Oral Manifestations of Commonly Prescribed Drugs

Aaron Glick, DDS; Vinu Sista, DDS; and Cleverick Johnson, DDS, MS University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston, Houston, Texas

Drugs are being prescribed with more frequency and in higher quantities. A serious adverse drug event from prescribed medications constitutes 2.4% to 16.2% of all hospital admissions. Many of the adverse drug events present intraorally or periorally in isolation or as a clinical symptom of a systemic effect. Clinical recognition and treatment of adverse drug events are important to increase patient adherence, manage drug therapy, or detect early signs of potentially serious outcomes. Oral manifestations of commonly prescribed medications include gingival enlargement, oral hyperpigmentation, oral hypersensitivity reaction, medication-related osteonecrosis, xerostomia, and other oral or perioral conditions. To prevent dose-dependent adverse drug reactions, physicians should prescribe medications judiciously using the lowest effective dose with minimal duration. Alternatively, for oral hypersensitivity reactions that are not dose dependent, quick recognition of clinical symptoms associated with time-dependent drug onset can allow for immediate discontinuation of the medication without discontinuation of other medications. Physicians can manage oral adverse drug events in the office through oral hygiene instructions for gingival enlargement, medication discontinuation for oral pigmentation, and prescription of higher fluoride toothpastes for xerostomia. (*Am Fam Physician*. 2020;102(10):613-621. Copyright © 2020 American Academy of Family Physicians.)

Drugs are being prescribed with more frequency and in higher quantities per patient, with an estimated prevalence of 59% of the U.S. population taking at least one prescription medication and 15% taking five or more prescription drugs.1 A serious adverse drug event from prescribed medications constitutes 2.4% to 16.2% of all hospital admissions with an estimated treatment cost of \$1.6 to \$5.6 billion.² Increased usage of medications leads to increased adverse drug reactions, particularly in vulnerable elderly populations.³ All of the 10 most commonly filled prescription medications⁴ have adverse effects associated with the orofacial complex, including hypersensitivity type reactions, xerostomia, paresthesia, and dysgeusia⁵ (Table 1³⁻⁵). Other adverse reactions, such as vomiting, can cause secondary oral symptoms of tooth erosion, oral mucosal erythema or edema, and subsequent increase in dental caries. Adverse effects can present as severe systemic disease, for example Stevens-Johnson syndrome. Close attention is warranted

Additional content at https://www.aafp.org/afp/2020/1115/ p613.html

CME This clinical content conforms to AAFP criteria for CME. See CME Quiz on page 585.

Author disclosure: No relevant financial affiliations.

even in seemingly mild adverse effects, such as xerostomia, because these might decrease patient compliance with prescribed drug therapies or have negative effects on quality of life.⁶ A high suspicion for medication adverse effects as a source of oral complaints can thus lead to appropriate interventions, such as stopping the causative medication, finding appropriate substitutes, and identifying serious reactions in a timely manner. The main categories of oral or perioral manifestations attributable to prescribed medications are gingival enlargement, oral hyperpigmentation, oral hypersensitivity reaction, osteonecrosis, xerostomia, and other oral or perioral conditions such as angioedema and chemical burns (*Table 2*).

Gingival Enlargement

Gingival enlargement (or gingival hyperplasia/hypertrophy or overgrowth) is the enlargement of gum tissue in the mouth (*Figure 1*). Classic drugs associated with medication-induced gingival enlargement include calcium channel blockers, anticonvulsants, and cyclosporine (Sandimmune). Erythromycin and oral contraceptives have also been implicated in gingival enlargement. The increased overgrowth of gingival tissue is related to the disruption of the degradation of collagen, which leads to a larger amount of extracellular collagen tissue within the gums. Amlodipine (Norvasc),

SORT: KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRACTICE

Clinical recommendation	Evidence rating	Comments
Minimizing intraoral plaque can reduce the incidence of medication-induced gingival enlargement. ^{7,24,25,30,31}	В	Systematic reviews of lower quality clinical trials and expert opinion
If oral hyperpigmentation does not resolve with discontinuation of the offending medication, surgical laser therapy is a treatment option. ³⁸	В	Based on a systematic review
Before starting antiresorptive therapy, patients should be counseled on maintain- ing good oral hygiene, routine dental visits, and tobacco cessation. ⁵²	с	Based on systematic review of clinical practice guidelines
Xerostomia is typically managed with conservative therapy and judicious use of medications; oral pilocarpine is effective in patients with persistent symptoms. ⁶¹⁻⁶³	В	Based on a systematic review and two cohort studies

 \mathbf{A} = consistent, good-quality patient-oriented evidence; \mathbf{B} = inconsistent or limited-quality patient-oriented evidence; \mathbf{C} = consensus, disease-oriented evidence, usual practice, expert opinion, or case series. For information about the SORT evidence rating system, go to https://www.aafp.org/afpsort.

