

18 - Clinical Immunology and Host Defense

Speaker: Steven Holland, MD



Host Defense: Where the Rubber of Immunology Hits the Road of Life

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Disclosures of Financial Relationships with Relevant Commercial Interests

- None



Host Immune Defense

Humoral

- Complement
- Mannose binding lectin
- Antibody

Cellular

- Neutrophils
- Monocytes
- Lymphocytes (NK, T, B)
- Other (erythrocytes, platelets)

Basic Principles

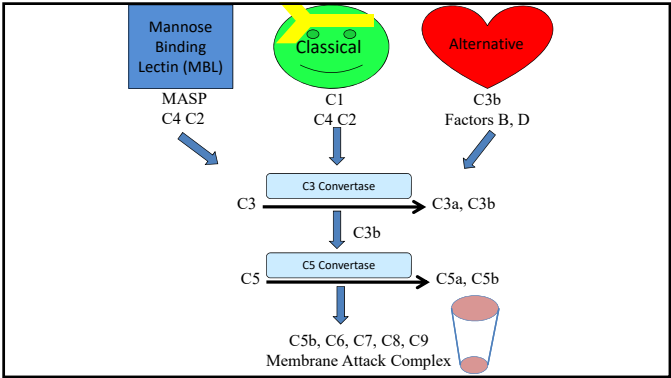
Patients with impaired inflammation:
may be unable to tell you they are sick (feel fine)
are often sicker than they look
often have more extensive disease than is apparent
may require longer treatment than normals
may have unusual infections

Who's Got a Problem?

Abnormal frequency of infections
recurrent *Neisseria* bacteremia
recurrent pneumonia
Abnormal presentation of infections
necrotic cutaneous ulcers (not anthrax)
Aspergillus pneumonia
Specific unusual infections
Pneumocystis jiroveci
Burkholderia cepacia
Nontuberculous mycobacteria

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Complement Deficiencies

Classical Pathway (C1-C9) (AR)
Antibody *dependent* bacterial lysis
Deficiency leads to recurrent bacteremia and meningitis

Alternative Pathway (Factors I, H, Properdin, C3) (Properdin X-linked, others AR)
Antibody *independent* bacterial lysis
More severe than classical defects

Mannose Binding Lectin (MBL) Pathway
Very modest IF ANY defect, mild effect in infancy

Complement Defects

C5-C9 Defects
recurrent *Neisseria* bacteremia and meningitis
average age of onset 17 y, milder CNS sequelae
high rates of relapse and reinfection

C1-C4 Defects
– Autoimmune disease (SLE, DLE) more common

Dx- CH50 (Classical), AH50 (Alternative)

Rx- treat infections, prophylaxis if needed, hypervaccination?

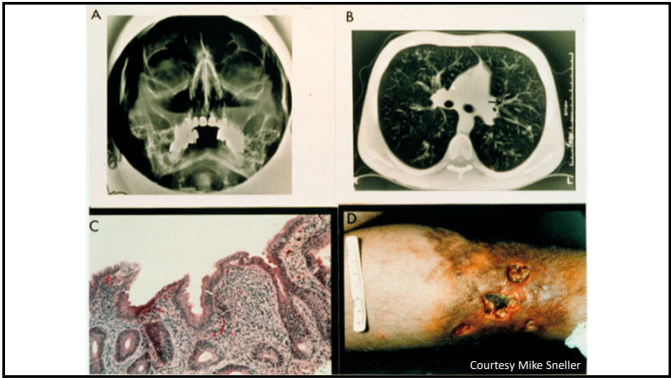
J Clin Immunol 2020 May;40(4):576-591

Antibody Deficiencies

IgA Deficiency (AR)
–common (1/700 adults)
–probably not a pathologic condition *per se*
–frequently associated with other deficits, such as common variable immunodeficiency (CVID), Ig subclass deficiencies

Dx- low IgA

Rx- none



Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID)

recurrent sino-pulmonary bacterial infections
chronic enteric infections with *G. lamblia*, *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*
severe echoviral meningitis/encephalitis/myositis

Dx- ↓ IgG (total and subclasses 1,3 or 2,4),
IgA, IgM, isohemagglutinins, DTH,
response to new or recall immunization
↑ autoimmunity and cancer

Rx- treat infections, Ig replacement

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47 year old woman

Recurrent episodes of bronchitis, recently more exacerbations. Tired.

