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**DIPLOMATES OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

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## Lichen planus and hepatitis C virus: prevalence and clinical presentation of patients with lichen planus and hepatitis C virus infection

Although cases of lichen planus (LP) associated with hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection have been described, the association between the two diseases has not been established because the geographic origin of patients could be an important factor in HCV prevalence in patients with LP. The serum samples of 78 consecutive patients with cutaneous and/or mucous LP and 82 control patients were analysed for the presence of antibodies to HCV by enzyme-immunoassay and for the

presence of antigens of HCV by two-stage polymerase chain reaction (PCR). The clinical features of patients with LP associated with HCV infection were compared with patients with LP without HCV infection. Sixteen of the 78 (20%) patients had anti-HCV antibodies.

In 13 of these 16 cases (81%), HCV-RNA was detected by PCR in serum samples. In the 82 control patients, anti-HCV antibodies was observed in two (2.4%) patients. We have found

In 13 of these 16 cases (81%), HCV-RNA was detected by PCR in serum samples. In the 82 control patients, anti-HCV antibodies was observed in two (2.4%) patients. We have found a statistically significant association ( $P < 0.05$ ) between erosive LP and HCV infection. We conclude that the high prevalence of HCV-RNA in patients with LP provides some evidence for the role of HCV in the pathogenesis of LP. Our results suggest an association between erosive LP

HCV infection.

(Citation: Dermatol, J. "Lichen Planus and Hepatitis C Virus: Prevalence and Clinical Presentation of Patients with Lichen Planus and Hepatitis C Virus Infection." *Medscape*. Department of Dermatology, Hospital Universitario De La Princesa, Madrid, Spain., n.d. Web. 22 Jan. 2016.)

### DENTAL FUN FACT

Did you know sharks can't get cavities? Their teeth have an outer layer that is made out of fluoride.



(American Dental Association, 2016).

### NEWS YOU CAN USE

“The most frequently reported underlying disease associated with oral lichenoid reactions is chronic hepatitis caused by hepatitis C, particularly in Japan and the Mediterranean region.”

(Burker's Oral Medicine Diagnosis and Treatment, Tenth Edition).

**Dr. Brian Simpson**  
announces the twenty sixth meeting of the  
**NANUET IMPLANT STUDY GROUP**

**Speaker: Paul Burns**

**“Pain Management”**

**June , 2016**

**Dinner: 6:30**

**Presentation: 7:00 — 8:30 PM**

**Hudson House 134 Main Street Nyack, NY**

**2 CE credits awarded by the Ninth District Dental Association**

**Cost: \$50.00**

**To register, contact Brenna : 845-623-3497  
or by email at [soms@drbriansimpson.com](mailto:soms@drbriansimpson.com)**

*“Responsibility is the first step in responsibility.”  
- W.E.B. Du Bois, American activist*

