

# **ACUTE LESIONS OF GINGIVA**

**- A REVIEW**

**LIBRARY DISSERTATION**

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Gingival and Periodontal disease in their various forms, have afflicted human kind since the dawn of history.<sup>3</sup> Periodontal disease consists of lesions of gingiva, the periodontal ligament, the cementum of the root surface and the alveolar bone.

Inflammation of the gingiva is the most common form of gingival disease. Inflammation is almost always present in all forms of gingival disease because bacterial plaque, which cause inflammation and factors which favour plaque accumulation are often present in the gingival environment. There is a tendency to designate all forms of gingival disease as gingivitis as if inflammation were the only disease process involved. However pathologic processes not caused by local irritation, such as atrophy, hyperplasia and neoplasia, also occur in the gingiva. All cases of gingivitis are not necessarily the same because they exhibit inflammatory changes and it is often necessary to differentiate between inflammation and other pathologic process that may be present in the gingival disease.<sup>3</sup>

There is general agreement that chronic inflammatory gingival and periodontal disease is caused ultimately by microbial plaque or by specific microorganisms in the gingival sulcus and periodontal pocket. Remarkable progress has been made in controlling some but not all microbial disease. Diseases that have been the most readily controlled are the acute infections, in which the pathogenesis and host response are reasonably straight forward.<sup>26</sup>

In the acute infections, the pathologic manifestations of the disease may be caused directly by the micro-organisms through invasion of the tissue and elaboration of toxins and other noxious substances, thereby leading to cell death and tissue necrosis. Control and prevention of these disease most likely require a sophisticated and detailed understanding of their Etiology, Diagnosis and Treatment plan.