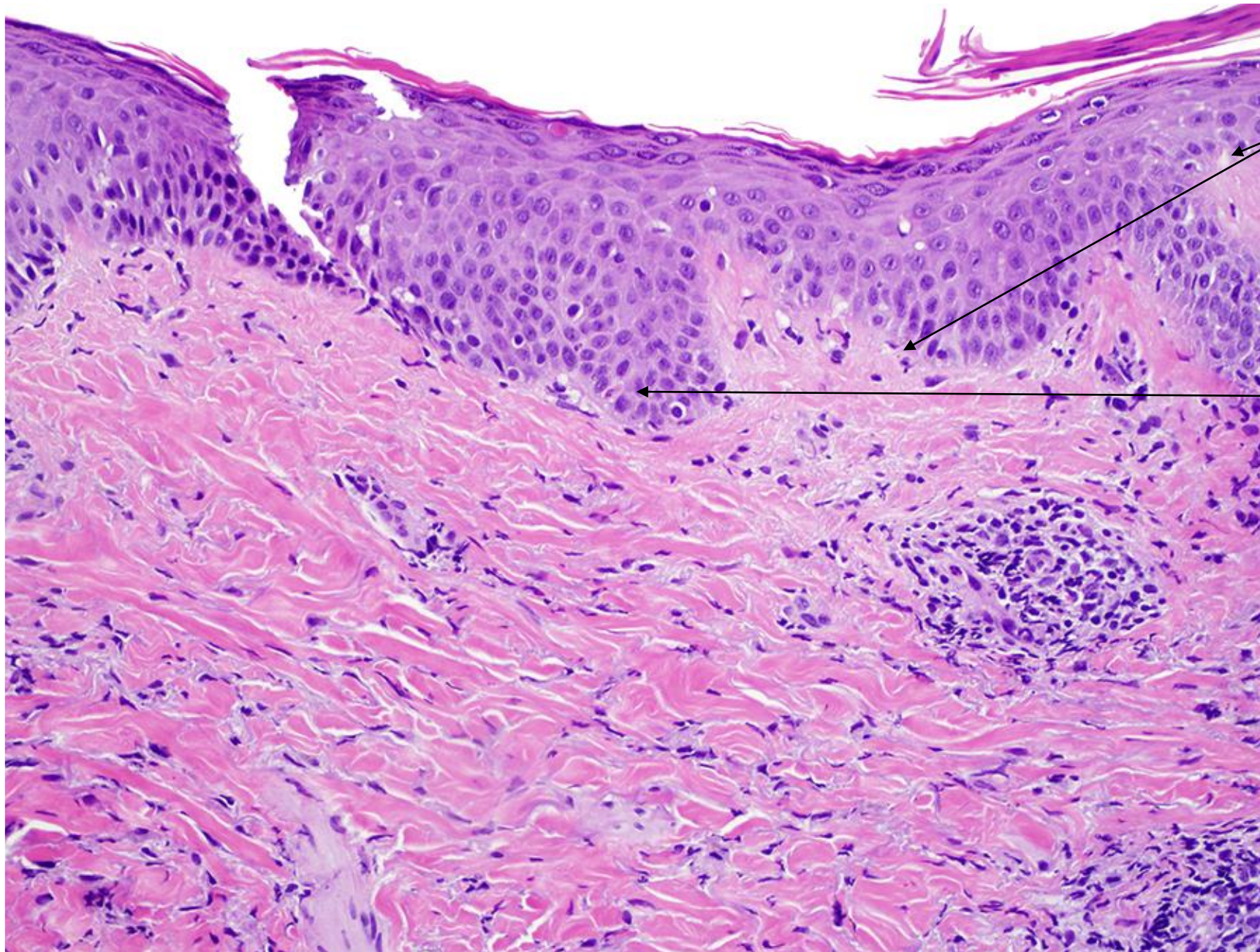
Epidermal erosion and inflammatory crust



Superficial and deep perivascular and  
periadnexal lymphocytic inflammation

*Low magnification ? lupus*

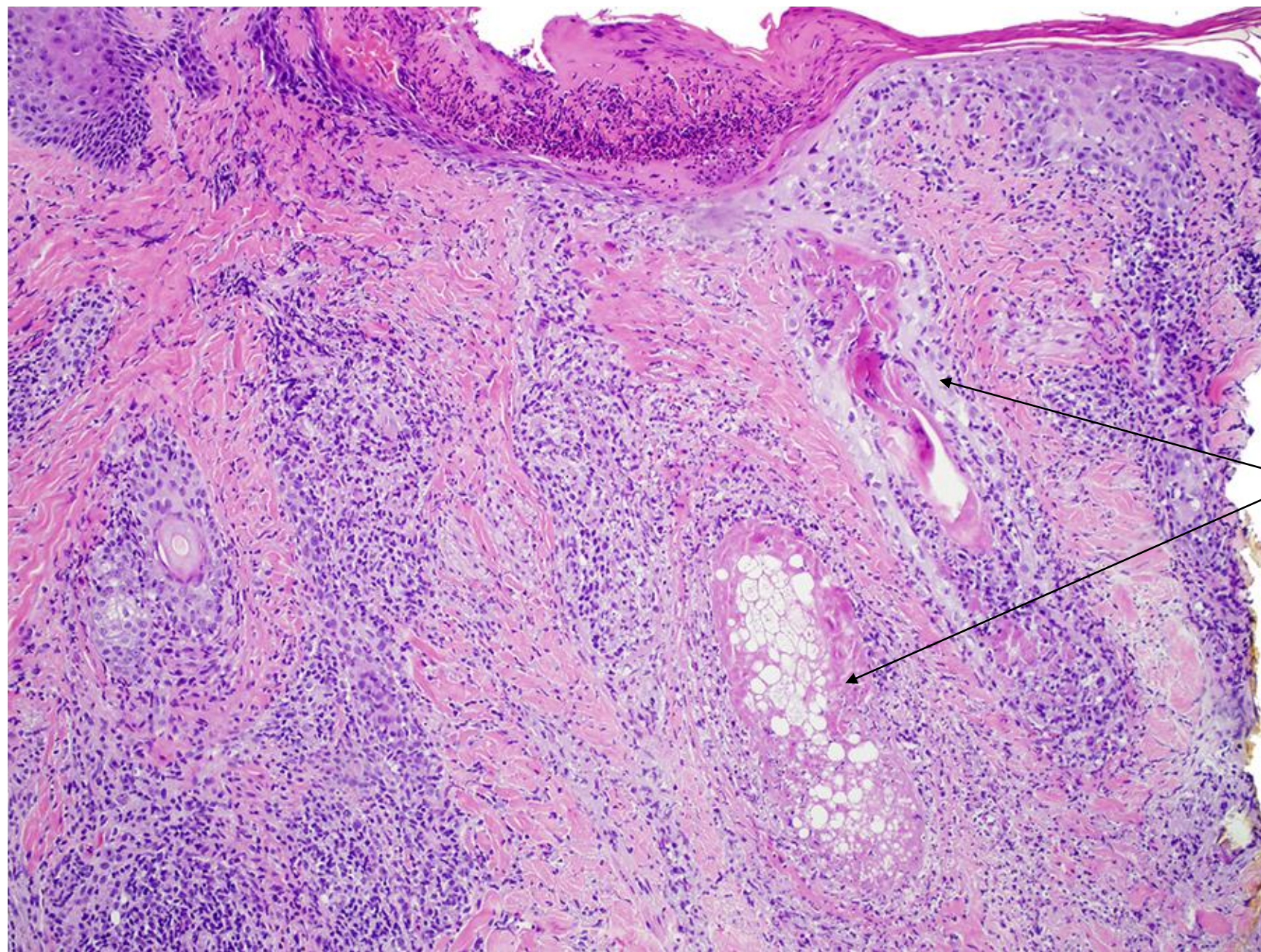




Vacuolar interface changes

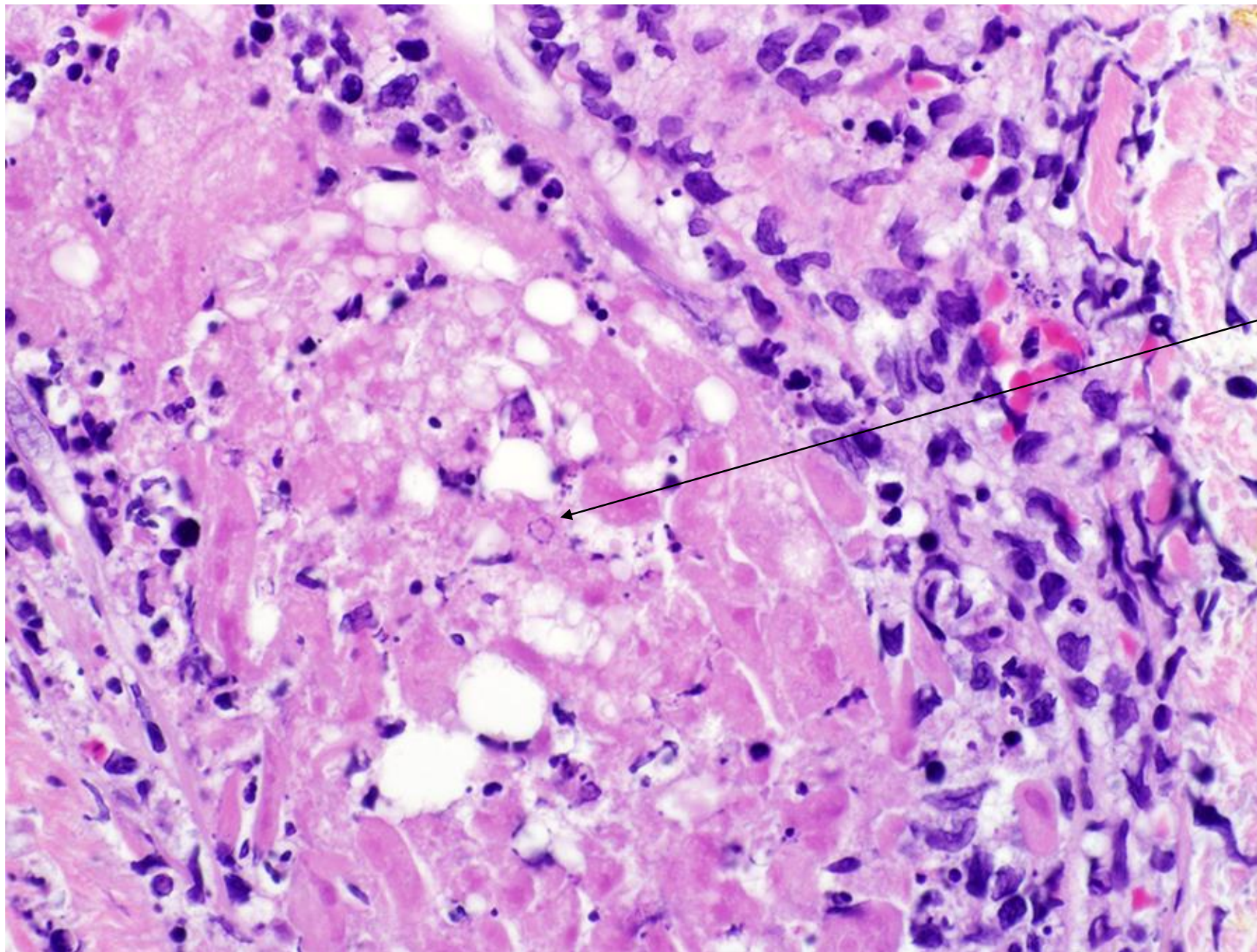
Rare Civatte body





Necrotic pilosebaceous units





Peripheral marginization  
of chromatin



Scalp with tender erythematous plaque composed of coalescing papulovesicles, some crusted



