

3 Herpetic oesophagitis**Micro**

- These are oesophageal biopsies showing acute inflammation with ulceration.
- Ulcer slough fragments are also included.
- At the edge of the ulcer, viral ground-glass inclusions are seen in squamous cells-typical of herpetic viral cytopathic changes.
- The cells show margination of nuclei, molding and multinucleation (3M's of herpes).
- The background epithelium shows prominent mononuclear infiltrate.
- There is no evidence of malignancy.

Diagnosis

- Herpetic oesophagitis

Further work/comment

- HSV immune marker is confirmatory.
- Correlation with microbiology e.g. viral culture or serology is highly recommended.
- The condition is more common in immunocompromised individuals.
- Concurrent infection with CMV may occur.