

Mass on a lip of a horse

Abigail Guija de Arespachaga¹, Verena Zehetner², Martin Reifinger³, Ilse Schwendenwein¹

¹Clinical Pathology Platform, ²Equine Internal Medicine, ³Institute of Pathology, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Austria

Corresponding Author: abigail.guja@vetmeduni.ac.at

Case presentation

A 19-year-old, Arabian mare was presented to the Equine Clinic at the Veterinary University of Vienna for evaluation of a lesion located on the upper lip below the left nostril. The mass had been noticed by the owner 4 weeks prior to presentation when it had the size of a pea with an intact skin surface. The horse scratched the lesion inciting leakage of whitish viscous material followed by granulation and crust formation. The mass increased significantly in size during the last week, with the recurrence of non-healing ulcerated areas and drainage of viscous fluid. Cleaning of the lesion with chlorhexidine was the only treatment. There were no other significant medical problems in the patient's history.

Clinical examination

Clinical examination revealed normal vital parameters and good body condition. The mass was about 2.0 cm in diameter, well-circumscribed, firm and ulcerated in some areas. No other systematic abnormalities were detected at the time of presentation. Ultrasonographic examination of the lip mass revealed a 2,5cm well-defined solid round mass, without infiltration of the surrounding tissue. Samples for cytologic evaluation were obtained by fine-needle aspiration; the slides were air-dried and stained with a modified rapid Romanowsky stain (Hemafix®).

Questions:

What are the possible differential diagnoses?

What stains would you use to confirm the diagnosis?

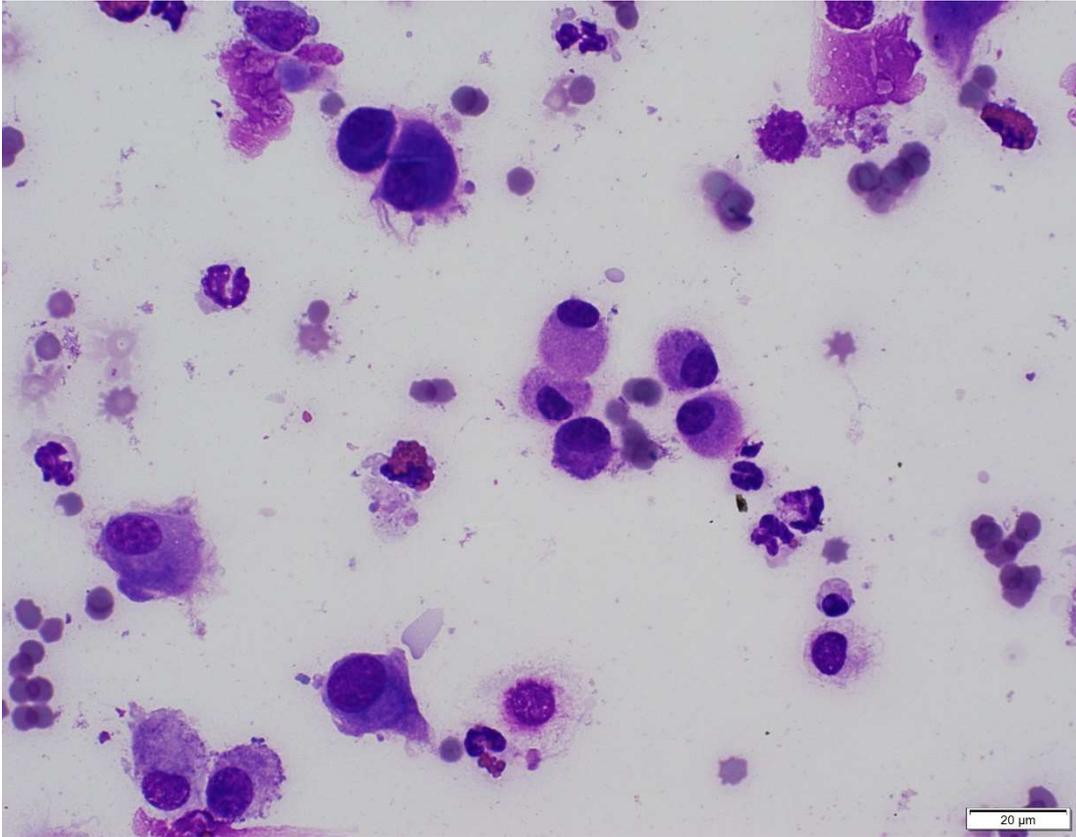


Fig. 1 – FNA ulcerated lesion, modified rapid Romanowsky-Stain (Hemafix®) (x400)

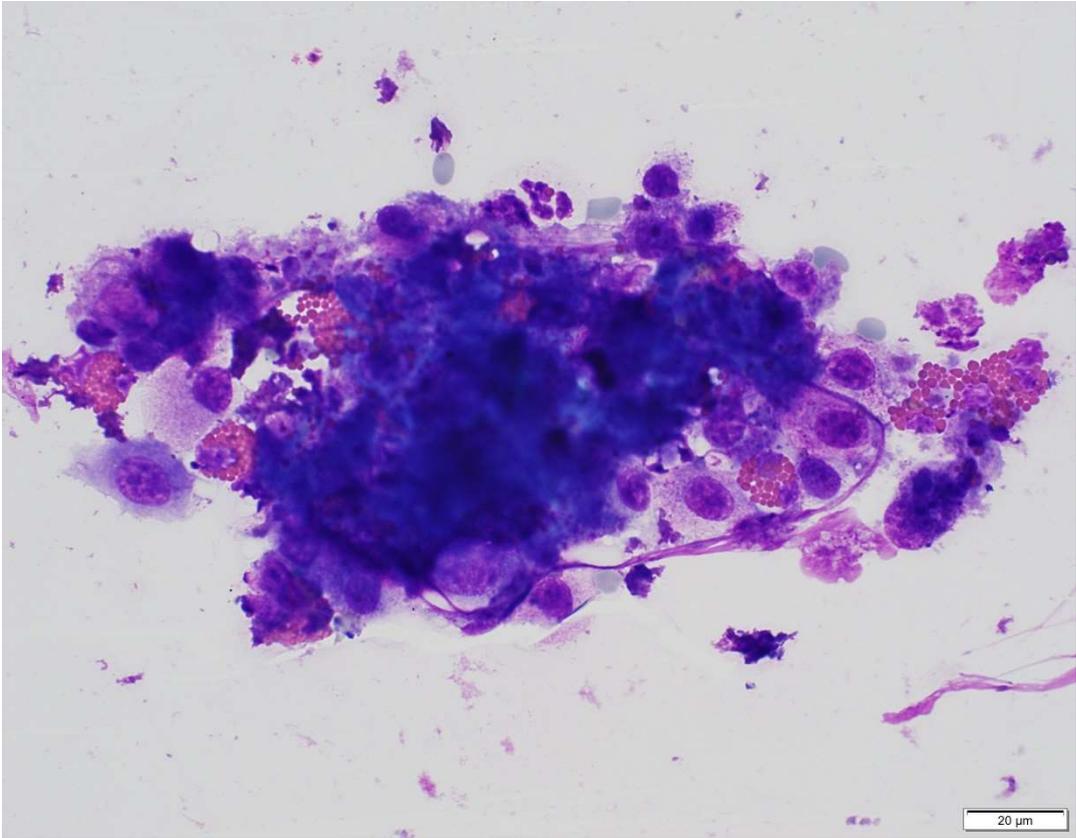


Fig. 2 – FNA ulcerated lesion, modified rapid Romanowsky-Stain (Hemafix®) (x400)