Necrolytic Migratory Erythema

Synonyms
- Hepatocutaneous syndrome
- Superficial necrolytic dermatitis
- Metabolic epidermal necrosis

Etiology
- End-stage liver disease (most common)
- Phenobarbital-induced hepatitis
- Pancreatic glucagonoma
- Other causes

Clinical Presentation
- Older dogs (>10 years)
- Lesions mostly present over pressure points and/or paw pads
- Erosions / ulcers
- Thick, strongly adherent crusts → parakeratosis!
- Painful when walking!!
- Possible inappetence, lethargy

Differential Diagnoses
- Necrolytic Migratory Erythema
- Zinc responsive dermatoses
- Generic dog food dermatoses
- Pemphigus complex (MMP, PV)
Diagnosis

- Skin cytology
- Skin biopsy
- Blood work:
  - Chemistry, CBC
  - Bile acids (pre- and postprandial)
- Imaging (X-ray, abdominal ultrasound)
- Glucagon measurement
- Insulin measurement
- Advanced Imaging
  - CT-scan, MRI, Octreoscan
- Biopsy of potential liver or pancreatic mass

Treatment

- End-stage liver disease
  - Colchicine
- Pancreatic glucagonoma
  - Surgery
  - Octreotide
- Supportive care
  - Amino-acids (oral, intravenous)
  - High quality diet
  - Zinc supplementation

Case Review