

essary to ensure that the proper diagnosis is made, as well as to investigate possible associated diseases. Biopsy, tissue culture, evaluation for potential associated diseases such as IBD, hematologic disorders, inflammatory arthritis, and other entities is

recommended. One large study of 356 cases of PG demonstrated that IBD is more common in patients younger than age 65 years, and malignancies and hematologic disorders are more common in patients over 65. Multiple infections, including mycobacteria, deep fungi, gummatous syphilis, synergistic gangrene, and amebiasis, must be excluded with cultures and special studies. Other disorders frequently misdiagnosed as PG include vascu-