One episode of documented bacterial pneumonia and sinusitis.

Immunoglobulin levels:

IgG 500 (normal 523-1482)

IgA <10 (normal 51-375)

IgM 165 (normal 37-200)

Next step?

- IgG subclasses and titers against tetanus and pneumococcus. If low consider IVIG
- Repeat IgG levels. If low, consider IVIG.
- Skin tests for DTH. If anergic, consider IVIG.
- Titers against tetanus and pneumococcus, immunize, and repeat. If low, consider IVIG.
- Check MBL levels. If low, consider IVIG.

52 year old man

referred from his Family Practitioner.

Recurrent digital and oral ulcers occurring every month or so for the last 4 months.

One CBC showed an ANC of 100, but on repeat several days later was normal.

Previous health good.

Took "some antibiotic for a cold a few months ago".

Spleen tip felt.



Cyclic or Acute Neutropenia

-drug induced (chemoRx, sulfa, nucleosides, clozapine)

-hereditary **cyclic** and chronic neutropenia (AD) due to neutrophil elastase (ELANE) mutations. Childhood.

- digital, oral, perineal infections, usually self-healing with recovery of counts, bacteremia uncommon
- relatively low baseline PMN count with valleys of profound neutropenia, about every 3-4 weeks

Dx- molecular; demonstration of periodicity, family history.

Rx- G-CSF lifts both nadir and baseline

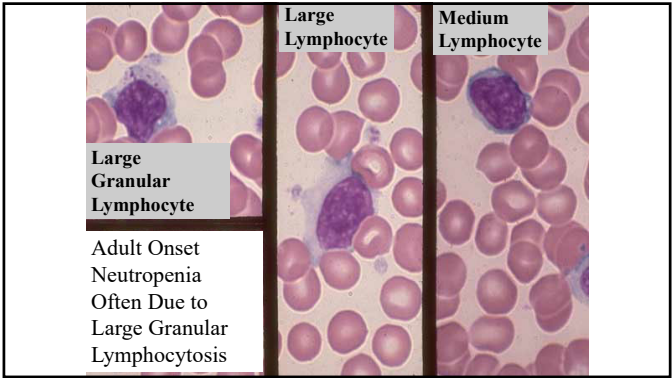
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Acquired Neutropenia in Adults

- Drugs, lupus, etc.
- acquired cyclic neutropenia
 - (Large Granular Lymphocytosis, LGL)
 - splenomegaly, often associated with rheumatoid arthritis (Felty Syndrome)
- Dx-** clonal CD3+/8+/57+ lymphs (LGL)
 - (Gain of Function mutations in STAT3)
- Rx-** treatment of the abnormal clone is curative (cyclosporine, MTX, steroids)
- G-CSF may lift both nadir and baseline

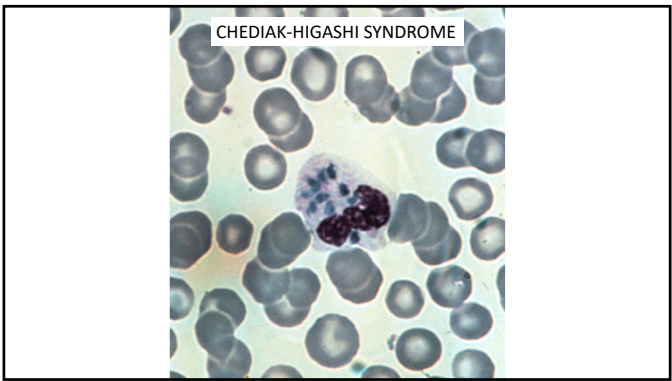
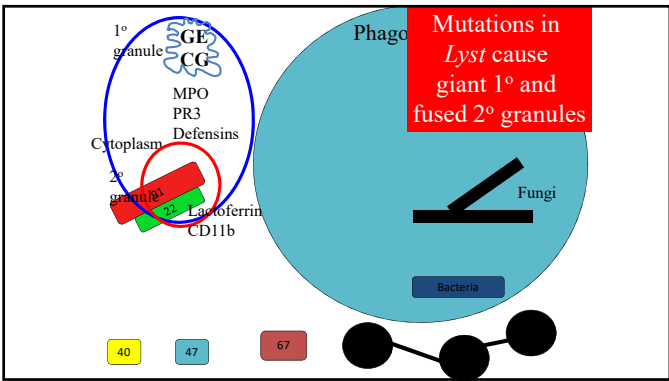
Hematol Malign Rep. 2020 Apr;15(2):103-112.