TABLE 1

Oral Adverse Reactions of the 10 Most Commonly Filled Prescription Medications in 2019

Drug name	Total prescriptions ⁴	Oral adverse effects ³
Levothyroxine	114,344,324	Vomiting, dysgeusia (< 1%)
Lisinopril	110,611,324	Dysgeusia (\geq 1%), Stevens-Johnson syndrome (\geq 1%), toxic epidermal necrolysis (\geq 1%), xerostomia (\geq 1%), angioedema (< 1%)
Atorvastatin (Lipitor)	96,942,508	Anaphylaxis (< 1%), angioedema (< 1%), dysgeusia (< 1%), erythema multiforme (< 1%), hypoesthesia/paresthesia (< 1%), Stevens-Johnson syndrome (< 1%), toxic epidermal necrolysis (< 1%), vomiting (< 1%)
Metformin	81,305,415	Infection (21%), nausea and vomiting (7% to 26%), taste disorder (1% to 10%)
Amlodipine (Norvasc)	75,201,622	Angioedema (< 1%), dysphagia (< 1%), erythema multiforme (< 1%), gingival enlargement (< 1%), hypersensitivity reaction (< 1%), hypoesthesia/paresthesia (< 1%), increased thirst (< 1%), vomiting (< 1%), xerostomia (< 1%)
Metoprolol	74,019,645	Xerostomia (1%), vomiting (frequency undefined), paresthesia (< 1%), taste disorder (< 1%)
Omeprazole (Prilosec)	70,626,980	Vomiting (3%), acid regurgitation (2%), allergic reactions/anaphylaxis/hypersensitivity reaction (< 1%), angioedema (< 1%), dysgeusia (< 1%), erythema multiforme (< 1%), Stevens-Johnson syn- drome (< 1%), tongue mucosal atrophy (< 1%), toxic epidermal necrolysis (< 1%), xerostomia (< 1%)
Simvastatin (Zocor)	65,144,488	Anaphylaxis (< 1%), angioedema (< 1%), dry mucous membranes (< 1%), dysgeusia (< 1%), ery- thema multiforme (< 1%), hypersensitivity reaction (< 1%), paresthesia (< 1%), Stevens-Johnson syndrome (< 1%), toxic epidermal necrolysis (< 1%), vomiting (< 1%)
Losartan (Cozaar)	49,281,054	Paresthesia (< 2%), vomiting (< 2%), anaphylaxis (< 1%), angioedema (< 1%), dysgeusia (< 1%), lip edema (< 1%), tongue edema (< 1%)
Albuterol	47,109,711	Application site reaction (6%), oropharyngeal pain (\leq 5%), unpleasant taste at inhalation site (4%), vomiting (3% to 7%), hypersensitivity reaction (3% to 6%), glossitis (< 3%), infection (< 3%), oropharyngeal edema (< 3%), xerostomia (< 3%), anaphylaxis (< 1%), angioedema (< 1%), dysgeusia (< 1%), oropharyngeal irritation (< 1%), tongue ulcer (< 1%)

Note: Medications listed with highest rank first.

Information from references 3-5.

diltiazem, nifedipine, phenytoin (Dilantin), and verapamil are most commonly implicated in gingival enlargement⁷ (*Table 3*⁷⁻²³). It is well documented that the amount of plaque in the mouth is an independent risk factor in the prevalence of medication-induced gingival enlargement.^{7,24,25} Patients with gingival enlargement have an increased height of gingival tissue (measured from the tooth-gum connection to the top of the gums), creating a challenging environment for patients and professionals to clean plaque from the mouth. Therefore, meticulous plaque control is important to limit

