

Peer Review File

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Review A Comments

Comment 1: Interesting cases and discussion. I did a brief literature search and this was described in a case in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology in 2022 by Gan et al, so it has been previously described. You are adding to additional cases. their case was also 4 months old. This could be added to your discussion

Reply 1 / Changes in text: Thank you for this feedback. This reference was added to our manuscript (reference 15). In the introduction we changed to “Lip bruising secondary to infant sucking has been reported only once in the academic literature as an isolated case report¹⁵, but no other reports have been published regarding this topic.” (Page 4, Lines 99-100). In the discussion we “In this case series, we provide a description of self-inflicted sucking bruises to the lip in infants to add to the limited report currently present in academic literature.” (Page 8, Lines 203-204) and “Though limited in the academic literature,” (Page 10, Line 238).

Review B Comments

Comment 1: Well written case series describing a potentially plausible mechanism for lower lip bruising while also reminding providers to continue to consider an evaluation for occult injuries and the possibility of abuse when bruising is present to a nonmobile infant. I think the article could stand alone as it is, but it could be helpful to be more explicit about the limitations of a case series within the discussion.

Reply 1 / Changes in Text: Thank you for this suggestion. We feel that the comment “Despite this possible explanation, the consideration of child physical abuse remains important in cases of facial bruising among young children.” covers a limitation of this series. (Page 10, Lines 250-252) Additionally, we added the line “An additional limitation of this case series includes the lack of follow up with the patients and families to better understand any long-term implications of this mechanism of injury.” (Page 10, Lines 255-257).