60 year old man

# Diagnosis?

1. Lupus erythematosus
2. Interface drug reaction
3. Herpes zoster
4. Dermatomyositis
5. Syphilis

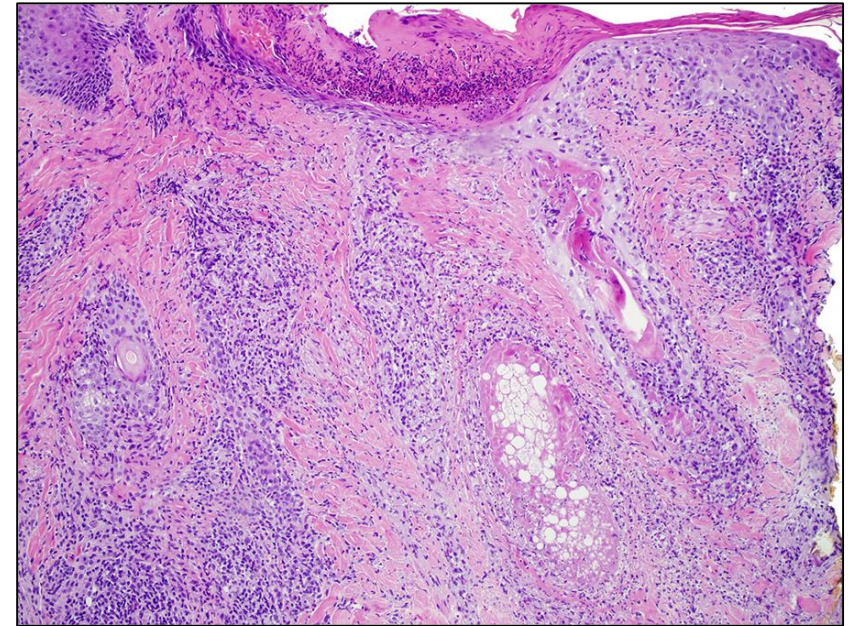
# Diagnosis?

1. Lupus erythematosus
2. Interface drug reaction
3. *Herpes zoster*
4. Dermatomyositis
5. Syphilis



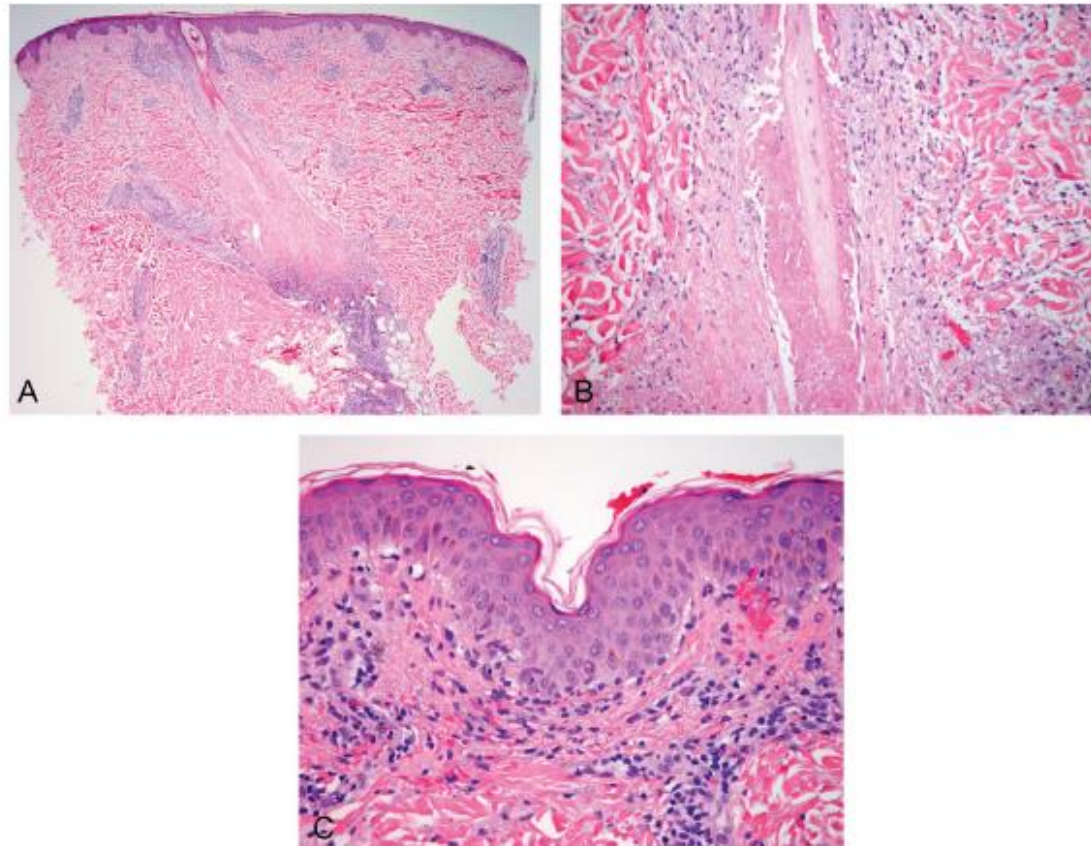
## Important Point!

*Necrotic pilosebaceous units are a clue to herpesvirus infection*



# Folliculocentric Herpes: A Clinicopathological Study of 28 Patients

*A. Neil Crowson, MD,\* Jad Saab, MD,† and Cynthia M. Magro, MD‡*



Perifollicular lymphocytic inflammation

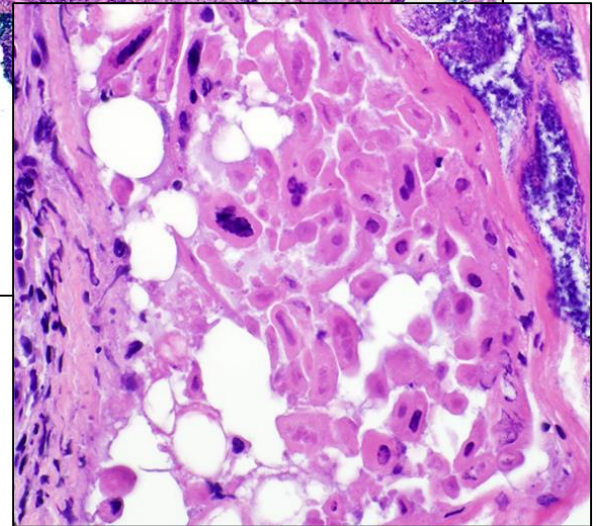
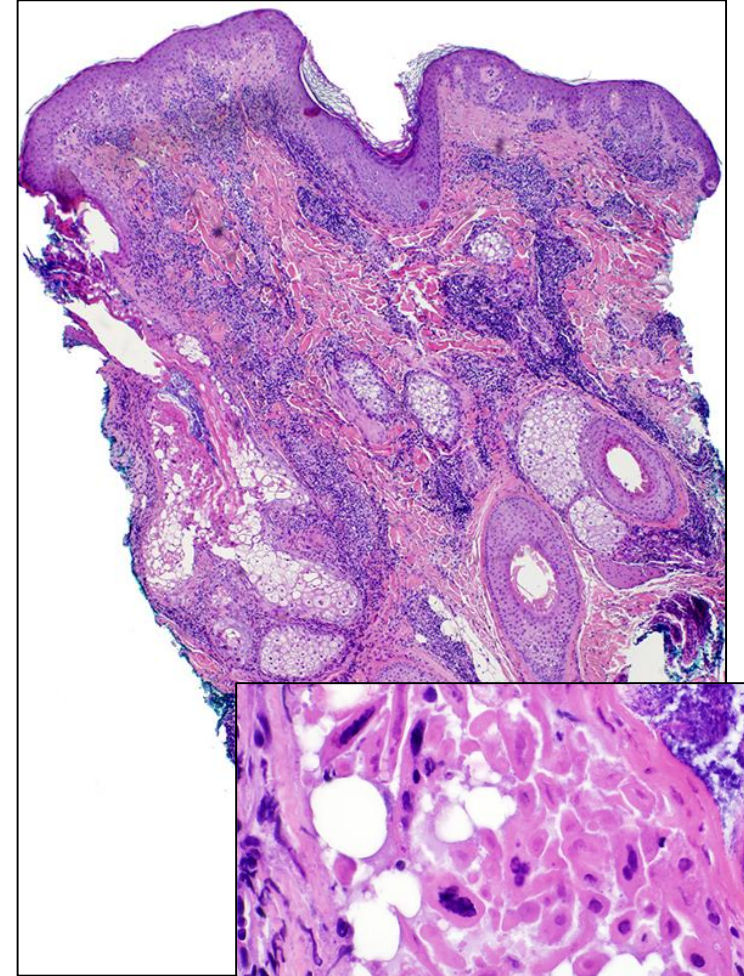
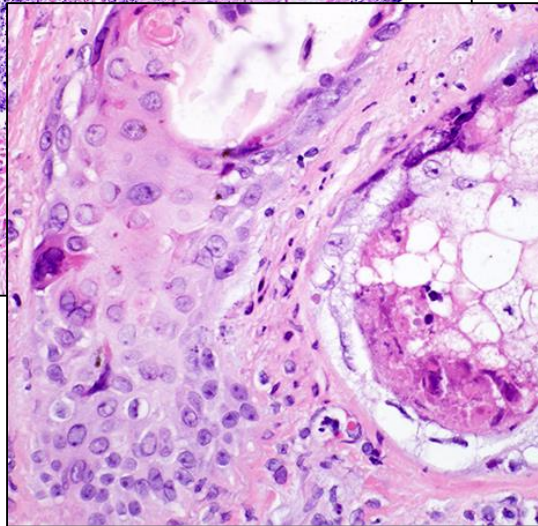
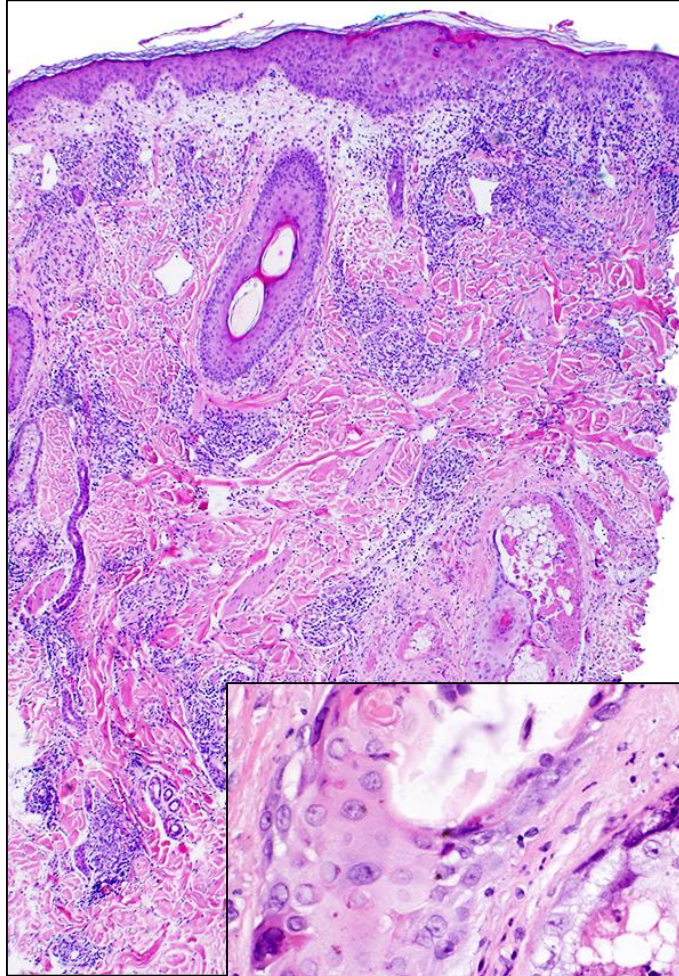
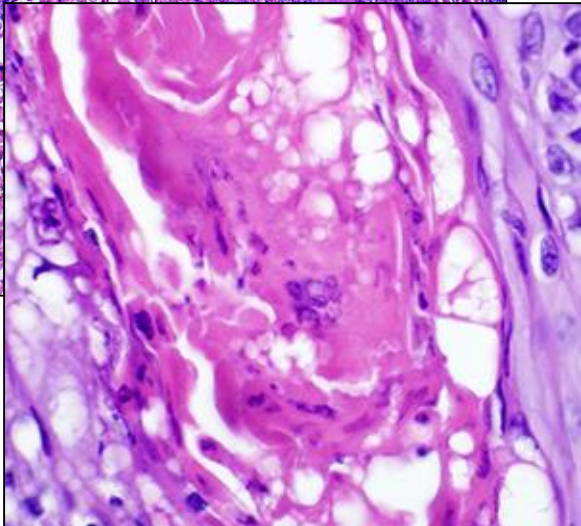
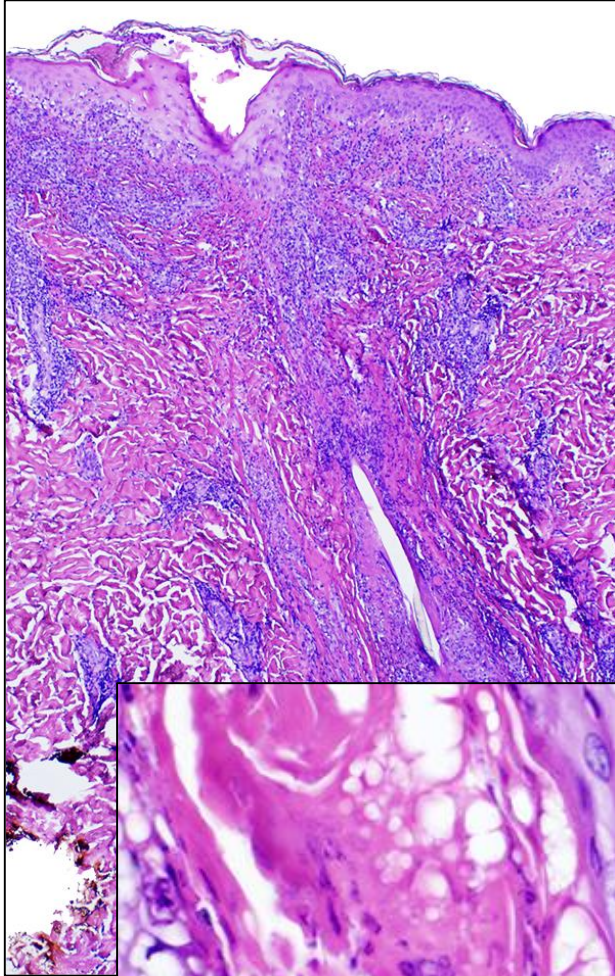
Necrosis of follicular epithelium