Myeloperoxidase (MPO) deficiency (AR)

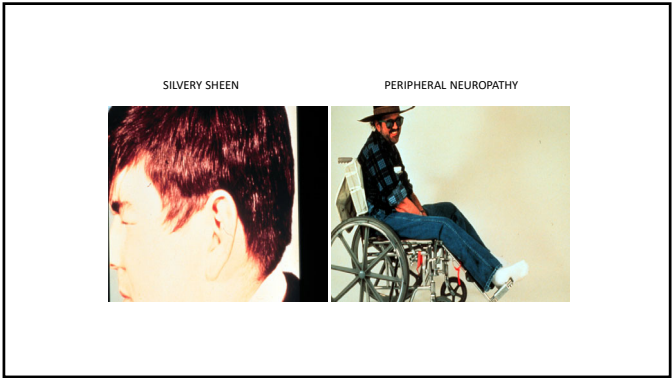
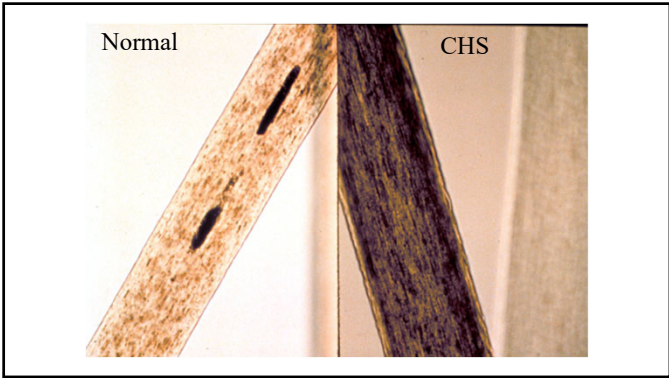
- most common neutrophil disorder (1/2000)
- not a pathologic condition *per se*
 - failure of H_2O_2 -----MPO-----> HOCl
 - compensated by increased H_2O_2 production
 - appears to need another condition to potentiate, such as diabetes mellitus
- Dx-** absence of peroxidase positive granules due to mutations in *MPO* gene
- Rx-** treat invasive infections (*Candida*), no specific therapy

J Leukoc Biol. 2013 Feb;93(2):185



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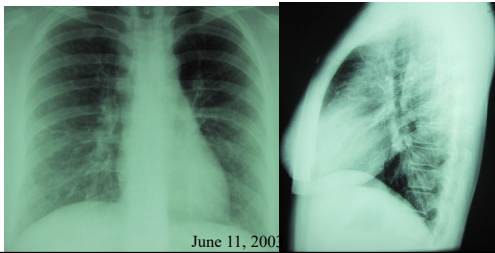
Chediak-Higashi Syndrome (AR)
recurrent cutaneous, sino-pulmonary infections
GNR, staph, strep, no fungi
mild neutropenia (intramedullary destruction)
partial oculocutaneous albinism,
mental retardation, neuropathy (late),
lymphoma or HLH-like “accelerated phase” (late)

Dx- giant blue granules; killing and chemotactic defects
due to mutations in *CHSI*, encodes *LYST*
Rx- prophylaxis, treatment of infections, BMT

Drug Discov Today Dis Models. 2020 Summer;31:31-36

23 yo woman; athletic coach

Previously healthy; short of breath 4 hours after 3 mile run



ER presentation

Recent weekend with friends in NYC
Anxious, chest pressure, febrile
acute mononucleosis?

