

APHTHOUS ULCERS

Please read this information sheet. If you have any questions, particularly about the treatment or potential side-effects, please ask your doctor.

- These are common
- Children *may* inherit ulcers from parents
- Aphthous ulcers are not thought to be infectious
- The cause is not known but some follow use of toothpaste with sodium dodecyl sulphate, certain foods/drinks, or stopping smoking
- Some vitamin or other deficiencies or conditions may predispose to ulcers
- Blood tests and biopsy *may* therefore be required
- Ulcers can be controlled but rarely cured
- No long-term consequences are known
- Useful website http://openseason.com/annex/library/cic/X0033_fever.txt.html

A patient has the right under common law to give or withhold consent to medical examination of treatment. This is one of the basic principles of health care. Patients are entitled to receive sufficient information in a way they can understand about the proposed treatments, the possible alternatives and any substantial risk or risks which may be special in kind or magnitude or special to the patient, so that they can make a balanced judgement. (UK Health Dept. 19.2.99. HSC 1999/031)

Professor Crispian Scully CBE

Eastman Dental Institute for Oral Health Care Sciences

and International Centres for Excellence in Dentistry

University of London

256, Gray's Inn Road

London WC1X 8LD

www.eastman.ucl.ac.uk

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