

# ***ORIGINAL 2015 ISSVD Consensus Terminology and Classification of Persistent Vulvar Pain***

**Table 1: 2015 Consensus Terminology and Classification of Persistent Vulvar Pain**

## **A. Vulvar pain caused by a specific disorder\***

- *Infectious (e.g., recurrent candidiasis, herpes)*
- *Inflammatory (e.g., lichen sclerosus, lichen planus, immunobullous disorders)*
- *Neoplastic (e.g., Paget disease, squamous cell carcinoma)*
- *Neurologic (e.g., post-herpetic neuralgia, nerve compression or injury, neuroma)*
- *Trauma (e.g., female genital cutting, obstetrical)*
- *Iatrogenic (e.g., post-operative, chemotherapy, radiation)*
- *Hormonal deficiencies (e.g., genito-urinary syndrome of menopause [vulvo-vaginal atrophy], lactational amenorrhea)*

**B. Vulvodynia** – *Vulvar pain of at least 3 months duration, without clear identifiable cause, which may have potential associated factors*

### **Descriptors:**

- *Localized (e.g., vestibulodynia, clitorodynia) or Generalized or Mixed (Localized and Generalized)*
- *Provoked (e.g., insertional, contact) or Spontaneous or Mixed (Provoked and Spontaneous)*
- *Onset (primary or secondary)*
- *Temporal pattern (intermittent, persistent, constant, immediate, delayed)*

*\*Women may have both a specific disorder (e.g., lichen sclerosus and vulvodynia)*

**Table 2: 2015 Consensus Terminology and Classification of Persistent Vulvar Pain – Appendix: Potential Factors Associated with Vulvodynia\***

- *Co-morbidities and other pain syndromes (e.g. painful bladder syndrome, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome, temporomandibular disorder)*
- *Genetics*
- *Hormonal factors (e.g., pharmacologically induced)*
- *Inflammation*
- *Musculoskeletal (e.g., pelvic muscle overactivity, myofascial, biomechanical)*
- *Neurologic mechanisms:*
  - *Central (spine, brain)*
  - *Peripheral*
  - *Neuroproliferation*
- *Psychosocial factors (e.g., mood, interpersonal, coping, role, sexual function)*
- *Structural defects (e.g., perineal descent)*

*\*The factors are ranked by alphabetical order*

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