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Hidradenitis suppurativa

Guideline on Hidradenitis suppurativa

Developed by the Guideline Subcommittee of the **European Dermatology Forum**

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www.euroderm.org/edf/index.php/edf.../5-guidelines-miscellaneous
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Expiry date: 07/2017

1. Definition

Hidradenitis suppurativa / acne inversa (HS) is a chronic, inflammatory, recurrent, debilitating skin disease of the hair follicle that usually presents after puberty with painful, deep-seated, inflamed lesions in the apocrine gland-bearing areas of the body, most commonly the axillae, inguinal and anogenital regions

2.2. Classification and severity assessment

Hurley staging

- Stage I: Abscess formation, single or multiple, without sinus tracts and cicatrization.
- Stage II: Recurrent abscesses with tract formation and cicatrization, single or multiple, widely separated lesions.
- Stage III: Diffuse or near-diffuse involvement, or multiple interconnected tracts and abscesses across the entire area.

Stage I disease is most common (68% of patients), while stage II occurs in 28% of patients, and 4% of HS patients have stage III (5).

Physician global assessment (PGA)

Currently, a PGA (8) is the most frequently used assessment tool to measure clinical improvement in clinical trials of medical treatments. A recently developed six stage PGA was defined as follows (8).

- Clear: no inflammatory or non-inflammatory nodules
- Minimal: Only the presence of non-inflammatory nodules
- Mild: Less than 5 inflammatory nodules or 1 abscess or draining fistula and no inflammatory nodules
- Moderate: Less than 5 inflammatory nodules or one abscess or draining fistula and one or more inflammatory nodules or 2–5 abscesses or draining fistulas and less than ten inflammatory nodules
- Severe: 2–5 abscesses or draining fistulas and ten or more inflammatory nodules
- Very severe: More than 5 abscesses or draining fistulas

Table 1. Modified Hidradenitis Suppurativa Lesion, Area, and Severity Index (HS-LASI)^a

Characteristic	Score
Type of Lesion	
Fistula	4
Nodule	2
Abscess	1
Scar	1
Longest distance between 2 lesions or size of single lesion, cm	
<5	2
≥5 to <10	4
≥10	8
All lesions separated by normal skin	
Yes	0
No	6
Modified HS-LASI	
Drainage ^b	0-3
Tenderness ^c	0-3
Erythema ^d	0-3
Edema	0-3
Final score ^e	

^a As described by Sartorius et al.²³

^b Purulent drainage of total plaque surface area involvement: 0, no draining; 1, 25% of plaques draining; 2, 50% of plaques draining; 3, 100% of plaques draining.

^c Tenderness: 0, no pain; 1, 12 hours per day or less with pain; 2, more than 12 hours per day with pain; and 3, pain wakes the patient up at night.

^d Erythema: 0, absent; 1, mild; 2, moderate; 3, severe.

^e Depends on the patient.