TABLE 2

Summary of Oral Manifestations of Commonly Prescribed Medications

Manifestation	Presentation	Commonly associated medication	Prevention/treatment	
Gingival enlargement	Enlarged gums	Anticonvulsants (e.g., carbamazepine [Tegretol], phenytoin [Dilantin]), cal- cium channel blockers (e.g., amlodipine [Norvasc], nifedipine), cyclosporine (e.g., Sandimmune), erythromycin, oral contraceptives	Prescribe lowest dose for shortest time needed or use substitutes; promote personal oral hygiene through flossing and twice daily brush- ing with fluoridated toothpaste; reversible with drug discontinuation/substitution; excision of gums if not reversed after three to six months	
Hyperpig- mentation	Discoloration of oral/perioral tissues	Amiodarone, antibiotics (e.g., minocycline [Minocin], tetracycline), anticancer drugs (e.g., bleomycine, busulfan [Busulfex], tacrolimus [Prograf]), antimalarials (e.g., chloroquine [Aralen], hydroxychloroquine [Plaquenil]), antiretrovirals (e.g., zidovu- dine [Retrovir]), chlorhexidine gluconate (Peridex), clofazimine, heavy metals (e.g., arsenic, bismuth), hormone replacement therapy, ketoconazole, methyldopa, oral contraceptives, quinidine	Limit duration of medications; discontinuation of medication; surgical stripping (laser, cryother- apy, or scalpel) if normalization does not occur (repigmentation after surgical stripping may occur)	
Angioedema	Enlarged lip	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., enalapril [Vasotec], lisinopril), nonste- roidal anti-inflammatory drugs, selective cyclooxygenase inhibitors (e.g., celecoxib [Celebrex], rofecoxib, thiazolidinedione)	Antihistamines and corticosteroids; avoidance of drugs if they caused a past reaction	
Chemical burns	White to yellow wrinkled lesions, sloughing of mucosal tissues	Angiotensin-receptor blockers (e.g., captopril, losartan [Cozaar]), nonsteroi- dal anti-inflammatory drugs (e.g., aspirin, naproxen, piroxicam [Feldene])	Removal of causative agent; topical cortico- steroid and/or benzocaine; one- to two-week follow-up	
Osteonecro- sis of the jaw	Exposure of necrotic bone through oral mucosa	Antiangiogenic drugs (e.g., bevacizumab [Avastin], sunitinib [Sutent]), bisphos- phonates (e.g., alendronate [Fosamax], zoledronic acid [Reclast]), denosumab (Prolia)	Limit duration of bisphosphonate treatment; rec- ommend good oral hygiene and routine dental visits; necessary dental work is recommended before initiation of treatment; hold bisphospho- nates for two to three months before and up to three months after invasive dental treatment	
Xerostomia	Dry mouth, ropey saliva, glossy tongue, mucositis	Amphetamines, analgesics (e.g., morphine), anticholinergics (e.g., atropine), antidepres- sants (e.g., amitriptyline), antiemetics (e.g., metoclopramide [Reglan]), antihistamines (e.g., loratadine [Claritin], chlorpheni- ramine), anxiolytics (e.g., alprazolam [Xanax]), bronchodilators (e.g., albuterol), decongestants (e.g., pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine), diuretics (e.g., hydrochlo- rothiazide), skeletal muscle relaxants (e.g., orphenadrine [Norflex])	Encourage water drinking habits, sialagogues, oral lubricants, prevention of caries-forming habits (e.g., drinking sugary soda, sucking on sugary hard candies), oral hygiene instruc- tions (e.g., twice daily brushing, flossing, show proper brushing technique); keep doses as low as possible for causative agents; can prescribe cevimeline (30 mg three times daily)	
Oral candidiasis	White coating on dorsal tongue that wipes off	Antimicrobials, inhaled corticosteroid aero- sol (beclomethasone, fluticasone)	Rinse mouth with water after use; prescribe swish-and-swallow antifungal; rinse mouth after use of inhaled corticosteroids	

the extent and recurrence of the gingival enlargement. Other risk factors include being male (three times more likely), younger age (younger than 40 years),²⁶ and taking higher daily doses of medication²⁴ when there may be a possible genetic predisposition to gingival enlargement.²⁷

Gingival enlargement can present as an aesthetic concern to patients resulting in poor patient compliance with the medication.²⁸ Tissue enlargement starts one to three months after initiation of medication,²⁹ and discontinuation of medication with substitution can decrease effects of medication-induced gingival enlargement. Reduction of gingival size typically occurs within six months to one year after discontinuation of the causative medication. The first, most ideal step to prevent gingival enlargement is plaque control by the patient.^{7,24,25,30,31} Treatment options include reducing dose and/or duration of the causative medication, reviewing oral hygiene instructions to the patient, increasing frequency of professional dental cleanings with adjunctive use of chlorhexidine gluconate (Peridex), using topical folic acid, open-flap debridement (reflecting gingival tissue to clean teeth), or removing excess tissue with laser, electrosurgery, or scalpel.^{25,32,33} Chlorhexidine gluconate is typically prescribed under the supervision of a dentist because of the potential adverse effect of oral hyperpigmentation with prolonged use.

Oral Hyperpigmentation

Acquired oral mucosa hyperpigmentation is the discoloration of oral tissues and tongue that is not secondary to a congenitally present physiologic discoloration. Multiple medications can cause acquired hyperpigmentation of the mucosa in the oral cavity, leading to a cosmetic concern. Drugs used to prevent and treat malaria (e.g., chloroquine [Aralen], hydroxychloroquine [Plaquenil]) can cause oral mucosa hyperpigmentation due to direct stimulation of melanocytes.^{11,34} In addition, zidovudine (Retrovir), oral contraceptives, and hormone replacement therapy indirectly affect an increase in alpha melanocyte-stimulating hormone with subsequent clinical presentation of oral or perioral pigmentation.³⁵ Zidovudine causes mucosal hyperpigmentation in 22.7% to 26.3% of HIV cases^{9,10} (Figure 2). Physicians should never assume that hyperpigmentation is a medication adverse effect; oral melanomaalthough rare—can manifest in a similar fashion but is more likely to be focal in an early stage.³⁶

In addition to pigmentation within oral mucosa, medications can cause internal and external discoloration of the hard tissues (i.e., bone, teeth). A decreased usage of tetracycline class antibiotics in children younger than eight years has occurred because of current widespread knowledge that these antibiotics discolor developing teeth; therefore, internal staining of the bone and teeth is less commonly seen. Internal pigmentation of the bone, as seen with higher doses of minocycline (Minocin), can be detected under the thin mucosa of the mouth, which can give the appearance of discolored gingival tissue.³⁷ Factors such as duration of medication use, location of hard tissue intrinsic staining, bone structure, and thick or thin mucosal biotype result in a varied clinical presentation. External staining of the teeth, as opposed to internal staining, can



Phenytoin (Dilantin)-induced gingival enlargement.

