

Self-Assessment Quiz

Answer, Critique and Reference

The correct answer to the question (see page 58) is E. Hidradenitis suppurativa is a chronic bacterial infection of the cutaneous apocrine glands. The condition does not occur before puberty, since apocrine glands generally appear and develop in the skin at puberty. The most common organism found is *Staphylococcus aureus*. Males tend to have the disease in the perineal and genital areas, while females more often present with axillary disease. Attempts at cure involve a combination of antibiotic

therapy and excision of the full thickness of the infected gland-bearing skin. At times, a portion of the adjacent subcutaneous fat also needs removal.

Reference

Simmons RL, Ahrenholz DH. In: Simmons RL, Howard RJ, eds. Surgical infectious diseases. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1982:527.