

# Oral Plasmablastic Lymphoma: A clinicopathological study of 113 cases

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## Background and Objectives

South Africa has the highest burden of HIV/AIDS in the world and, for this reason, the incidence of HIV-related lymphomas, including plasmablastic lymphoma (PBL), is high.

This study aims to describe a large series of oral PBLs from a single South African diagnostic centre.



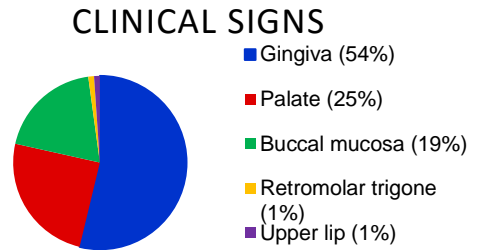
## Materials and Methods

All cases diagnosed as PBL affecting the oral cavity were retrospectively retrieved from the pathology archives of the Department of Oral Pathology and Oral Biology, University of Pretoria.

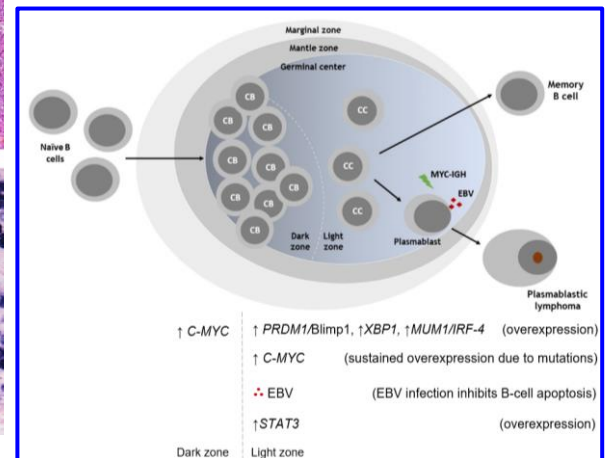
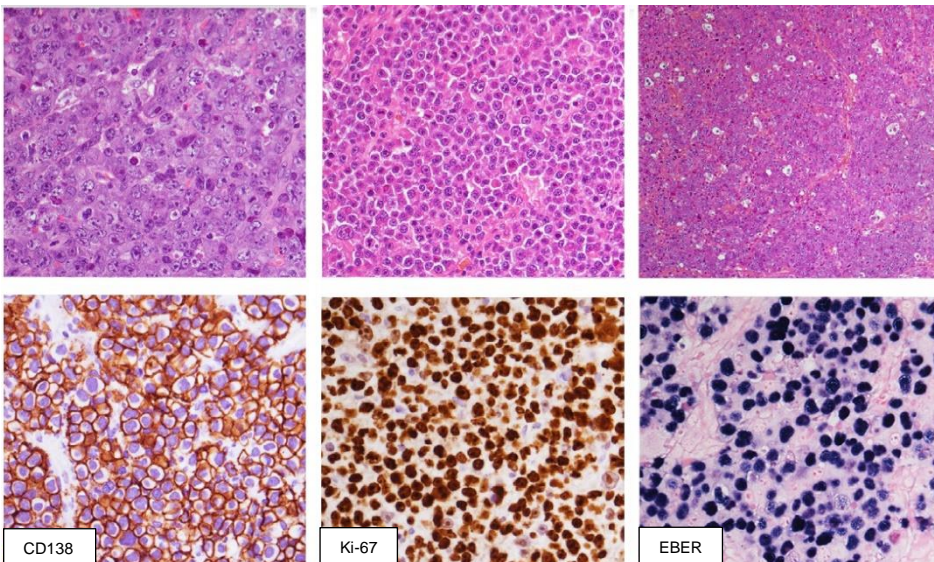
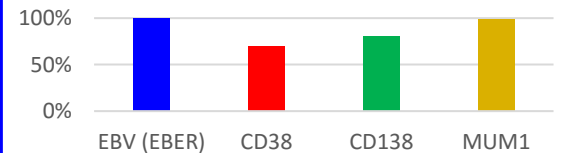
## Results

A total of 113 cases were included in the study with a 3:1 male-to-female ratio. PBLs presented at a median age of 41 years (range 8-62). All patients with available results were HIV seropositive.

All cases were negative for the mature B-cell marker CD20 and showed plasmacytic differentiation via immunohistochemistry (CD38/CD138). All cases were positive for Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) via in situ hybridisation (EBER).



### IMMUNOHISTOCHEMICAL RESULTS



## Conclusion

In conclusion, oral PBL is an aggressive haematolymphoid malignancy that in a South Africa population is almost exclusively diagnosed in HIV-positive patients and has a strong association with EBV infection.