

# SYPHILIS

## COULD YOUR PATIENT HAVE IT?

ORAL HEALTH PRACTITIONERS ARE IN THE FRONT LINES OF SAN FRANCISCO'S FIGHT AGAINST SYPHILIS.

### COULD THAT ORAL ULCER BE PRIMARY SYPHILIS?

*fig. 1*

- The lesion of primary syphilis is the chancre, which can appear in the oral cavity.
- Oral chancres typically are single lesions that are painless and have firm, rolled up borders, with a clean base.
- Regional lymphadenopathy may be present.



*fig. 1* PRIMARY SYPHILIS, chancre.

### COULD THAT ORAL LESION BE SECONDARY SYPHILIS?

*fig. 2, 3*

- Secondary syphilis can present as mucous patches, which are white-gray adherent plaques on the tongue.
- Patients with secondary syphilis can be systemically ill, with malaise, sore throat, headache, weight loss, low-grade fever, or muscle aches. Generalized lymphadenopathy may be present.
- Skin findings are often present, including a rash on the trunk and on the palms and soles.



*fig. 2* SECONDARY SYPHILIS, mucous patch.

### THINK YOUR PATIENT MAY HAVE SYPHILIS?

- Refer the patient to the San Francisco City Clinic, at 356 7th St. (between Folsom St. and Harrison St.).
- City Clinic is open from 8 am–4 pm, MWF; 1 pm–6 pm, Tuesday; and 1 pm–4 pm, Thursday.
- Call City Clinic (415-487-5595) to let the clinic know your patient will be coming.
- City Clinic will see the patient and can provide same-day diagnosis and treatment for syphilis, all for free.



*fig. 3* SECONDARY SYPHILIS, rash.

### WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SYPHILIS?

- Check out our website at <http://www.sfcityclinic.org/providers/#Syphilis>.
- Call the clinician consultation hotline at San Francisco City Clinic (415-487-5595) if you have any questions about syphilis or other STDs.