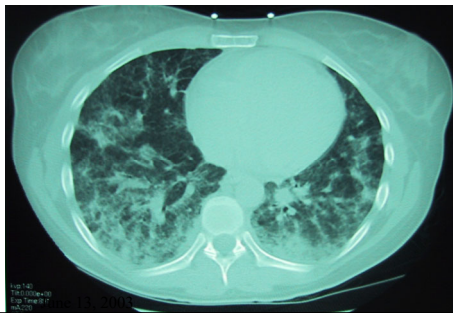
PMH

Respiratory infections in infancy
Cat scratch disease 8 yo: resolved with antibiotics

Family History

1 brother with two episodes Cat scratch cervical nodes
2 sibs well

2 days later, hypoxia and fever



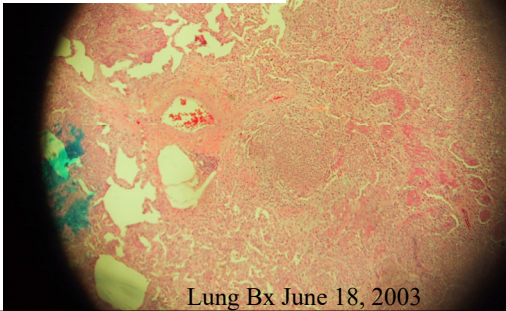
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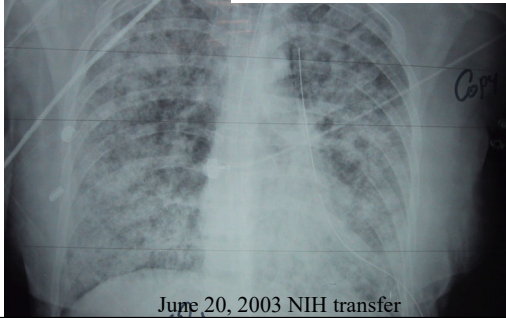
Hospital Course

Progressive dyspnea, fever, leukocytosis
Refractory to antibiotics and steroids
Bronchoscopy uninformative
Visually Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS)
necrotizing granulomata and hyphae

8 days after presentation:
Intubation and lung biopsy



10 days after presentation:
Biopsy growing *A. fumigatus*



Invasive aspergillosis in an otherwise normal host

- a) Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis
- b) Cystic fibrosis
- c) Lymphocyte dysfunction (SCID)
- d) Phagocyte defect
- e) Acute HIV

Chronic Granulomatous Disease (X, AR)

frequency 1/100,000 - 1/200,000 live births
–presentation usually in childhood,
but more adult cases being recognized

recurrent life-threatening infections
catalase-positive bacteria, fungi
tissue granuloma formation
–**infections**: lung, liver, lymph nodes, skin, bone
–**Bacteremia**: uncommon but bad

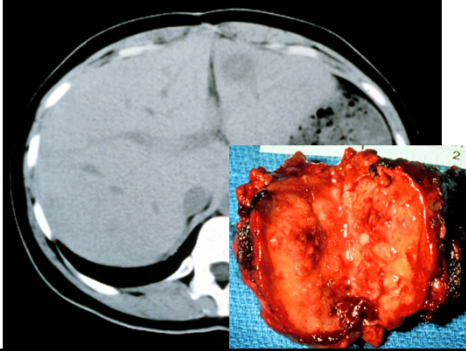
Infections in CGD

<i>S. aureus</i>	(liver, lymph nodes, osteo)
<i>S. marsecens</i>	(skin, lung, lymph nodes)
<i>B. cepacia</i>	(pneumonia, bacteremia)
<i>Nocardia spp.</i>	(pneumonia, brain, liver)
<i>Aspergillus spp.</i>	(lung, esp. miliary, spine)
<i>Salmonella</i>	(enteric, bacteremia)
<i>BCG</i>	(local/regional infections)
<i>Chromobacterium violaceum</i>	(warm brackish water; soil, e.g., Disney World)
<i>Francisella philomiragia</i>	(brackish water; Chesapeake Bay; Sounds)
<i>Burkholderia gladioli</i>	(causes onion rot)
<i>Granulibacter bethesdensis</i>	(necrotizing LN, hard to grow, likes CYE)
<i>Paecilomyces spp.</i>	