Vacuolar interface changes

**FIGURE 1.** Dense lymphocytic infiltrate is found in close apposition to the hair follicles and blood vessels [A, hematoxylin and eosin (H&E),  $\times 4$ ]. The outer root sheath epithelium is necrotic (B, H&E,  $\times 20$ ) and there is a concomitant interfollicular interface dermatitis (C, H&E,  $\times 40$ ). The overall morphology would raise diagnostic consideration of discoid lupus erythematosus.




# Herpes zoster





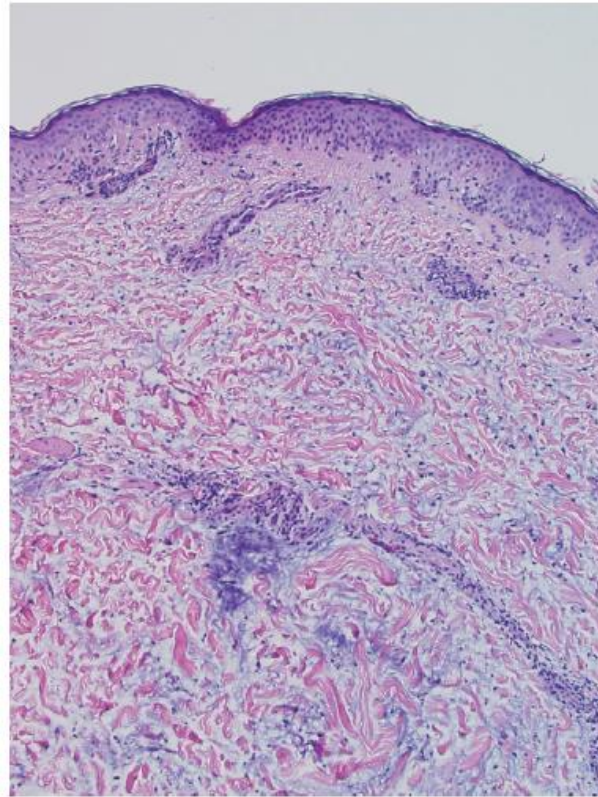
Pitfall! – something else to consider with lupus-like histology....

# Late latent mucinous syphilis mimicking connective tissue disease

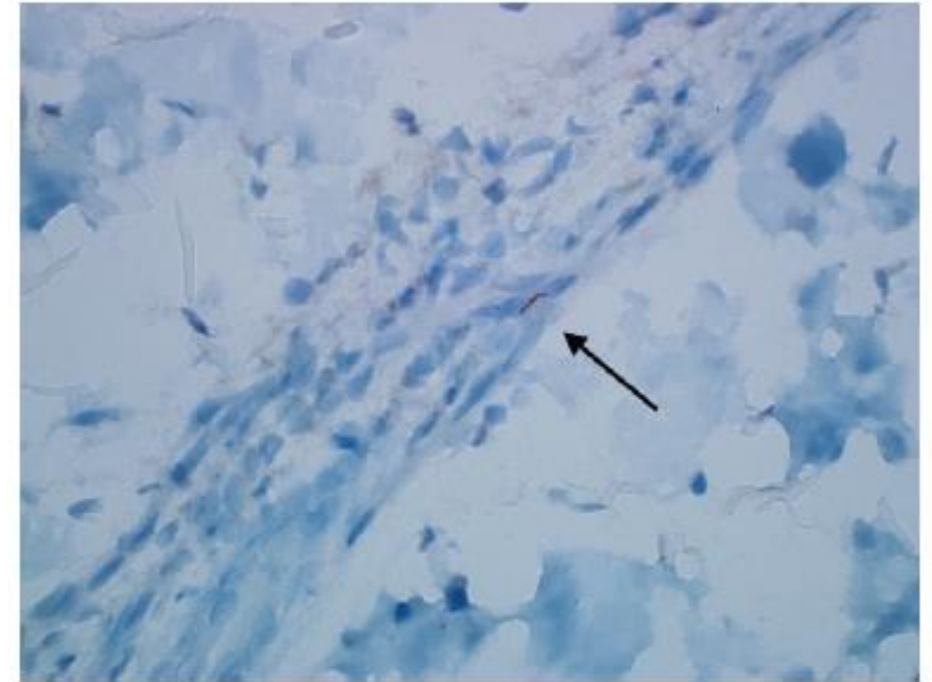
Silvija P. Gottesman<sup>1</sup>  | Yuliya S. Schoenling<sup>2</sup> | Keliegh S. Culpepper<sup>3,4</sup>



Flesh colored papules and nodules

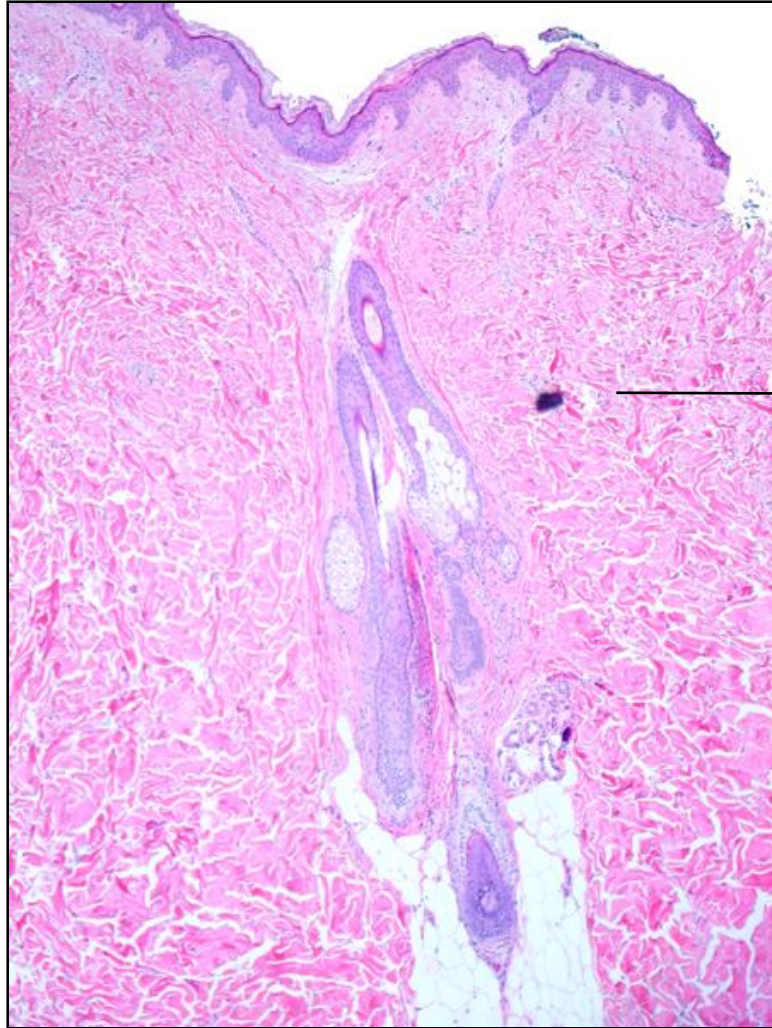


Vacuolar interface, superficial and deep inflammation, mucin



**FIGURE 5** Immunohistochemistry for *Treponema pallidum* highlights a single spirochete in the vicinity of a dermal capillary (T.pal IHC, ×600)

