

Letter to the Editor

Madam,

The interest shown by K. Pavithran towards the article "Neonatal palatal perforation—a rare manifestation of congenital syphilis" (47:321-322, 1982) is worth appreciating. On page 322, the sentence starting with "No significant reduction" in tenth line should be read as "No significant reduction in the size of perforation was observed in the first follow up visit i.e., at the age of 2 months". The size of perforation and VDRL positivity at each visit is given below :

Age	Size	VDRL positivity
1 Month	1" × ½"	1 : 32 dilution
2 Months	¾" × 1/3"	1 : 32 dilution
3 Months	½" × ¼"	1 : 16 dilution
4 Months	Depressed spot (Pit-like) seen	1 : 16 dilution

However, the ulcer was found to be healed on 3rd subsequent follow up visit at the age of 4 months following penicillin therapy. As such the strongest reason for labelling it as 'Congenital Syphilitic' is the good response to penicillin therapy. Other evidences supporting this diagnosis include (i) previous obstetric history of a still birth (ii) and a positive VDRL test. I presume that it hardly leaves any doubt to think of a developmental defect though a biopsy from the ulcer could not be taken due to non-consent of the parents. Once again I appreciate the right critical approach of K. Pavithran.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely,
P. C. Mishra

ATTENTION - MEMBERS

Kindly renew your membership for 1982 by sending Rs. 50/- to your branch secretaries IMMEDIATELY.

Announcement...

Title: 4th Postgraduate Course in Medical Mycology (Dermat-mycology)

Date: September 16—18, 1982. **Location:** UCSF

Accreditation: 20 hours of Category 1 credit.

Fee : \$ 225.00

For registration information please call : 666-2894 or 66-1483

For programme information please call : 666-4251

The XIth Annual Conference of the IADVL will be held in Mangalore, Karnataka. The tentative dates for the conference are 20th to 23rd January, 1983. For information regarding all matters connected with the scientific programme, kindly contact Dr. Leslie Marquis who is the Chairman of the Scientific Committee for the year.

XI All India Conference of I. A. D. V. & L., Mangalore - 1983

Nominations for the award of the Glaxo & Ambady orations for the XI All India Conference of I. A. D. V. & L. to be held in January 1983 are invited. They must be accompanied by a biodata of the proposed individual and should reach the Scientific Chairman by the 30th June 1982.

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