It is critical for clinicians to be able to appropriately distinguish benign from malignant oral diseases, but even the most frequently seen conditions in oral pathology may be diagnostically challenging for clinicians who do not encounter them regularly. This presentation will help in the identification of both common innocuous and the more clinically significant lesions, including atypical presentations that vary from classic textbook pictures.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- Clinically distinguish common benign reactive, immune-mediated, and infectious disorders of the oral mucosa from malignant and pre-malignant lesions
- Formulate reasonable differentials based on clinical presentations and histories
- Assess when patients are best served with referral to specialists, or when they may be managed locally with immune-suppressive medications or antimicrobial agents

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