Inflammatory glossitis migrans

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A 31-year-old woman came to the outpatient centre for a febrile syndrome accompanied by a labial ulcer and lesions on the tongue with a sensation of burning (Figure 1). The patient had had lesions on the tongue for 1 year. They had been of a smaller size with a changing location and a sensation of intense pruritus with spicy food. Within the context of the flu, an important worsening of the lingual lesions was observed.

Geographic tongue, inflammatory glossitis or erythema migrans is a benign lingual lesion

of unknown aetiology which affects from 1% to 2% of the general population. The differential diagnosis includes herpetic gingivostomatitis, oral candidiasis, leucoplasia, lichen planus, lupus erythematosus and median rhomboid glossitis. This entity is often associated with psoriasis, atopia as well as the Reiter syndrome. Treatment is symptomatic with topic steroid, topic solutions of tretinoin or mouthwashes with anaesthetic and antiseptic solutions and it is recommended to avoid irritants.



Figure 1. Inflammatory glossitis migrans.

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