

Consensus Conference
on
Acne Classification

J Am Acad Dermatol 1991;24:495-500

Purpose of the Conference

- o To review and assess suitability of extant grading systems
- o Categorization of "severe acne"

Assessment of Acne Activity

- o Practitioner's assessment
 - Same examiner
 - Different examiner(s)
- o Investigative/therapeutic trials

Pillsbury, Shelley, Kligman, 1956

- Grade I: simple, banal;
no significant inflammation
- Grade II: moderate severity;
occasional inflammatory lesions
- Grade III: more severe
- Grade IV: most severe;
widespread involvement

ACNE: a highly pleomorphic disorder

- o inflammatory and non-inflammatory lesions

- o inflammatory lesions: variation in size,
density, severity

- o variability in evolution and healing,
with or without treatment

Burke & Cunliffe, Br J Dermatol, 1984

Inflammatory papules/pustules, < 5 mm

- o "Active": larger, more inflammatory
- o "Less active": smaller, less inflammatory

"Some 40% of lesions fell between these two types but in practice we assigned the lesion according to its major component"

Grading of Inflammatory Acne

Degree	Papules/Pustules	Nodules
Mild	Few to several	None
Moderate	Several to many	Few to several
Severe	Numerous and/or extensive	Many