# What Part of the Skin is Involved?



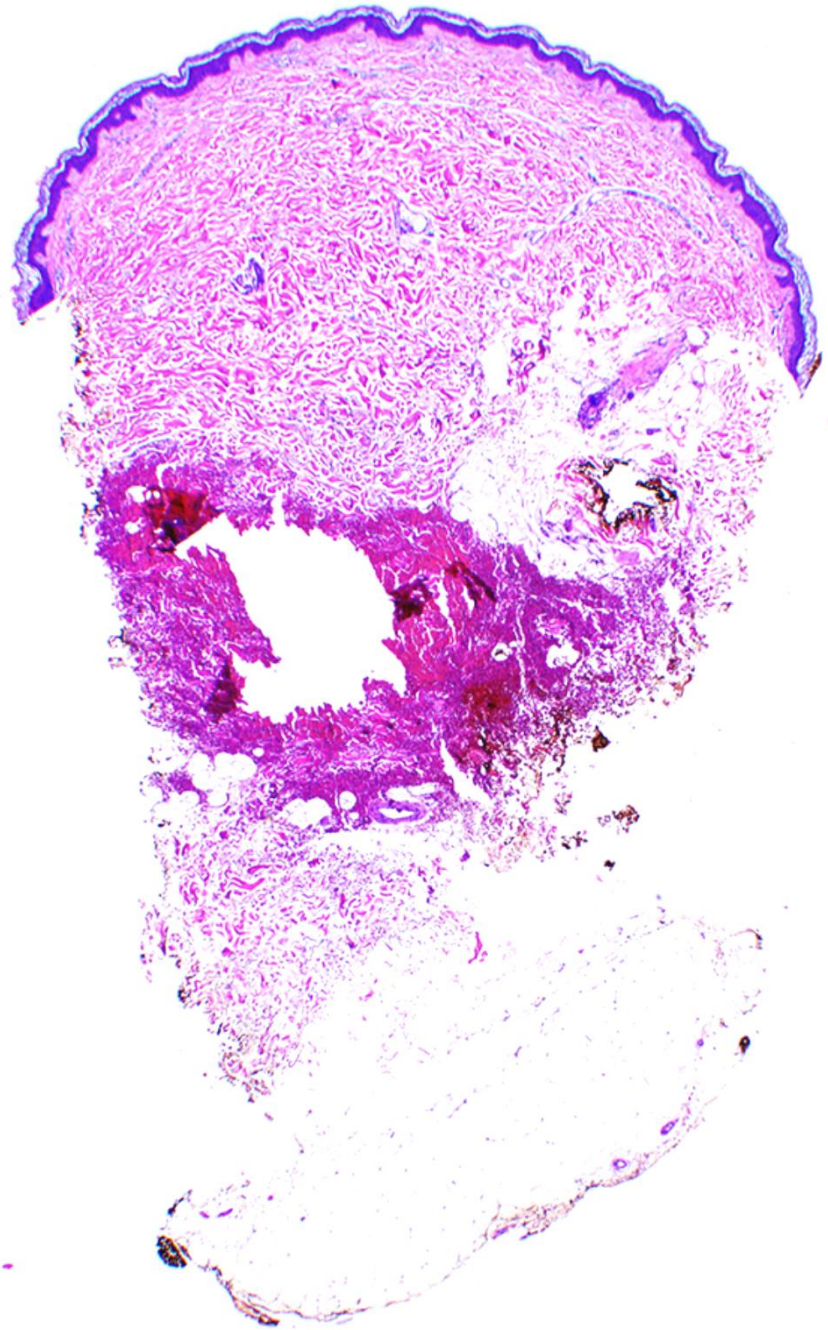
Dermis  
Urticaria



# Dermis - Urticaria (Hives, Wheals)

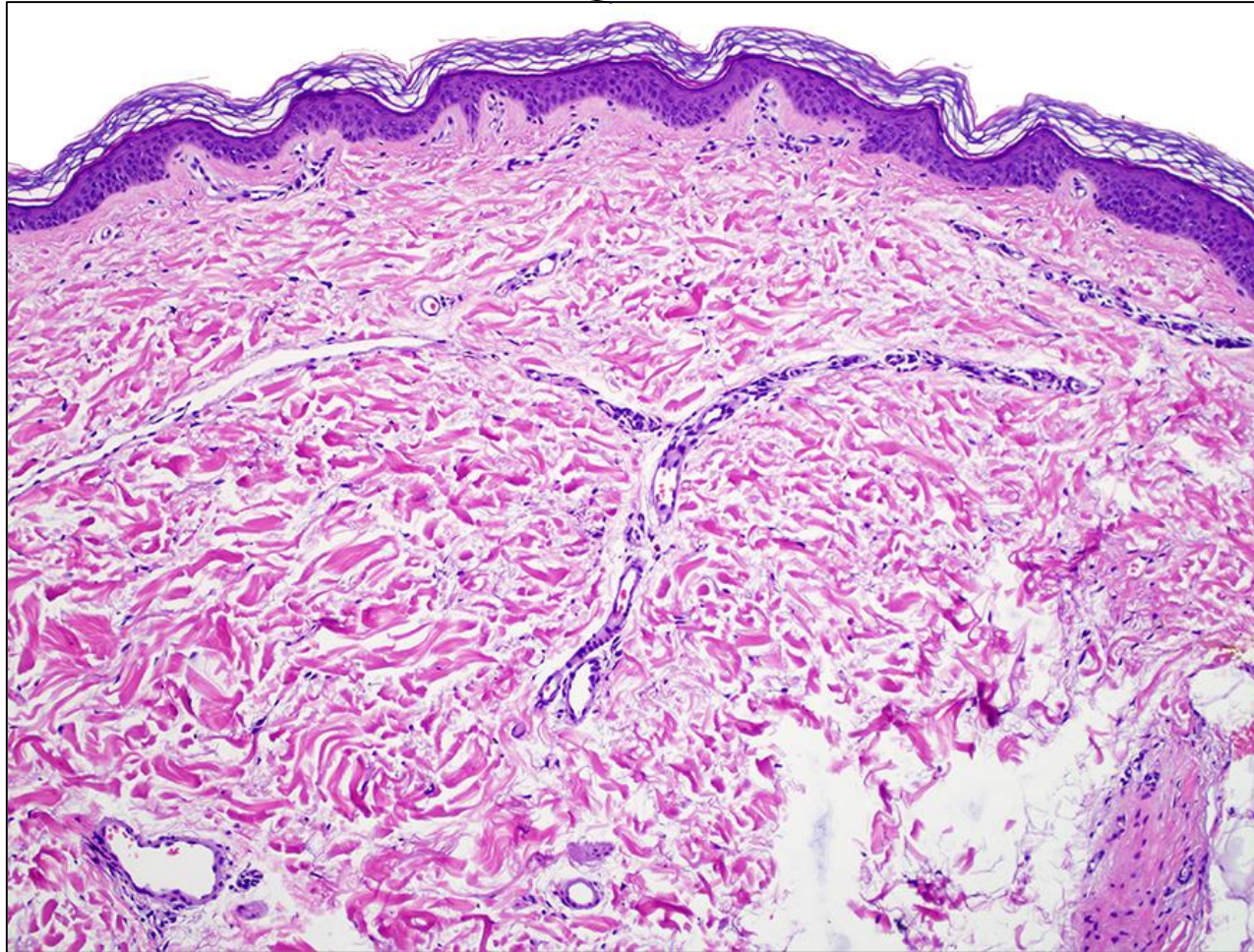
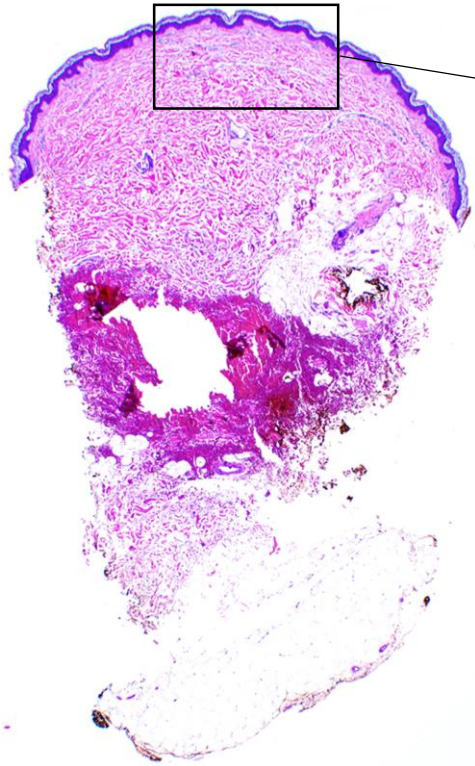


