

# 2ND WORLD CONGRESS ON DERMATOLOGY, COSMETOLOGY AND AESTHETIC SURGERY

July 14-15, 2025 | Rome, Italy



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## 2024 UK National Guideline on the Management of Vulval Conditions

## **Background**

The management of vulval disorders in Genitourinary Medicine (GUM) clinics requires targeted approaches due to the wide range of conditions affecting the vulva. Vulval diseases encompass various aetiologies, including dermatoses, pain syndromes, and pre-malignant conditions, necessitating specialized care often involving multidisciplinary collaboration.

## **Purpose**

This guideline aims to provide evidence-based recommendations for the diagnosis and management of specific vulval conditions that may present in GUM clinics. The focus is on conditions commonly managed by Genitourinary Physicians, either independently or in partnership with other specialists, depending on available local expertise. Additionally, guidance on onward referral is included to ensure optimal patient care.

## Methodology

The guideline primarily addresses the management of individuals aged 16 years and older presenting to GUM clinics with non-infective vulval conditions.

#### **Results**

Recommendations within this guideline are derived from a review of existing literature, clinical expertise, and consensus among specialists. Emphasis is placed on diagnostic tests and treatment regimens tailored to the following conditions: Lichen sclerosus, Lichen planus, Eczema, Lichen simplex, Psoriasis, Vulval high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (previously vulval intraepithelial neoplasia), Vulval pain syndromes, and Non-sexually acquired acute genital ulceration (Ulcer of Lipschütz).

## **Conclusions**

This guideline offers practical recommendations for the effective management of specific vulval disorders in GUM settings. It is not intended to be a comprehensive review of all vulval diseases but rather a focused resource to assist clinicians in providing high-quality, patient-centred care. Onward referral pathways are also outlined to support collaborative and multidisciplinary management of complex cases.

Keywords: Vulval disorders, BASHH, UK Guideline

## **Biography**

Dr Deepa Grover is a consultant in HIV and Genitourinary medicine in London. She is a member of the Clinical Effectiveness group (CEG) for British association for Sexual health and HIV (BASHH) for the production of national guidelines for Genitourinary Medicine. She is lead editor for the UK guidelines for Genital Dermatology.