TABLE 3

Prevalence of Adverse Oral or Perioral Manifestations of Selected Prescribed Medications

Manifestation	Causative medication	Prevalence			
Gingival enlargement ^{7,8}	Phenytoin (Dilantin) Diltiazem Nifedipine Verapamil Amlodipine (Norvasc)	20% to 57% 5% to 20% 6% to 15% 5% 2% to 3%			
Hyperpigmenta- tion ⁹⁻¹²	Zidovudine (Retrovir) Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil) Minocycline (Minocin)	22.7% to 26.3% 9.8% 3.7% to 5.6%			
Angioedema ¹³	Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	0.1% to 0.2%			
Medication- related osteonecrosis ¹⁴⁻¹⁸	Intravenous bisphosphonates (zoledronic acid [Reclast], ibandro- nate [Boniva])	3% to 18%			
	Denosumab (Prolia; subcutaneous injection)	0.7% to 1.9%			
	Oral bisphosphonates (alen- dronate [Fosamax], risedronate [Actonel], ibandronate)	0.10% to 0.21%			
Xerostomia ¹⁹	Opioids	25%			
Information from references 7-23.					

ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS



be removed through professional dental cleaning, involving abrasives, and can be caused by medications containing iron, iodine, sulfides, silver nitrate, manganese, copper, nickel, cadmium, essential oils, chlorhexidine (gluconate), amoxicillin/clavulanate (Augmentin), and doxycycline.^{13,23} Discontinuation of the offending medication can cause the oral pigmentation to disappear; however, in some cases, if normalization does not occur surgical interventions can be performed (e.g., laser, cryosurgery, scalpel).³⁸⁻⁴⁰

Oral Hypersensitivity Reaction

Allergic reactions presenting intra- or periorally because of a prescribed medication are not uncommon and, in most cases, are mild, with a wide host of clinical presentations. Allergic reactions of the oral cavity can include allergic contact stomatitis, angioedema, fixed-drug eruption, and erythema multiforme/Stevens-Johnson syndrome.⁴¹

Allergic contact stomatitis is a delayed-type hypersensitivity reaction mediated by T-cell immune reaction. Prescribed medications that might cause this reaction are chlorhexidine (gluconate), topical glucocorticoids, or inhaled budesonide (Rhinocort).⁴² Angioedema is typically an allergic immunoglobulin E (IgE)–dependent hypersensitivity in which localized swelling occurs because of increased vascular permeability⁴¹ (*Figure 3*). In the case of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, angioedema occurs because of impaired bradykinin breakdown.⁴³ Fixed-drug eruptions are a T-cell mediated allergic inflammatory response to a systemic medication that recurs in the same mucosal or cutaneous location. Labial mucosa is the most frequent location of fixed-drug eruptions in the mouth.⁴¹ Stevens-Johnson syndrome, a severe immune-mediated condition, has an



Lisinopril-induced angioedema.

annual incidence of one to seven patients per million cases⁴⁴ (Figure 4). The rapidly developing cutaneous and mucosal epithelial apoptosis results in life-threatening disorders with mortality rates of 9% for Stevens-Johnson syndrome and 45% for toxic epidermal necrolysis which is the most severe form of erythema multiforme.⁴⁵ More than 200 medications have been associated with risks for Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis,¹³ with the highest risk medications being antiepileptics (e.g., lamotrigine [Lamictal], carbamazepine [Tegretol], phenytoin, phenobarbital), sulfonamides, nevirapine (Viramune), allopurinol, and oxicam class nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.⁴⁶ Oral and cutaneous reactions in Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis most commonly occur four to 28 days after onset of the causative medication, depending on the medication's half-life.⁴⁶ The causative medication should be discontinued immediately without needing to discontinue other medications.47

Medication-Related Osteonecrosis

Medication-related osteonecrosis occurs most commonly in the mandible, yet in rare cases can present extraorally or on the maxilla. The alveolar process (the portion of the jawbone that houses the teeth) is constantly remodeling through resorption (osteoclast activity) and apposition (osteoblast activity). The risk of osteonecrosis is increased in patients receiving drugs that cause osteoclast apoptosis, inhibit osteoclastic activity, or reduce blood flow that supports bone remodeling processes. The mandibular alveolar process is at increased risk for medication-induced osteonecrosis because

FIGURE 4



(A) Clinical presentation of Stevens-Johnson syndrome with intra- or perioral component. (B) Clinical presentation of Stevens-Johnson syndrome with presentation on the feet.

this area has a high amount of remodeling at baseline and is exposed to procedures (i.e., tooth extraction) that require bone remodeling. Approximately 45% to 61% of medication-induced osteonecrosis cases report tooth removal as the precipitating event; however, 17% to 70% report a spontaneous precipitating event.48 A spontaneous cause of medication-induced osteonecrosis occurs without a known precipitating cause, but it is possible that many of these incidents could result from patient-induced minor localized trauma to the gingiva.⁴⁸ Intravenous bisphosphonates, typically for antineoplastic treatment, have the highest incidence of osteonecrosis (3% to 18%),^{14,15} whereas the use of oral bisphosphonates for the prevention and treatment of osteoporosis results in an incidence of osteonecrosis of 0.10% to 0.21%.¹⁸ Clinical signs of osteonecrosis include radiolucency on radiographic imaging, exposed necrotic bone, socket remains after dental extraction, extra- or intraoral fistula, pain, suppuration, bone or gingival swelling, and sloughing of mucosa⁴⁹ (Figure 5).