Pediatric Health Med Ther 2020 Jul 22;11:257-268

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Staphylococcal liver abscess in CGD



Staphylococcal lymphadenitis in CGD



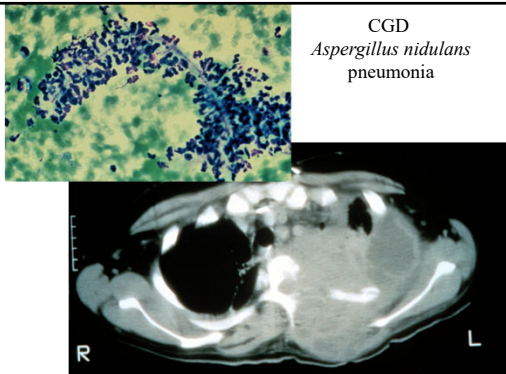
Staph aureus osteomyelitis in CGD



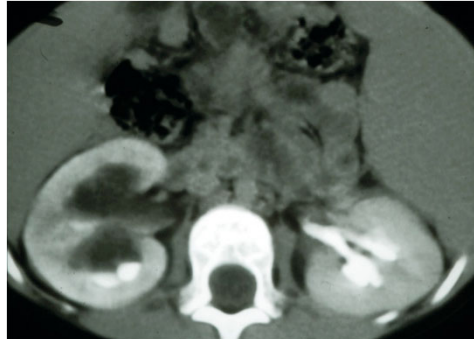
Burkholderia cepacia complex bacteremia in CGD



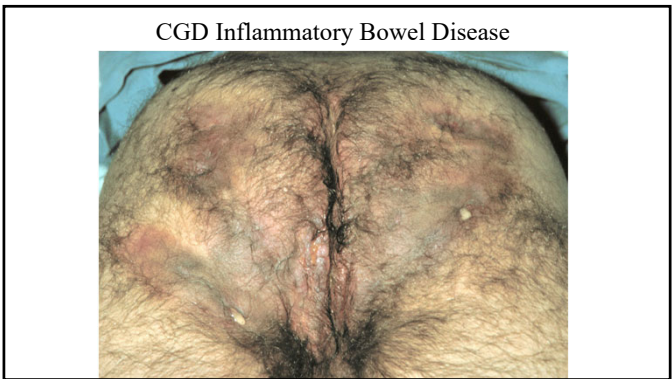
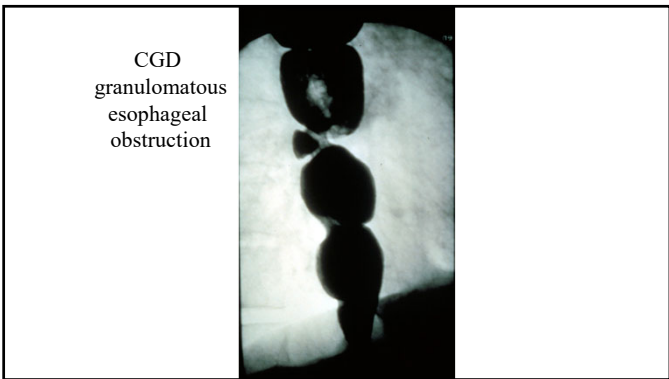
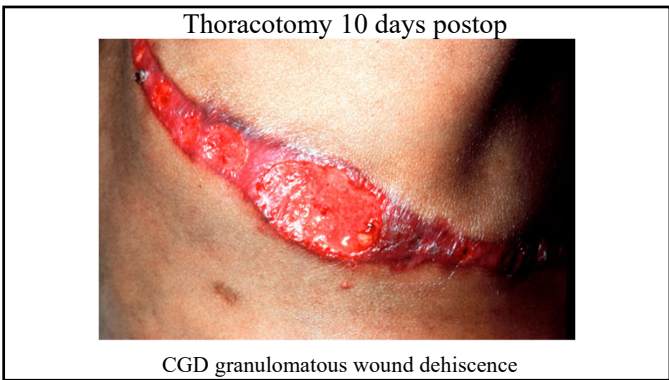
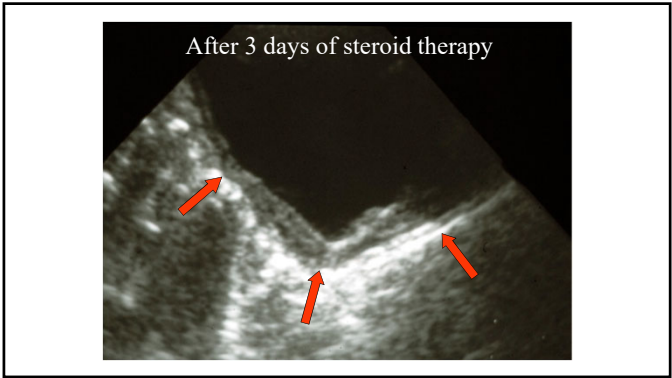
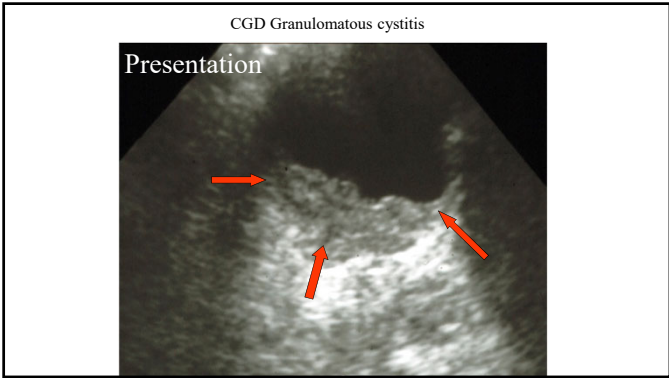
CGD
Aspergillus nidulans
pneumonia



