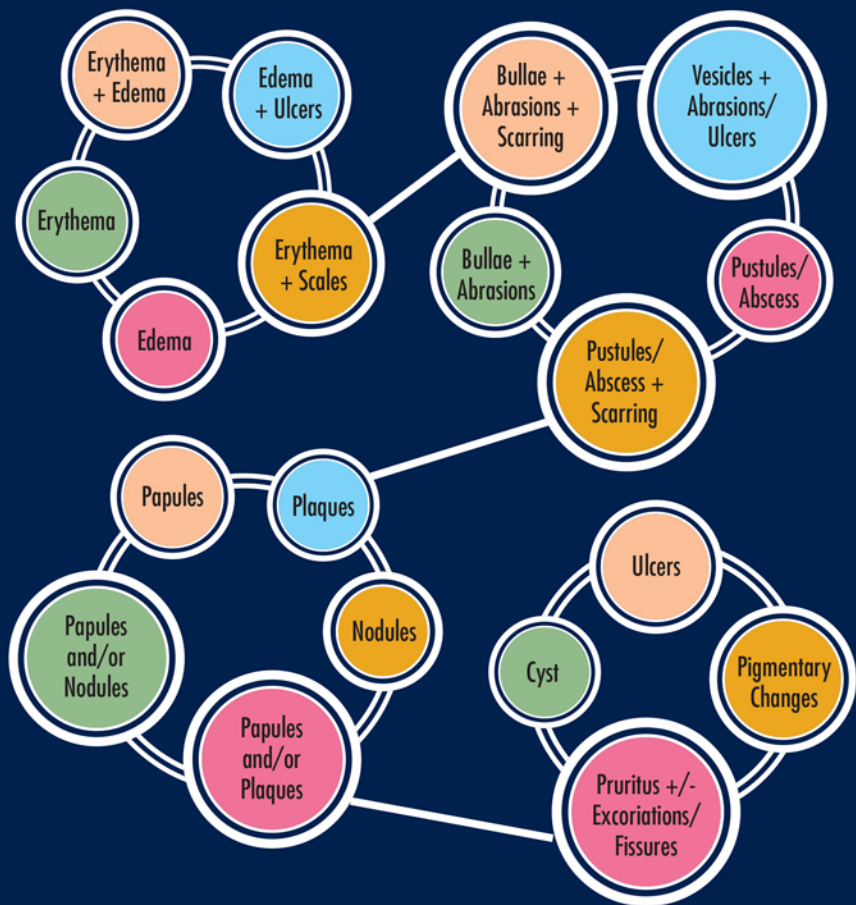


Vulval Dermatologic Diagnosis

Diagnosis by Clinical Presenting Sign



Giuseppe Micali • Pompeo Donofrio
Maria Rita Nasca • Stefano Veraldi

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Professor Giuseppe Micali is head of the Department of Dermatology and director of the residency program in dermatology at the University of Catania, Italy. He graduated from, and then completed his residency training in dermatology and venereology at the University of Catania, Italy in 1986. Since then, he has served as a visiting faculty member on a number of occasions at the departments of dermatology at the University of Illinois, Northwestern University, and the University of Miami, USA. Professor Micali has actively participated as chairman and speaker at many national and international meetings, as well as in training courses related to dermatology. He has had longstanding scientific collaboration with several foreign universities, including the University of Illinois, Northwestern University, Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School and the University of Miami. He is also a member of various national and international societies, and a founding member of the Italian Board of Pediatric Dermatology, Italian Board of Research in Dermovenereologic Therapy, Italian Acne Board, Study Group on Cutaneous Appendages and the Mediterranean Acne Group. Professor Micali has authored over 400 publications, including 182 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 93 book chapters and he is editor of 16 books. He currently serves as an editorial board member of numerous international journals, including the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology* (USA), *Journal of Dermatologic Treatment* (USA), *International Journal of Dermatology* (USA), *Acta Dermatovenerologica Croatica*, and *European Journal of Acne*. In addition to having served on advisory boards for several pharmaceutical companies, Professor Micali is actively involved in clinical research of skin disorders. His main fields of interest include acne, dermatologic therapy, noninvasive diagnostic technologies, and genital disorders.

Professor Pompeo Donofrio is a specialist in dermatology and venereology. He was a senior researcher at the Dermatology Clinic of the University “Federico II,” Naples, Italy from 1974 to 2009. Since then he has been medical director of the genital dermatology and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) outpatient clinical service and faculty member at the residency program in dermatology and venereology at the Department of Dermatology of the University “Federico II,” Naples, Italy. Since 1984 he has served as medical counselor for HIV patients at the Medical School Department of Communicable Diseases of the “Federico II” University, and at the Division of Infectious Diseases of “D. Cotugno” Hospital, Naples, Italy. He has actively been involved in university-based research programs sponsored by the Italian National Research Institute (CNR) and by the Italian Ministry of Scientific Research. He is author of over 200 scientific publications, including articles and book chapters. He has actively participated as chairman and speaker at many national and international meetings, as well as in training courses related to dermatology, STDs, and AIDS.

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Professor Stefano Veraldi graduated in medicine and surgery from the University of Milan, Italy, in 1984. He was a research fellow at the Department of Dermatology, University of Milan, Italy, 1986–1988; specialist in dermatology and venereology, 1987; assistant dermatologist, 1990–2000; senior researcher, 2000–2002; associate professor, 2002–2014; and head of the Postgraduate School of Dermatology and Venereology at the University of Milan, 2013–2014. He was the cofounder of the Italian Group for the Study of Skin Ulcers (GISUC) in 1999; cofounder of the European Institute of Dermatology (Milan) in 2001, and cofounder of the Italian Acne Board (IAB) in 2004. Professor Veraldi was a visiting professor at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, 2004; scientific director of the European Institute of Dermatology, Milan, 2007–2008; president of the IAB 2009–2014; member of the Rosacea Global Advisory Board, 2012–2014; member of the European Severe Acne Board, 2014; and visiting professor at the University of Makallè, Ethiopia, 2014. He is the author of 26 books, 72 chapters in various books, 179 articles indexed on Scopus, 165 on Web of Science, and 138 on PubMed.

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Introduction and Terminology

Vulvar disorders span through many aspects of gender medicine, including sexually transmitted infections and neoplastic disorders.

Professors Giuseppe Micali (Catania), Pompeo Donofrio (Naples), Maria Rita Nasca (Catania), and Stefano Veraldi (Milan) have consolidated experience in the diagnosis and management of genital disorders, confirmed by previous publications in this field, also including an *Atlas of Male Genital Disorders*. All four distinguished physician-scientists have worked on genital disorders for many years. Each one has actively participated in many scientific meetings on this subject and published papers in national and international journals. They run dedicated clinics on genital disorders, respectively, at the Departments of Dermatology of the Universities of Catania, Naples, and Milan.

The basic idea of this book is to describe vulvar disorders, rather than by standard classifications (infective, inflammatory, neoplastic, etc.), by the key elementary lesions (erythema, edema, vesicles, bullae, etc.) that characterize the clinical features. By doing so, the reader is provided with crucial clinical steps and emblematic and evocative pictures that may expedite the formulation of the correct diagnosis.

We hope that this publication may represent a useful and valuable tool for practicing physicians worldwide, who would benefit from reading it.