A Man With Fever, Gingival Plaque, and Diffuse Lymphadenopathy
(See pages 1164–5 for the Answer to the Photo Quiz.)

A 31-year-old man without any known underlying disease presented with a 5-day history of intermittent fever and diffuse abdominal pain. He complained of a gingival lesion and painless neck swelling of 1 month’s duration, and fatigue and poor appetite of 3 months’ duration. A 10 kilogram weight loss was also noted. He came from Vietnam and worked as a construction worker in Taiwan for 1 year. There was no history of exposure to pets or use of injected drugs. Physical examination revealed oral candidiasis, granulomatous gingiva (Figure 1), multiple palpable left supraclavicular and cervical lymph nodes (the largest up to $3.0 \times 2.5 \text{ cm}^2$), and hepatosplenomegaly. Laboratory investigation revealed a white blood cell count of $5.8 \times 10^9 \text{ cell/L}$ with 91% neutrophils and 4% lymphocytes, a hemoglobin level of 11.2 g/dL, a platelet count of $180 \times 10^9 \text{ cells/L}$, a C-reactive protein level 49.2 mg/L,

Figure 1. Erythematous gingival surface.

Figure 2. Biopsy specimens from different body sites, including bone marrow aspiration smear (A) Liu stain, × 1000; Gingival biopsy (B) Giemsa stain, × 1000; Cervical lymph nodes (C) hematoxylin-eosin stain, × 400; and nasopharynx (D) periodic acid-Schiff stain, × 400.
and a lactate dehydrogenase level of 211 U/L. Computed tomographic scan of the abdomen and chest was remarkable for diffused lymphadenopathy in the cervical, supraclavicular, mediastinal, para-aortic, paratracheal, mesenteric, and retroperitoneal space. Biopsy specimens from 4 different sites, including bone marrow, gingiva, cervical lymph node, and nasopharynx, revealed many microorganisms (Figure 2). The microbes isolated from the gingival biopsy were stained by lactophenol cotton blue, as shown in Figure 3. Screening antibody test and Western blot examination for human immunodeficiency virus type 1 infection were positive. The patient’s CD4 cell count was 15 cells/µL. What is your diagnosis?

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Figure 3. Lactophenol cotton blue stain of the microbe isolated from Gingival biopsy (×400).