



MINERVA

Blisters and a fever

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A 23 year old woman presented with a week of coryzal illness, fever, and sore throat. She had painful vesicular lesions on the soft palate and tonsils (). Polymerase chain reaction testing of a lesion swab on day 4 of the illness detected enterovirus RNA, confirming a clinical diagnosis of herpangina.



Several enteroviruses can cause herpangina, including coxsackievirus A and B and enterovirus A71. Outbreaks occur in children, and occasionally neonates and young adults. Differential diagnoses for vesicular oral lesions include herpes simplex virus and hand, foot, and mouth disease. However, in hand, foot, and mouth, the oral lesions are usually painless, and accompanied by vesicular lesions on the hands and feet.

Herpangina is typically a self limiting illness; management is supportive and contact precautions are recommended until lesions have resolved.

Patient consent obtained.

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