



## Oral Lesions

### **Definition**

Oral lesions are any abnormal tissue changes in the oral cavity, including the lips, tongue, gingiva, palate, floor of the mouth, and inner cheeks. These lesions may present as ulcerations, swellings, discolorations, or growths and can be benign, premalignant, or malignant.

### **Types of Oral Lesions**

#### **1. Ulcerative Lesions**

Aphthous ulcers

Traumatic ulcers

Herpetic ulcers

Tuberculous ulcers

Syphilitic ulcers

#### **2. White Lesions (Leukoplakic)**

Leukoplakia

Lichen planus

Candidiasis

Frictional keratosis

#### **3. Red Lesions (Erythroplakic)**

Erythroplakia

Atrophic candidiasis



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Desquamative gingivitis

## **4. Pigmented Lesions**

Amalgam tattoo

Melanotic macule

Nevus

Malignant melanoma

## **5. Vesiculobullous Lesions**

Herpes simplex

Pemphigus vulgaris

Mucous membrane pemphigoid

Erythema multiforme

## **6. Exophytic (Growth-like) Lesions**

Fibroma

Papilloma

Pyogenic granuloma

Squamous cell carcinoma

## **7. Swelling or Mass Lesions**

Mucocele

Ranula

Lipoma

Salivary gland tumors



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## **Clinical Examination**

### **History Taking**

Onset, duration, recurrence

Pain, burning, bleeding

Trauma, tobacco or alcohol use

Systemic conditions (e.g., diabetes, immunosuppression)

### **Inspection**

Site, size, shape, color

Surface texture

Borders (regular/irregular)

Presence of ulceration or discharge

### **Palpation**

Consistency (soft/firm/indurated)

Tenderness

Fixation or mobility

### **Regional Examination**

Lymphadenopathy

Involvement of surrounding tissues



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## **Investigations**

### **Laboratory Tests**

Complete blood count

Blood sugar levels

Serologic tests (HIV, VDRL, Hepatitis B/C)

### **Microbiological Studies**

Swab and culture (bacterial/fungal/viral)

KOH mount for candidiasis

### **Histopathology**

Incisional biopsy for suspicious lesions

Excisional biopsy for small lesions

### **Imaging**

Radiographs (intraoral, panoramic)

Ultrasonography (for swellings)

CT/MRI (for deep or extensive lesions)

### **Special Tests**

Toluidine blue staining

Brush biopsy

Immunofluorescence (for vesiculobullous disorders)