Cutaneous tuberculosis was common at the beginning of the 20th century. It was a tragedy to be a sufferer. The key element in the skin was the granuloma, which could range from pinpoint size to big tubercles with necrosis and ulceration. A prominent and disfiguring tissue response accompanied the disease. Lupus (Latin for wolf) was an old lay term for horrible and long-lasting affections of the middle face thought to be due to bites from a wolf. *Lupus vulgaris* was finally understood to be caused by mycobacterial infection; a distinct entity separate from other forms of lupus such as *lupus erythematosus* and *lupus pernio*. The wide spectrum of manifestations of lupus vulgaris is reflected in the many descriptive eponyms given to the disease: maculosus; esfoliativus; tuberculosus; tumidus s. hypertrophicus; serpiginosus; exulcerans or ulcerans (rodens, phagadænicus, esthiomenos, herpes rodens, noli me tangere, herpes exedens). Lupus vulgaris could also be extrafacial and affect for example the hand.