Edematous papules and plaques *without* surface changes



Relatively unremarkable low magnification

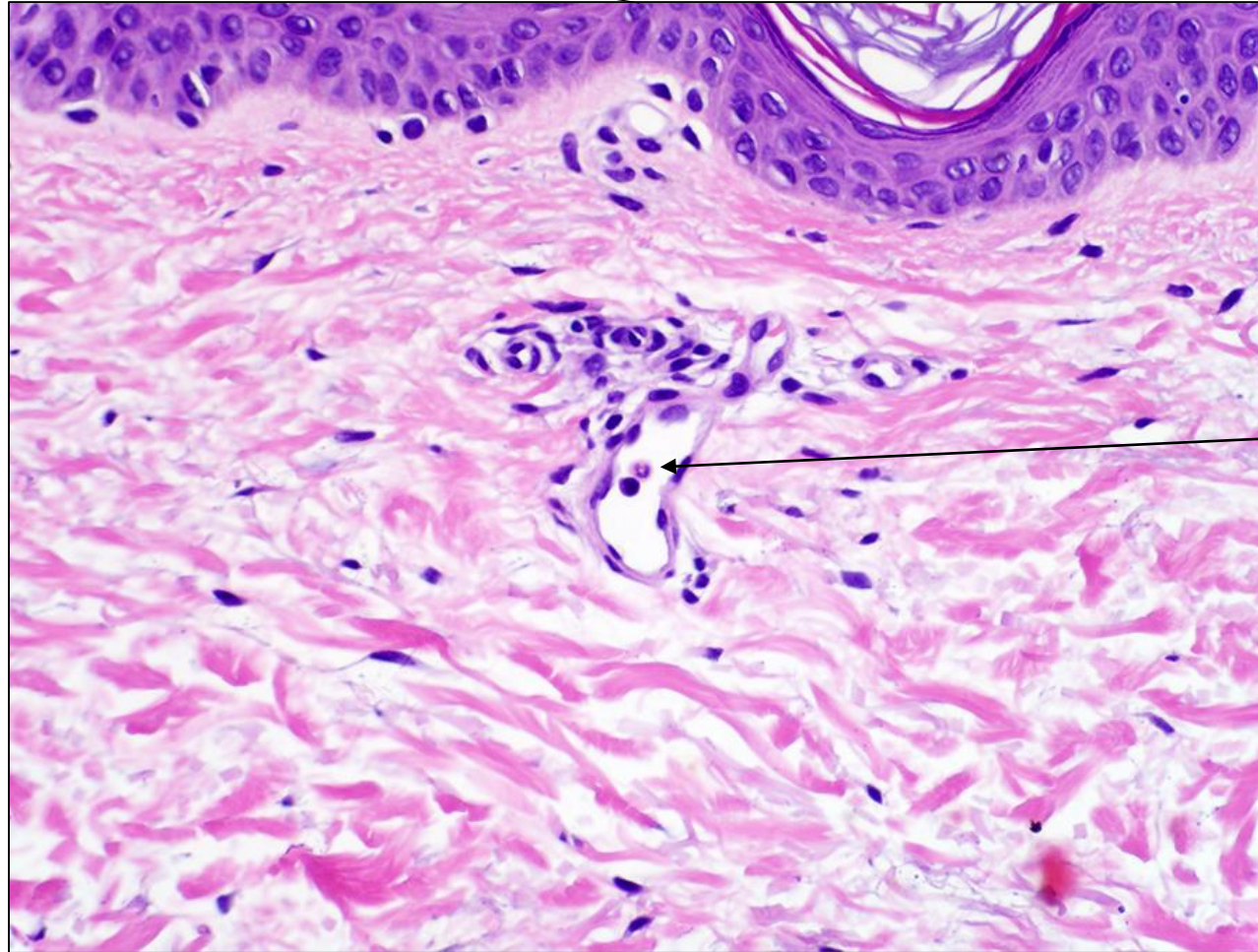
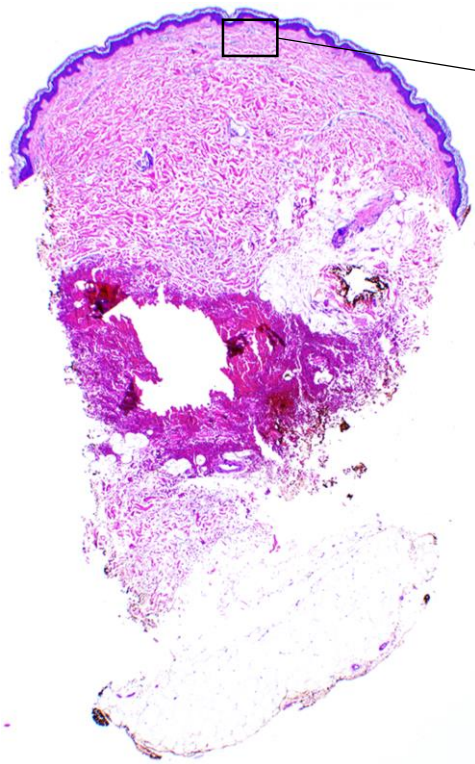




Normal epidermis

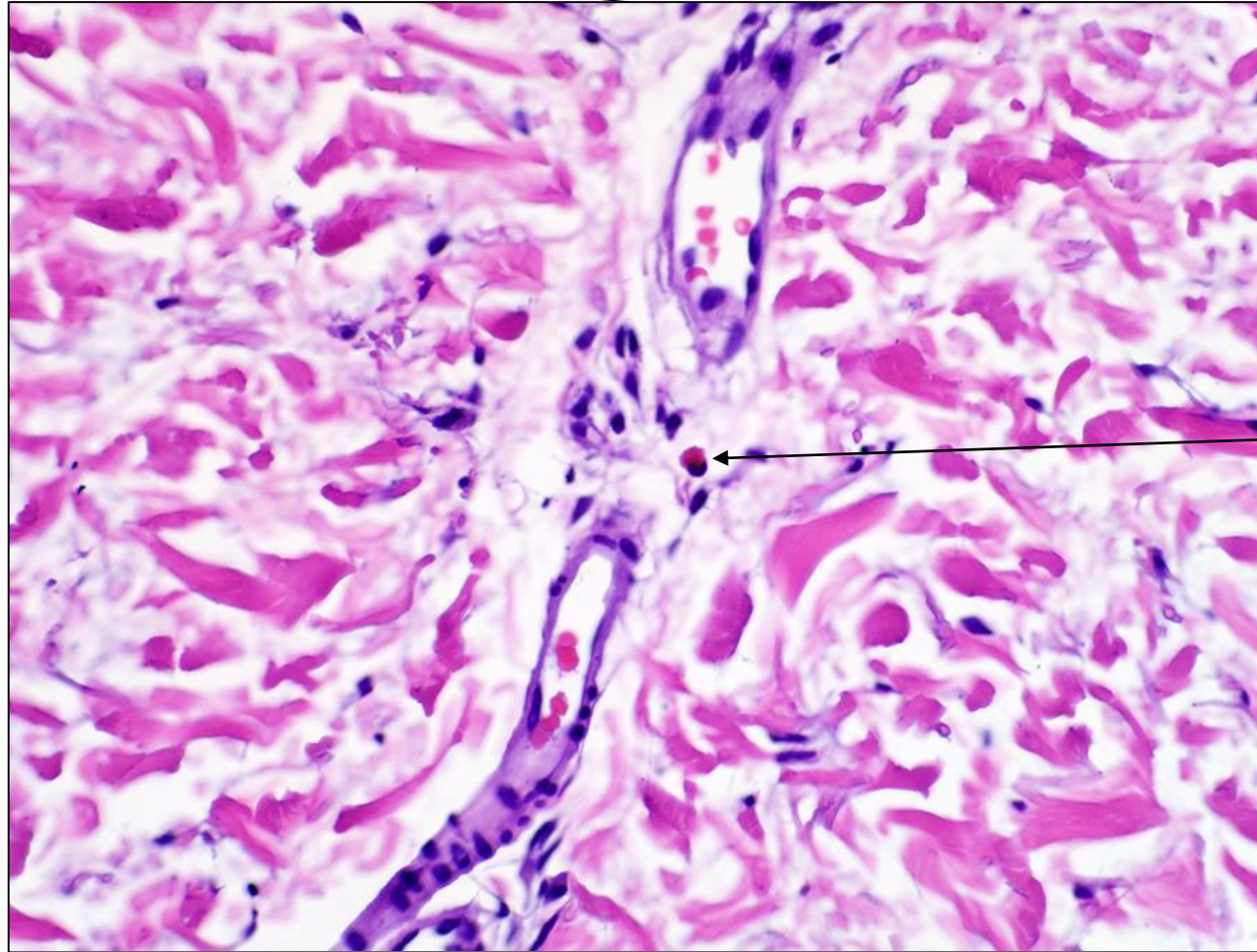
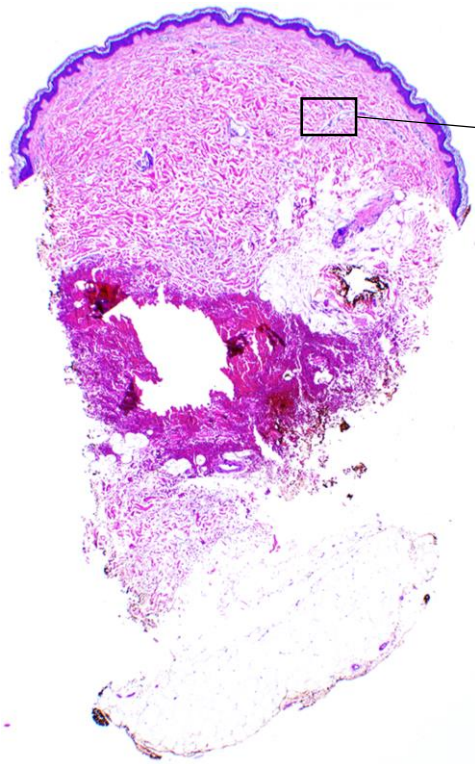
Sparse perivascular  
inflammation





Intraluminal neutrophilic diapedesis





Rare perivascular  
eosinophils

# Urticarial Hypersensitivity Reaction

- Urticaria
- Urticarial drug reaction
- Urticarial vasculitis
- Arthropod assault reaction
- Urticarial phase of bullous pemphigoid





# Diagnosis

**URTICARIAL HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTION (SEE COMMENT)**

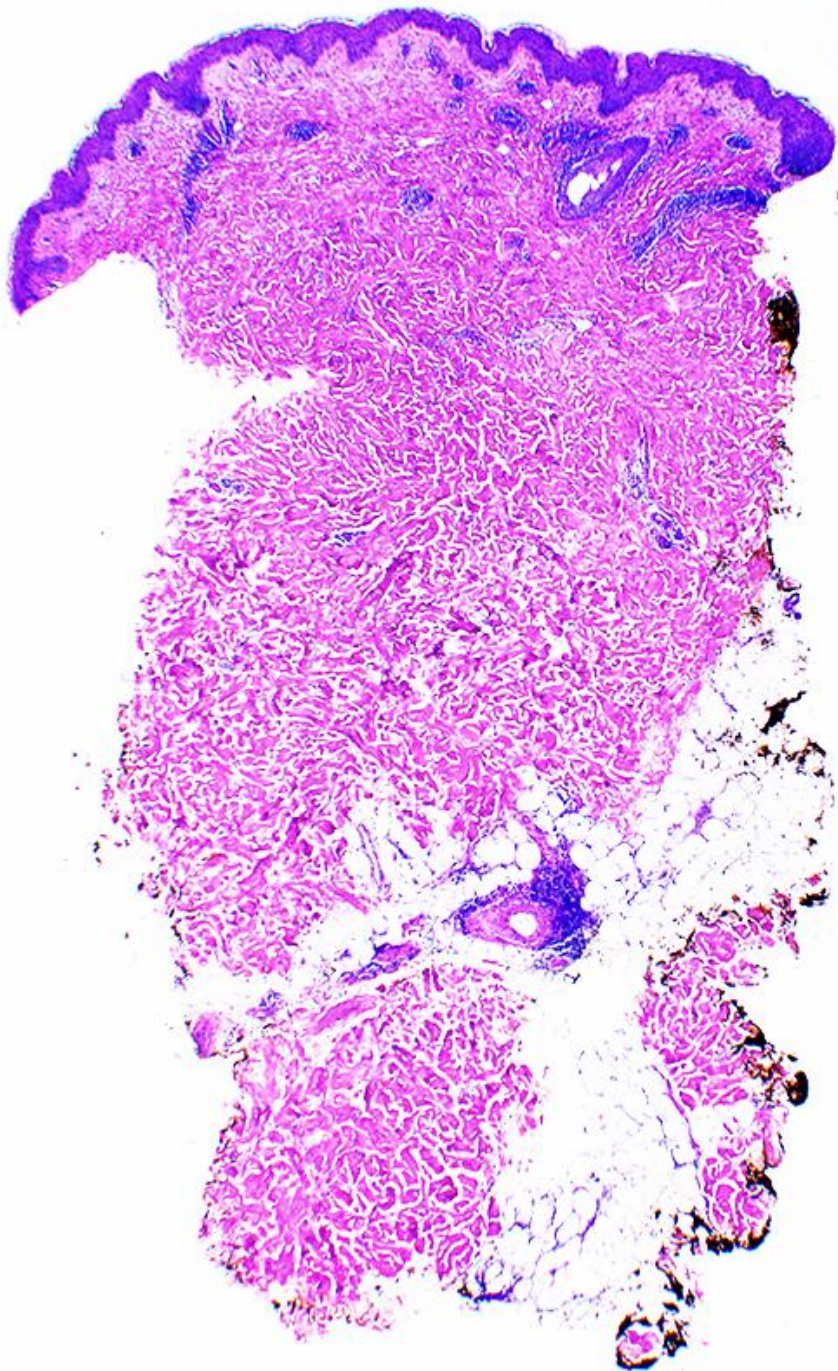
**Comment: The features are compatible with urticaria, urticarial vasculitis, or an urticarial drug eruption.**

