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## Oral plasmablastic lymphoma: Recent concepts in molecular diagnosis

**Sachin Sarode**

Dr. D. Y. Patil Dental College and  
Hospital, India

Oral Plasmablastic lymphoma (PBL) is a rare, recently described B-cell derived non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, commonly seen in patients with HIV infection. It usually shows plasmablastic morphology with expression of plasma cell-associated antigens and weak or no expression of B-cell associated markers. Most of the cases show monoclonal rearrangement of the immunoglobulin heavy chain gene (IgH) and/or clonal restriction of Ig light chain (IgL) gene expression. An etiological role for EBV seems likely but the association with HHV8 is questionable. It is characterized by a diagnostic triad of predilection for gingivo-buccal complex mucosa, classical plasmablastic morphology with the lack of neoplastic plasma cells and a limited immunohistochemical panel.

The treatment guidelines for PBL are not well defined and patients have been treated heterogeneously with chemo and/or radiotherapy, although the prognosis is poor.

The present paper discusses the epidemiological, clinical, immunohistochemical aspects of almost all the reported cases of oral PBL in English medical literature with special emphasis on the recent concepts in molecular diagnosis.