Treatment of medication-induced osteonecrosis remains a challenge for dental practitioners. Current literature has not supported a benefit associated with drug holiday or cessation of bisphosphonates before dental treatment and subsequent to dental surgery (although a two-month drug holiday before and up to a three-month drug holiday after an invasive dental procedure for patients receiving bisphosphonates in duration of more than four years is the current standard of practice⁵⁰) or hyperbaric oxygen to prevent nonspontaneous osteonecrosis.⁵¹ Before starting antiresorptive therapy, patients should be counseled on maintaining good oral hygiene, routine dental visits, and tobacco cessation.⁵² Clearance for dental surgeries is recommended if a patient took oral bisphosphonates for four years or more. Dental surgery should be avoided if the patient is receiving intravenous bisphosphonates or antiangiogenic medications used for the treatment of cancer.⁵²

Xerostomia

Xerostomia is the perceived sensation of a dry mouth. The parotid, submandibular, and sublingual salivary glands account for most of the salivary production. Patients stating that they have dry mouth does not necessitate that dysfunction

of the salivary glands has occurred. Alternatively, salivary dysfunction could be attributable to radiation therapy, Sjögren's syndrome, or another nonmedication-induced factor. In certain situations, salivary dysfunction can be

<section-header>

Clinical presentation of bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw. Lower left jaw shown, showing limited overlying mucosa exposing necrotic bone. Rim of the oral mucosa around exposed bone exhibits erythema and swelling.

measured in the office using salivary flow rates. Hyposalivation is considered less than 0.5 to 0.7 mL per minute of stimulated salivation and 0.1 mL per minute of unstimulated salivation.53 Medications affect the unstimulated flow rate to a greater degree than the stimulated flow rate.⁵⁴ Clinical signs of xerostomia include, but are not limited to, tongue and cheeks sticking to oral mucosa, frothy or ropey saliva, lack of saliva pooling, atrophy of the filiform papilla or smooth appearance of the dorsal tongue, fissured tongue, oral candidiasis (thrush), and presence of dental caries (Figures 6 and 7). Saliva is important in the function of buffering pH in the mouth; diluting hot, cold, and spicy foods; preventing tooth decay; preventing oral candidiasis and the proliferation of other oral microbes; preventing halitosis; promoting wound healing; preventing dysgeusia; speaking; chewing; and swallowing. Given the variety of functions of saliva, it is not surprising that drug-induced xerostomia is frequently associated with reports of other mucosal alterations such as mouth soreness, burning mouth, halitosis, and taste alterations.55

Dry mouth is associated with more than 500 medications.⁵⁶ The overall prevalence of xerostomia is 10% to 33%, with an incidence of 27% to 32% in the medicated population and 14% to 16% in the nonmedicated population.⁵⁷ Drug-induced xerostomia occurs most commonly in older people (older than 65 years) and particularly in those patients who are prescribed more than one medication.⁵⁸ Older age is a major risk factor in the development of xerostomia; however, degradation of salivary flow rates is not an expected process in aging.⁵⁹

Treatment of xerostomia typically involves symptom control (e.g., sipping water throughout the day, chewing sugarless gum to increase stimulated salivary flow, using artificial salivary substitutes). Physicians can prescribe higher concentration fluoride toothpastes specific for dry mouth to reduce bacterial effects on the teeth or gingiva and to increase patient comfort.⁶⁰ Sialagogue therapy such as systemic pilocarpine can be prescribed (5 mg four times daily),⁶¹⁻⁶³ although as a parasympathomimetic agonist, it can have worse perceived adverse effects such as sweating or dizziness.⁶⁴ Cevimeline (30 mg three times daily) might have fewer cholinergic adverse effects and can be used in patients with Sjögran syndrome and other etiologies of dry mouth.⁶⁵ In general, judicious prescription of medications using the lowest effective dose can aid in prevention of xerostomia in many cases.

Other

Other oral manifestations include dysgeusia; hypersalivation; numbness; tingling or burning sensations in the mouth; halitosis; hairy tongue; tardive dyskinesia, medication-induced bruxisum, or other movement disorder;



Xerostomia (note lack of saliva pooling, dry oral mucosa, frothy/ropey saliva, and thrush).

FIGURE 7



Intraoral Candida infection.

infection attributable to disturbances in normal oral microbial environment; pemphigus; pemphigoid, salivary gland enlargement; and chemotherapy-induced oral mucositis. In addition to other oral manifestations, misuse of common medications, such as applying crushed aspirin directly to oral mucosa, can cause chemical burns (*eFigure A*). These oral manifestations may also have other causes, but obtaining an accurate and detailed patient history, determining the onset and duration of symptoms, obtaining an accurate medication list, and knowing the duration of medication use will help clarify whether a prescribed medication is a contributing factor.