# Canyon Overlook, Zion National Park



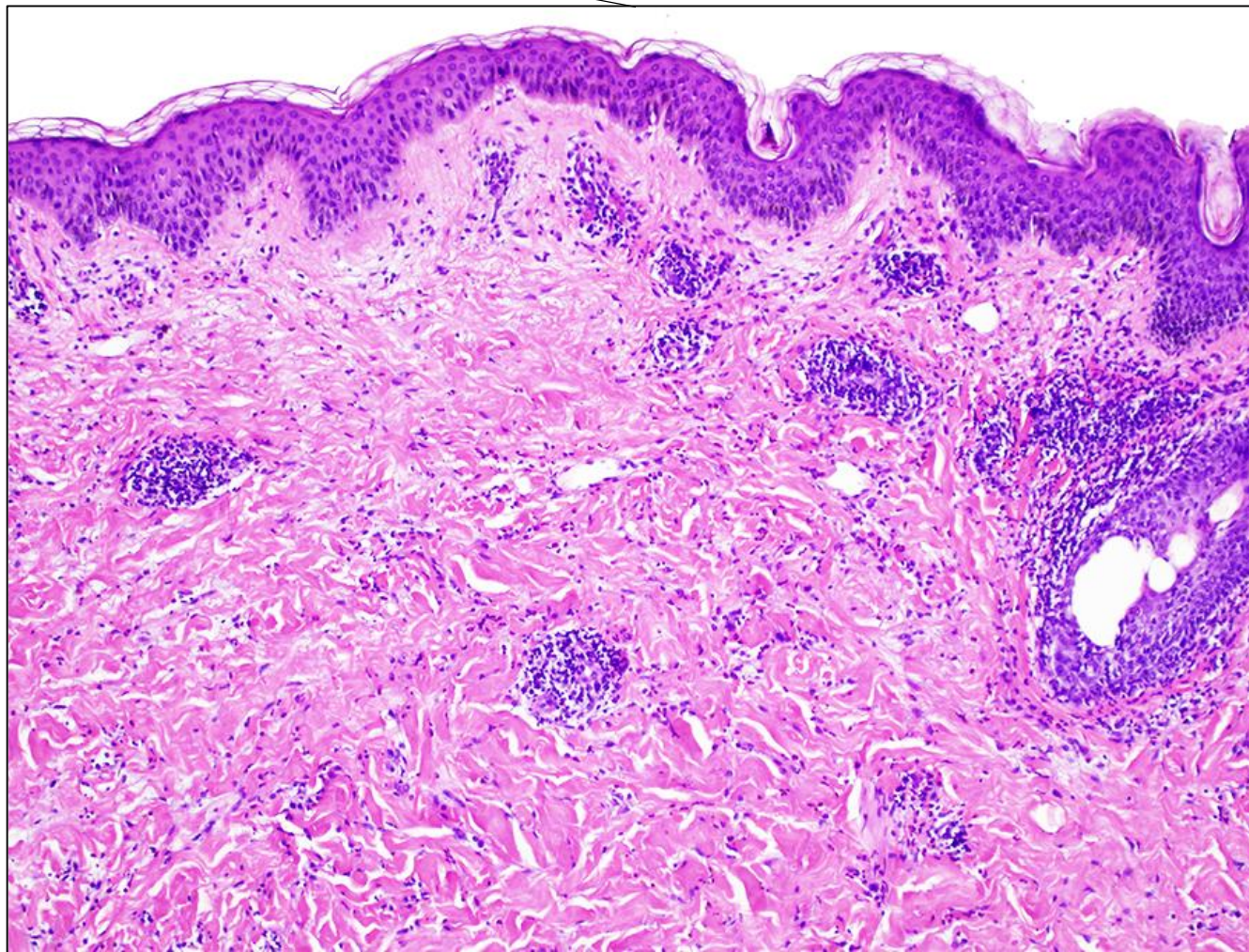
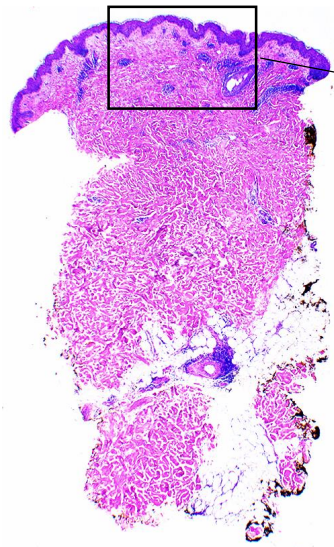
Case 3 – punch biopsy from the lower leg





Superficial and deep perivascular  
and pannicular inflammation





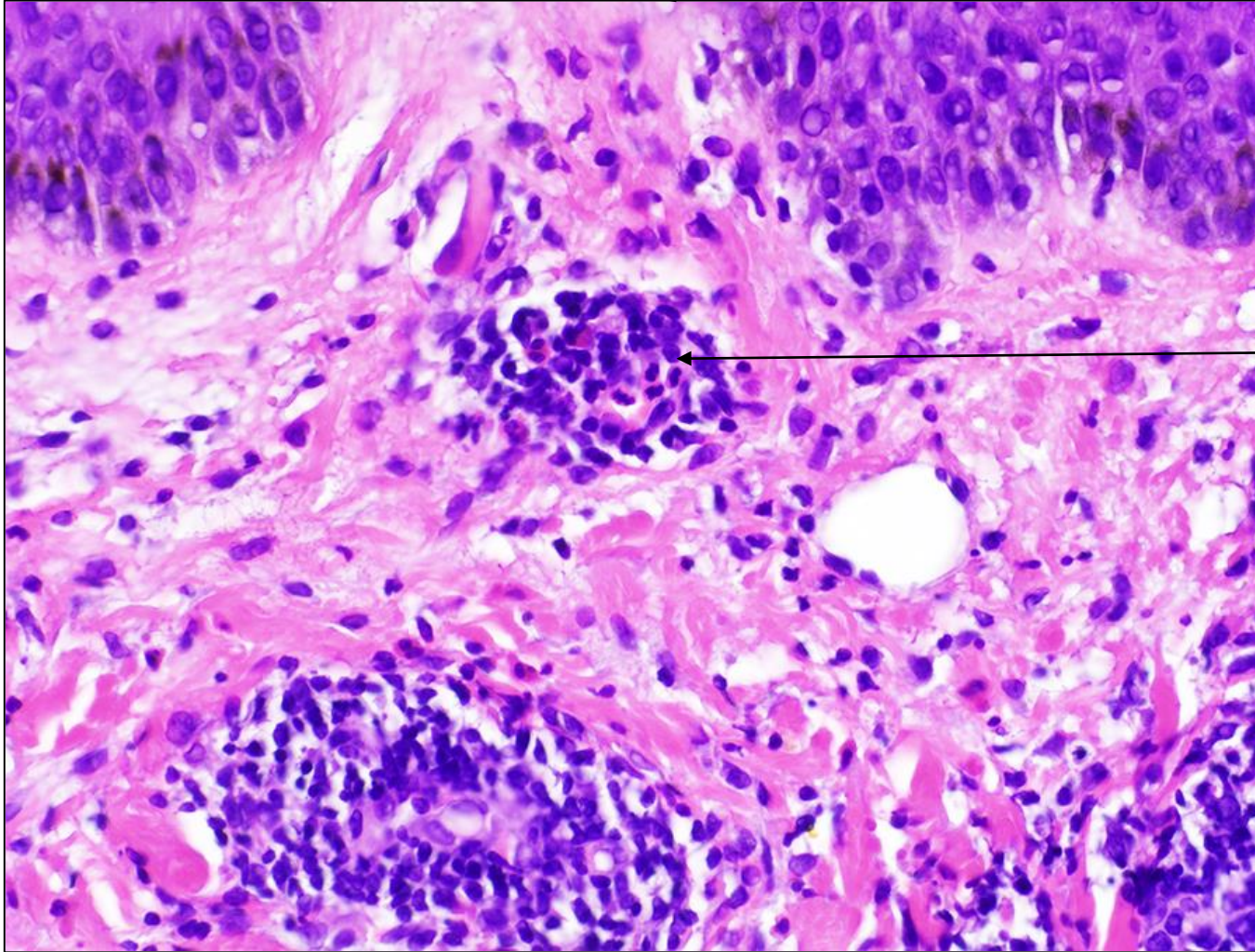
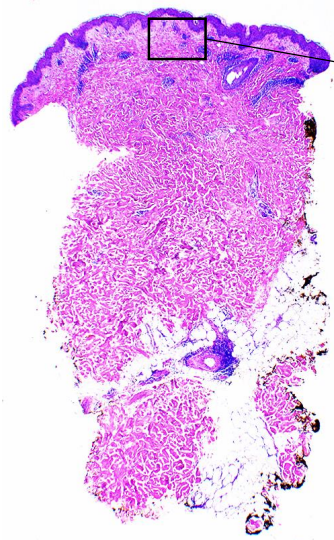
Basketweave stratum corneum

