

## Diseases affecting the lips



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### Abstract

**Background:** Diseases of the lips are not minor to patients and they remain a challenge for dentists. Various lesions and conditions can affect the lips. They can be single or multiple, localized or diffuse, or associated with other systemic features. A good clinical examination will help to make a proper diagnosis.

**Aim:** The aim of this review is to attract the attention of dentists to the most important clinical features of different diseases involving the lips, as well as to help them recognize the relationship between lips and overall health, consequently providing the best management.

**Methods:** A systematic review was carried out to list all possible common conditions reported in the literature that affect the lips. These diseases were categorized according to their etiology into: dryness, scaling, injuries, inflammatory conditions, infections, precancerous lesions, tumors, and lip lesions related to systemic diseases, neurological conditions or developmental anomalies. At the end of each entity, a suggested therapy was mentioned.

**Conclusion:** Dentists need to concentrate on the various clinical aspects of the most commonly occurring lesions on the lips. They need to get full clinical information including symptoms, duration, and changes in the morphology and function of the lips besides the associated habits. A simple approach to diagnosis is based on the clinical features of lesions. Providing a better understanding and recognition of these features would favor a good diagnosis and suitable treatment plan.