

## MULTIPLE SKIN AND MUCOUS MEMBRANES LESIONS IN A MULTIMORBID PATIENT

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**Objectives.** Patients presenting in the dermatologist's office can have several types of lesions on the skin and also on mucous membranes not mandatory typical for the same skin disease. The multimorbid patient is a challenge for teaching professors in Dermatology to analyze with medical students and residents. To examine a patient - observing the principle "a capitis ad calcem" remains the golden standard. Pathologic signs on the mucous membranes, especially, in the oral cavity are to be consulted by a specialist in oral pathology together with a dermatologist. All the available technologies are to be applied.

**Materials and Methods.** 6 dermatologists in Clinic for Dermatology and STD, Riga 1<sup>st</sup> hospital, and 2 specialists in oral pathology were involved in a study, where data of 312 patients were analyzed according to criteria – patient with multiple skin and mucous membrane lesions of different types, the time necessary for clinical examination, apparatuses assisted diagnostics, typing requests for laboratory and investigations, writing prescriptions for treatments.

**Results.** Suggestions to prioritize the urgency in diagnostics and treatment were the first criterion not to generate the risk of delay in the waiting list schedule. Respect for time shows a professional attitude to the patient as a client. Professional skills in diagnostics have to be supported by dermoscopy, computer-assisted methods, and lab tests. Histology remains the gold standard in diagnostics, still, it cannot be performed in primary consultation. In the price for visits, the consultation and a few basic tests are included; the advanced methods are costly and not all patients agree to pay for instrumental methods of examination for the higher price.

**Conclusions.** The cooperation of different specialists of oral pathology together with dermatologist help to avoid mistakes and administration of unnecessary therapy, still it rises costs for patient. The problem of proper time management is more challenging for less experienced specialists.