Hint of spongiosis

Papillary dermal edema

Perivascular and interstitial  
inflammation



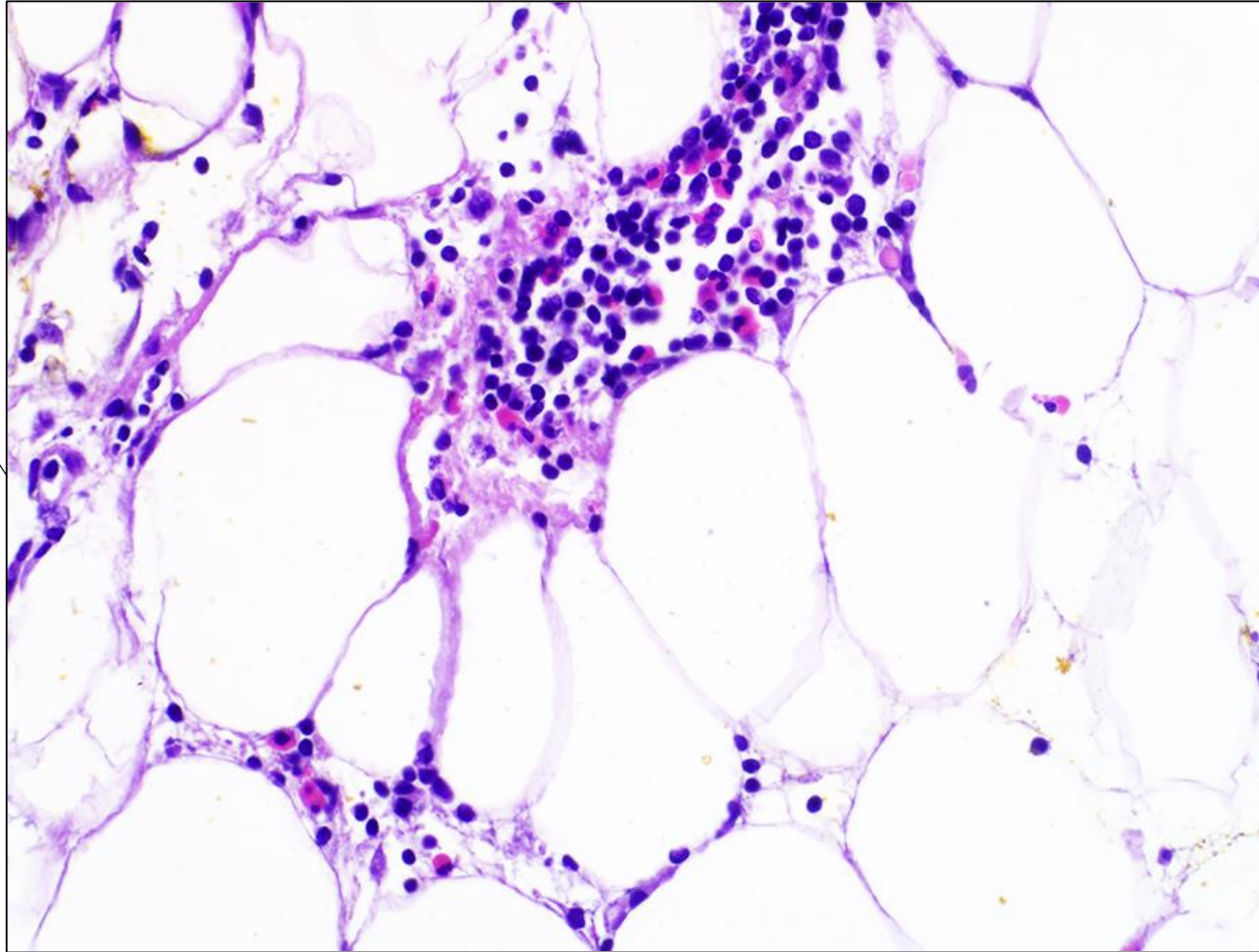


Intraluminal  
neutrophilic diapedesis

Lymphocytes and lots  
of eosinophils



Numerous eosinophils in the subcutaneous adipose tissue



## Case 3

18 year old female with pruritic, scattered and grouped erythematous papules on extremities



# Diagnosis?

1. Urticaria
2. Urticarial drug reaction
3. Urticarial vasculitis
4. Arthropod assault reaction
5. Urticarial phase of bullous pemphigoid

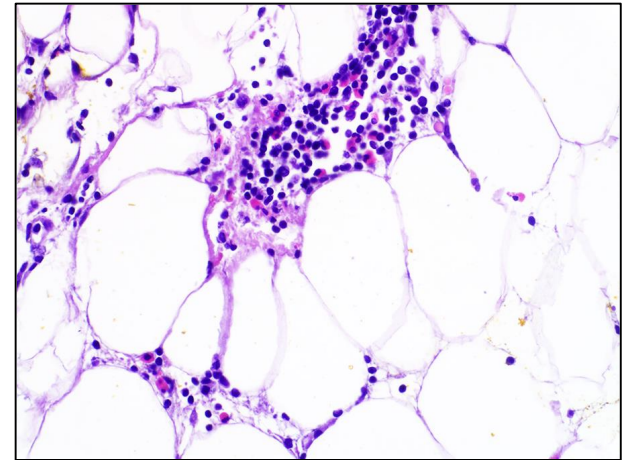


# Diagnosis?

1. Urticaria
2. Urticarial drug reaction
3. Urticarial vasculitis
4. *Arthropod assault reaction*
5. Urticarial phase of bullous pemphigoid

## Important Point!

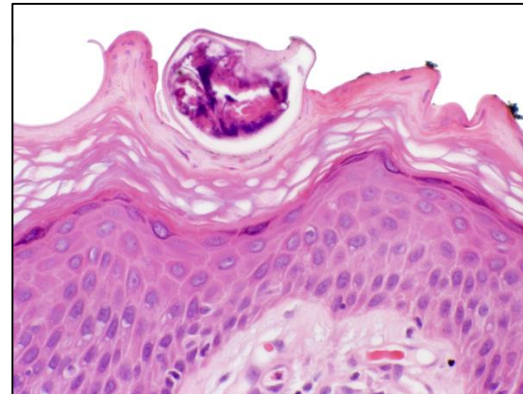
*Subcutaneous eosinophils are a clue to arthropod assault reaction*



# Diagnosis

**CONSISTENT WITH ARTHROPOD ASSAULT REACTION (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: The differential diagnosis could include a drug reaction but that is favored less than an arthropod assault. Neither scabetic mite parts nor products are identified within the stratum corneum.**





## Insect Bite–like Reaction in Patients With Hematologic Malignant Neoplasms

Aviv Barzilai, MD, MSc; Dorit Shpiro, MD; Iris Goldberg, PhD; Yasmin Yacob-Hirsch, MSc; Carlos Diaz-Cascajo, MD; Dina Meytes, MD; Regina Schiby, MD; Ninette Amariglio, PhD; Henri Trau, MD

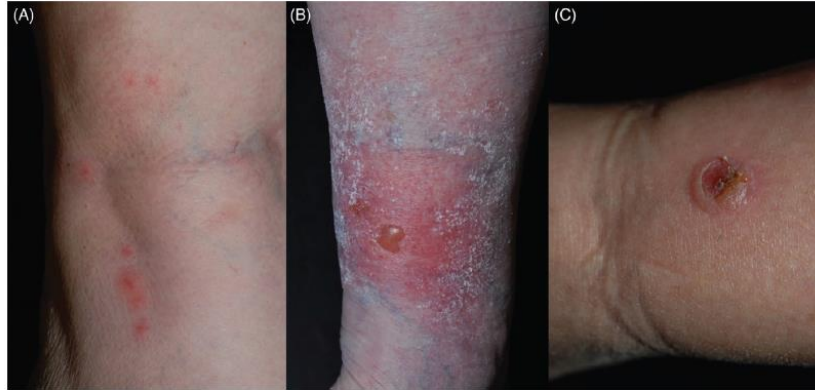


FIGURE 1 Typical clinical findings of ED with urticarial papules (A), bulla on urticarial ground (B) and eroded bulla (C). ED, eosinophilic dermatosis

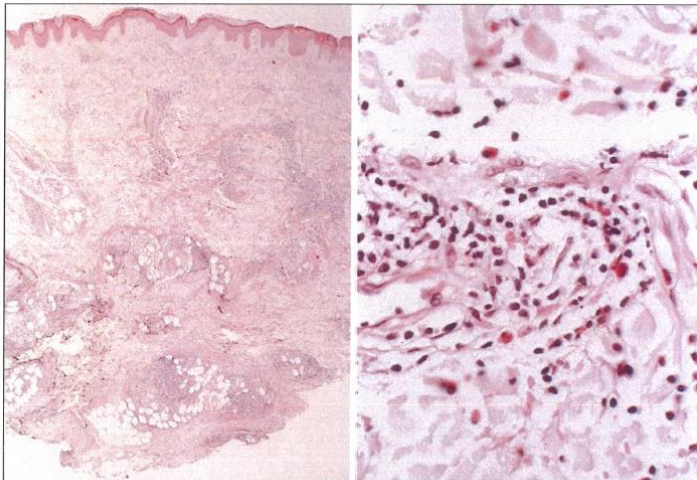


Figure 3. Left, A biopsy specimen shows a superficial, deep, and interstitial perivascular infiltrate involving also the subcutaneous fat (original magnification  $\times 20$ ). Right, The infiltrate is composed of lymphocytes and eosinophils (original magnification  $\times 200$ ).

## Eosinophilic dermatosis of hematologic malignancy: Correlation of molecular characteristics of skin lesions and extracutaneous manifestations of hematologic malignancy

Frank Meiss<sup>1</sup> | Kristin Technau-Hafsi<sup>1</sup> | Johannes S. Kern<sup>1,2</sup> | Annette M. May<sup>3</sup>

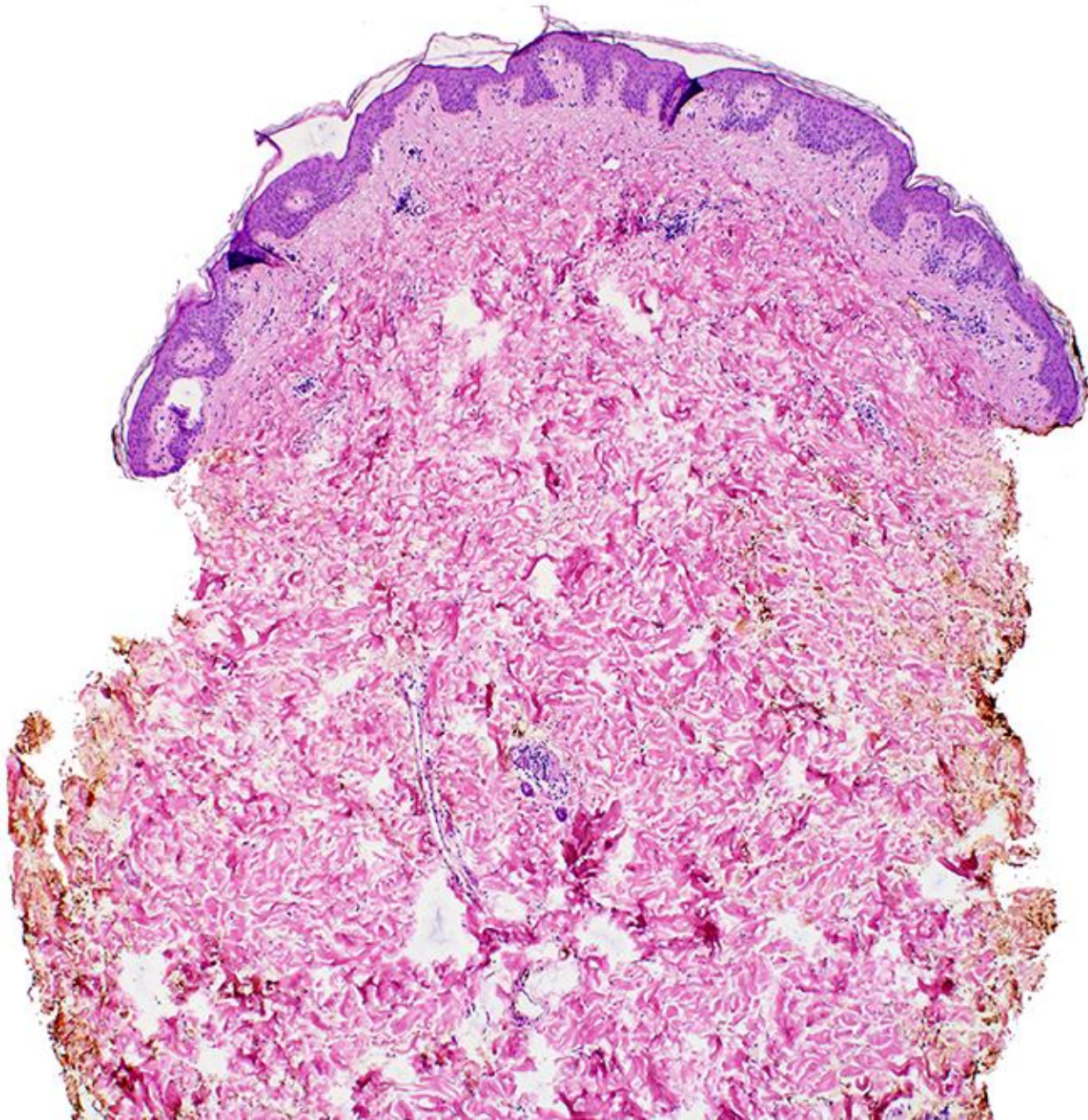
- *Clinical and histologic features mimic arthropod assault, refractory to standard therapies – impaired quality of life*
- Most in B-cell neoplasms:
  - Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (most common)
  - Mantle-cell lymphoma
  - Large-cell lymphomas
- May precede the diagnosis of the hematologic disorder
- No seasonal occurrence pattern
- T-cell infiltrate with eosinophils – ‘T-cell papulosis associated with B-cell malignancy’