Data Sources: A PubMed search was completed using clinical queries with the search terms: gingival hypertrophy: gingival overgrowth, gingival hyperplasia, gingival enlargement, gingival hypertrophy drug-induced plaque, gingival hypertrophy drug-induced substitution; oral hyperpigmentation: hyperpigmentation, gingival pigmentation, medication-induced hyperpigmentation, drug-induced hyperpigmentation, oral pigmentation; oral hypersensitivity reaction: fixed-drug eruption, drug-induced stomatitis, lichenoid stomatitis, Stephen Johnson syndrome [ALDEN]; medication-induced osteonecrosis: drug osteonecrosis jaw, medication-induced osteonecrosis, osteonecrosis dental exam; xerostomia: drug-induced xerostomia, medication-induced salivary gland dysfunction, medication-induced xerostomia, pilocarpine drug-induced xerostomia. All clinical guery searches included meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, clinical trials, and reviews. The Cochrane database, AHRQ's Effective Healthcare Reports, and Trip were also searched. Search date: August 13, 2019.

The Authors

AARON GLICK, DDS, is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of General Practice and Dental Public Health at the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston.

VINU SISTA, DDS, is an assistant clinical professor in the Department of General Practice and Dental Public Health at the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston.

CLEVERICK JOHNSON, DDS, MS, is director of the Urgent Care Clinic and a professor in the Department of General Practice and Dental Public Health at the University of Texas School of Dentistry at Houston.

Address correspondence to Aaron Glick, DDS, University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston, 7500 Cambridge St., SOD 5411, Houston, TX 77054 (email: aaron.r.glick@uth.tmc.edu). Reprints are not available from the authors.

References

- 1. Kantor ED, Rehm CD, Haas JS, et al. Trends in prescription drug use among adults in the United States from 1999-2012. *JAMA*. 2015;314(17): 1818-1831.
- Jeon N, Sorokina M, Henriksen C, et al. Measurement of selected preventable adverse drug events in electronic health records: toward developing a complexity score [published corrections appear in *Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2017;74(23):1928, and *Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2017;74(24):2030]. *Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2017;74(22):1865-1877.
- 3. Lavan AH, Gallagher P. Predicting risk of adverse drug reactions in older adults. *Ther Adv Drug Saf.* 2016;7(1):11-22.
- 4. ClinCalc. The top 200 drugs of 2019. Accessed April 28, 2020. https:// clincalc.com/blog/2018/11/the-top-200-drugs-of-2019/?s=the+top+ 200+drugs+of+2019
- 5. Lexicomp for dentistry. Accessed September 18, 2019. http://online.lexi. com.libdb.db.uth.tmc.edu

- Hahnel S, Schwarz S, Zeman F, et al. Prevalence of xerostomia and hyposalivation and their association with quality of life in elderly patients in dependence on dental status and prosthetic rehabilitation: a pilot study. *J Dent*. 2014;42(6):664-670.
- 7. Gaur S, Agnihotri R. Is dental plaque the only etiological factor in Amlodipine induced gingival overgrowth? A systematic review of evidence. *J Clin Exp Dent*. 2018;10(6):e610-e619.
- Brunet L, Miranda J, Farré M, et al. Gingival enlargement induced by drugs. Drug Saf. 1996;15(3):219-231.
- Ranganathan K, Reddy BV, Kumarasamy N, et al. Oral lesions and conditions associated with human immunodeficiency virus infection in 300 south Indian patients. *Oral Dis.* 2000;6(3):152-157.
- Ranganathan K, Umadevi M, Saraswathi TR, et al. Oral lesions and conditions associated with human immunodeficiency virus infection in 1000 South Indian patients. Ann Acad Med Singapore. 2004;33(4 suppl):37-42.
- 11. Bahloul E, Jallouli M, Garbaa S, et al. Hydroxychloroquine-induced hyperpigmentation in systemic diseases: prevalence, clinical features and risk factors: a cross-sectional study of 41 cases. *Lupus*. 2017;26(12): 1304-1308.
- 12. Cockings JM, Savage NW. Minocycline and oral pigmentation. *Aust Dent J.* 1998;43(1):14-16.
- 13. Neville BW, Damm DD, Allen CM, et al. *Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology.* 4th ed. Elsevier; 2016.
- 14. Bamias A, Kastritis E, Bamia C, et al. Osteonecrosis of the jaw in cancer after treatment with bisphosphonates: incidence and risk factors. *J Clin Oncol.* 2005;23(34):8580-8587.
- Walter C, Al-Nawas B, Grötz KA, et al. Prevalence and risk factors of bisphosphonate-associated osteonecrosis of the jaw in prostate cancer patients with advanced disease treated with zoledronate. *Eur Urol.* 2008;54(5):1066-1072.
- 16. Qi W-X, Tang L-N, He A-N, et al. Risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw in cancer patients receiving denosumab: a meta-analysis of seven randomized controlled trials. *Int J Clin Oncol.* 2014;19(2):403-410.
- Sivolella S, Lumachi F, Stellini E, et al. Denosumab and anti-angiogenetic drug-related osteonecrosis of the jaw: an uncommon but potentially severe disease. *Anticancer Res.* 2013;33(5):1793-1797.
- Lo JC, O'Ryan FS, Gordon NP, et al.; Predicting Risk of Osteonecrosis of the Jaw with Oral Bisphosphonate Exposure (PROBE) Investigators. Prevalence of osteonecrosis of the jaw in patients with oral bisphosphonate exposure. J Oral Maxillofac Surg. 2010;68(2):243-253.
- Moore RA, McQuay HJ. Prevalence of opioid adverse events in chronic non-malignant pain: systematic review of randomized trials of oral opioids. Arthritis Res Ther. 2005;7(5):R1046-R1051.
- 20. Ellis JS, Seymour RA, Steele JG, et al. Prevalence of gingival overgrowth induced by calcium channel blockers: a community-based study. *J Periodontol.* 1999;70(1):63-67.
- Puri PK, Lountzis NI, Tyler W, et al. Hydroxychloroquine-induced hyperpigmentation: the staining pattern. J Cutan Pathol. 2008;35(12):1134-1137.
- Barclay S, Thomason JM, Idle JR, et al. The incidence and severity of nifedipine-induced gingival overgrowth. J Clin Periodontol. 1992;19(5): 311-314.
- Watts A, Addy M. Tooth discolouration and staining: a review of the literature. Br Dent J. 2001;190(6):309-316.
- 24. Clementini M, Vittorini G, Crea A, et al. Efficacy of AZM therapy in patients with gingival overgrowth induced by Cyclosporine A: a systematic review. *BMC Oral Health.* 2008;8:34.
- 25. Brown RS, Arany PR. Mechanism of drug-induced gingival overgrowth revisited: a unifying hypothesis. *Oral Dis.* 2015;21(1):e51-e61.
- Bondon-Guitton E, Bagheri H, Montastruc J-L. Drug-induced gingival overgrowth: a study in the French pharmacovigilance database. J Clin Periodontol. 2012;39(6):513-518.
- Chatzopoulos GS, Koidou VP, Wolff LF. Systematic review of cyclosporin A-induced gingival overgrowth and genetic predisposition. *Quintes*sence Int. 2017;48(9):711-724.

ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS

- Walker RG, Cottrell S, Sharp K, et al. Conversion of cyclosporine to tacrolimus in stable renal allograft recipients: quantification of effects on the severity of gingival enlargement and hirsutism and patient-reported outcomes. *Nephrology (Carlton).* 2007;12(6):607-614.
- 29. Livada R, Shiloah J. Calcium channel blocker-induced gingival enlargement. J Hum Hypertens. 2014;28(1):10-14.
- Seymour RA, Thomason JM, Ellis JS. The pathogenesis of drug-induced gingival overgrowth. J Clin Periodontol. 1996;23(3 pt 1):165-175.
- Moffitt ML, Bencivenni D, Cohen RE. Drug-induced gingival enlargement: an overview. Compend Contin Educ Dent. 2013;34(5):330-336.
- 32. Pilloni A, Camargo PM, Carere M, et al. Surgical treatment of cyclosporine A- and nifedipine-induced gingival enlargement: gingivectomy versus periodontal flap. *J Periodontol.* 1998;69(7):791-797.
- Mehta J, Bakutra G, Chandran S, et al. Different treatment modalities for drug induced gingival overgrowth: a case series. *Natl J Integr Res Med.* 2018;9(2):1-6-109.
- 34. Savage NW, Barber MT, Adkins KF. Pigmentary changes in rat oral mucosa following antimalarial therapy. *J Oral Pathol*. 1986;15(9):468-471.
- 35. Hasan S, Khan N, Sherwani OAK, et al. Drugs causing orofacial pigmentation: an overview of literature. *Int Res J Pharm.* 2013;4(5):40-43.
- Glick A, Tabrizi M, Latortue MC, et al. Recognition of oral pigmented lesions. J Gt Houst Dent Soc. 2019;90(1):34-36.
- 37. Siller GM, Tod MA, Savage NW. Minocycline-induced oral pigmentation. *J Am Acad Dermatol.* 1994;30(2 pt 2):350-354.
- Abduljabbar T, Vohra F, Akram Z, et al. Efficacy of surgival laser therapy in the management of oral pigmented lesions: a systematic review. *J Photochem Photobiol B.* 2017;173:353-359.
- 39. Alasmari DS. An insight into gingival depigmentation techniques: the pros and cons. *Int J Health Sci (Qassim)*. 2018;12(5):84-89.
- 40. Alawi F. Pigmented lesions of the oral cavity: an update. *Dent Clin North Am.* 2013;57(4):699-710.
- 41. Khammissa RAG, Chandran R, Masilana A, et al. Adverse immunologically mediated oral mucosal reactions to systemic medication: lichenoid tissue reaction/interface dermatitis-stomatitis, autoimmune vesiculobullous disease, and IgE-dependent and immune complex reactions. J Immunol Res. 2018;(2018):1-10.
- Feller L, Wood NH, Khammissa RA, et al. Review: allergic contact stomatitis. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol. 2017;123(5):559-565.
- 43. Kaplan AP, Greaves MW. Angioedema. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2005;53(3): 373-388, quiz 389-392.
- 44. Letko E, Papaliodis DN, Papaliodis GN, et al. Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis: a review of the literature. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2005;94(4):419-436, quiz 436-438, 456.
- Paulmann M, Mockenhaupt M. Severe drug-induced skin reactions: clinical features, diagnosis, etiology, and therapy. J Dtsch Dermatol Ges. 2015;13(7):625-645.
- 46. Mockenhaupt M, Viboud C, Dunant A, et al. Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis: assessment of medication risks with emphasis on recently marketed drugs. The EuroSCAR-study. *J Invest Dermatol.* 2008;128(1):35-44.
- Garcia-Doval I, LeCleach L, Bocquet H, et al. Toxic epidermal necrolysis and Stevens-Johnson syndrome: does early withdrawal of causative drugs decrease the risk of death? Arch Dermatol. 2000;136(3):323-327.
- Khominsky A, Lim M. "Spontaneous" medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw; two case reports and a systematic review. *Aust Dent J.* 2018; 63(4):441-454.