# Annular Lunar Eclipse, June 2012



Case 4 – punch biopsy from the trunk

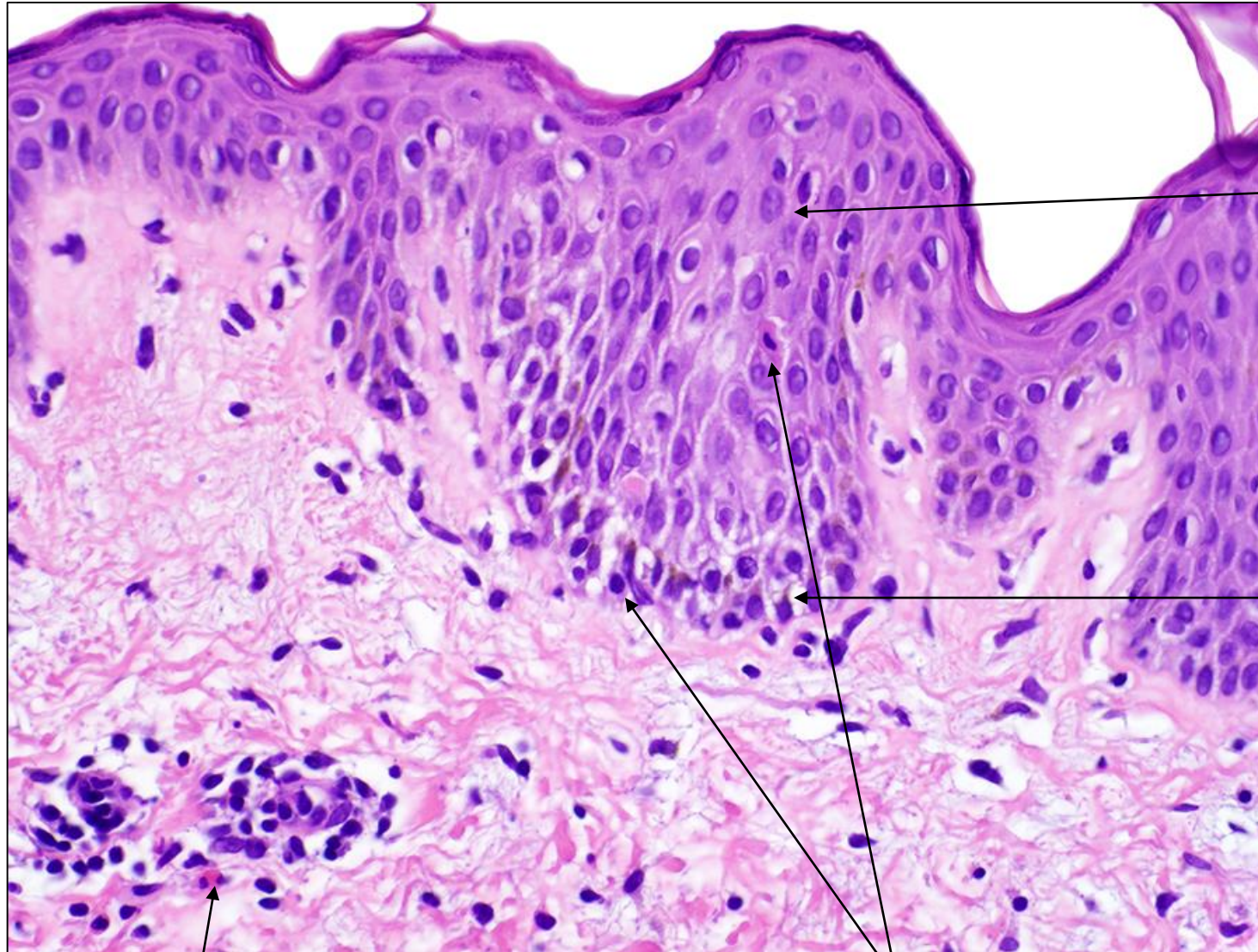




Subtle epidermal changes

Sparse perivascular inflammation





Spongiosis

Vacuolar interface change

Eosinophil

Civatte bodies and lymphocyte exocytosis

35 year old female with pruritic erythematous macules and papules on trunk and extremities





# Exanthematous drug reaction

- Morbilliform or maculopapular
- Most common type of drug reaction, ~ 40% of all reactions
- Almost any drug can cause this pattern, usually 2 – 3 week after drug is first given

## MORBILLIFORM ERUPTIONS CAUSED BY PENICILLIN

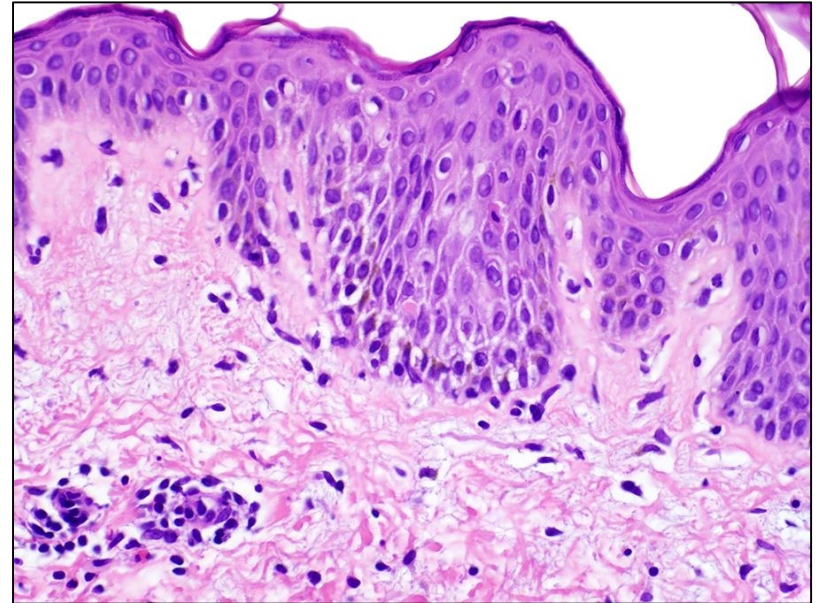
A STUDY BY ELECTRON MICROSCOPY AND IMMUNOLOGIC TESTS\*

MICHAEL J. FELLNER, M.D. AND LAWRENCE PRUTKIN, PH.D.

- Small foci of spongiosis
- Vacuolar change
- Rare dyskeratotic keratinocytes

## Important Point!

*Combinations of inflammatory patterns suggests a drug eruption*





# Diagnosis

**SPONGIOTIC AND INTERFACE DERMATITIS WITH EOSINOPHILS (SEE COMMENT)**

**Comment: The combination of spongiotic and interface changes with eosinophils suggests a drug reaction.**

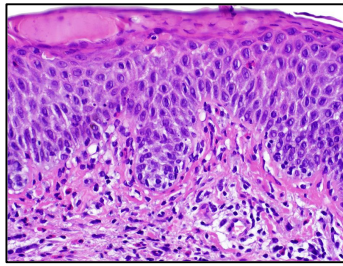
# Conclusions

- There are *many* skin rashes
- Important things to a dermatopathologist:
  - Relationship with healthcare provider
  - Clinical information
  - Photographs
  - Colleagues
- We reviewed four common inflammatory patterns – spongiotic, lichenoid, urticarial, and combination



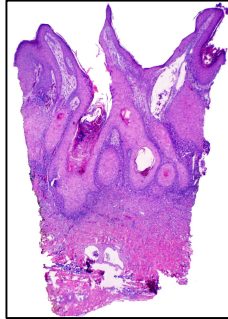
5. REQUESTED FOR PROPER EVALUATION		Insurance Co.
5A. History: Pertinent Clinical Findings and/or Diagram		Ins. Address
45 year old ♀ with 2 week history of itchy papules and plaques with scale on the bilateral lower legs. ? Contact dermatitis, tinea - please do PAS.		City
		St. Zip
		Policy # Group/Employee
		1) 4 mm Punch, right lower leg
		2)
		3)
		4)
		5)
		6)
		7)
		8)
5C. Special Requests: <input type="checkbox"/> Push		8. SIGNATURE
Other:		K
Send More Mailers: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Mailer <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mailers <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Mailers		Other:
		LAD USE ONLY

# Summary



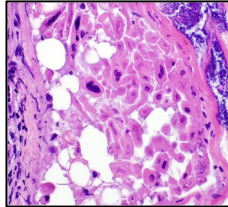
## Eosinophilic spongiosis

*Autoimmune blistering disorders, dermatitis, drug reaction, arthropod assault reaction*



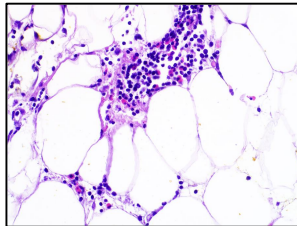
## Hypertrophic lichen planus

*Lymphocytes concentrated at tips of bulbous rete, can mimic squamous cell carcinoma*



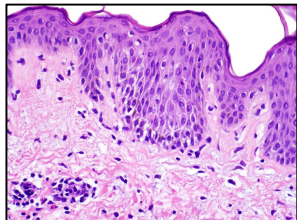
## Herpes zoster

*Pathology may resemble lupus erythematosus, but necrotic pilosebaceous units are a clue to diagnosis*



## Arthropod assault reaction

*Eosinophils in the fat is a clue to diagnosis, remember bite-like reaction in patients with hematologic malignancy*



## Spongiotic and interface dermatitis

*Combinations of inflammatory patterns is a clue to a drug reaction*