- 49. Koth VS, Figueiredo MA, Salum FG, et al. Bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw: from the sine qua non condition of bone exposure to a non-exposed BRONJ entity. *Dentomaxillofac Radiol.* 2016;45(7): 20160049.
- Ruggiero SL, Dodson TB, Fantasia J, et al. American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons position paper on medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw–2014 update [published corrections appear in *J Oral Maxillofac Surg.* 2015;73(7):1440, and *J Oral Maxillofac Surg.* 2015;73(9):1879]. *J Oral Maxillofac Surg.* 2014;72(10):1938-1956.
- El-Rabbany M, Sgro A, Lam DK, et al. Effectiveness of treatments for medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw: a systematic review and meta-analysis. J Am Dent Assoc. 2017;148(8):584-594.e2.
- 52. Aparecida Cariolatto F, Carelli J, de Campos Moreira T, et al. Recommendations for the prevention of bisphosphonate-related osteonecrosis of the jaw: a systematic review. *J Evid Based Dent Pract*. 2018;18(2): 142-152.
- 53. Villa A, Connell CL, Abati S. Diagnosis and management of xerostomia and hyposalivation. *Ther Clin Risk Manag.* 2014;11:45-51.
- Leal SC, Bittar J, Portugal A, et al. Medication in elderly people: its influence on salivary pattern, signs and symptoms of dry mouth. *Gerodontology*. 2010;27(2):129-133.
- 55. Aliko A, Wolff A, Dawes C, et al. World Workshop on Oral Medicine VI: clinical implications of medication-induced salivary gland dysfunction. *Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol*. 2015;120(2):185-206.
- Porter SR, Scully C, Hegarty AM. An update of the etiology and management of xerostomia. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol Endod. 2004;97(1):28-46.
- 57. Villa A, Wolff A, Aframian D, et al. World Workshop on Oral Medicine VI: a systematic review of medication-induced salivary gland dysfunction: prevalence, diagnosis, and treatment. *Clin Oral Investig.* 2015;19(7): 1563-1580.
- Liu B, Dion MR, Jurasic MM, et al. Xerostomia and salivary hypofunction in vulnerable elders: prevale nce and etiology. Oral Surg Oral Med Oral Pathol Oral Radiol. 2012;114(1):52-60.
- 59. Das P, Challacombe SJ. Dry mouth and clinical oral dryness scoring systems. *Prim Dent J.* 2016;5(1):77-79.
- López-Jornet MP, García-Teresa G, Viñas M, et al. Clinical and antimicrobial evaluation of a mouthwash and toothpaste for xerostomia: a randomized, double-blind, crossover study. J Dent. 2011;39(11):757-763.
- 61. Gil-Montoya JA, Silvestre FJ, Barrios R, et al. Treatment of xerostomia and hyposalivation in the elderly: a systematic review. *Med Oral Patol Oral Cir Bucal.* 2016;21(3):e355-e366.
- 62. Aframian DJ, Helcer M, Livni D, et al. Pilocarpine treatment in a mixed cohort of xerostomic patients. *Oral Dis.* 2007;13(1):88-92.
- Götrick B, Åkerman S, Ericson D, et al. Oral pilocarpine for treatment of opioid-induced oral dryness in healthy adults. *J Dent Res.* 2004;83(5): 393-397.
- 64. Hanchanale S, Adkinson L, Daniel S, et al. Systematic literature review: xerostomia in advanced cancer patients. *Support Care Cancer.* 2015; 23(3):881-888.
- 65. Noaiseh G, Baker JF, Vivino FB. Comparison of the discontinuation rates and side-effect profiles of pilocarpine and cevimeline for xerostomia in primary Sjögren's syndrome. *Clin Exp Rheumatol.* 2014;32(4):575-577.

BONUS DIGITAL CONTENT

ORAL MANIFESTATIONS OF PRESCRIBED DRUGS



Chemical burn caused by patient placing crushed aspirin directly to oral mucosa.