CGD Granulomatous obstruction bladder with hydronephrosis



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Chronic Granulomatous Disease

frequency 1/100,000 - 1/200,000
– presentation usually in childhood, but more adult cases being recognized
failure to produce superoxide and its metabolites

Dx- PMN dihydrorhodamine 123 oxidation (DHR),
PMN nitroblue tetrazolium reduction (NBT)
(MPO Deficiency gives a FALSE ABNORMAL DHR)
BE CAREFUL ABOUT THE LAB!!!!

CGD Genetics

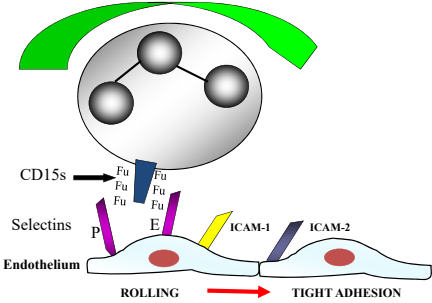
X-linked, chr. Xp21 (70% of cases)
– carrier females are mosaic (Lyonization)
– 1/2 of offspring of carrier Mom will receive the gene
• about 1/3 of carriers are sporadic, from sperm
– X-linked male: all daughters carriers, no sons affected
autosomal recessive (30% of cases)
– 1/2000 carry the gene for the most common AR form
• bad luck happens

CGD Management and Treatment

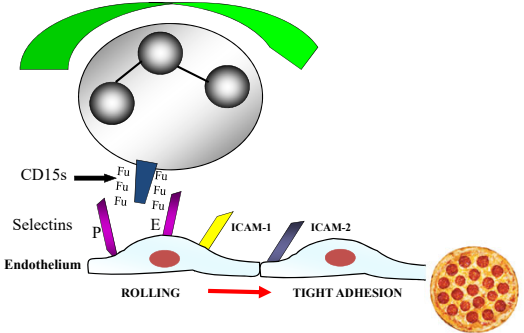
90% overall long-term survival
follow ESR, radiographs
prophylactic antibiotics and antifungals
TMP/SMX, itraconazole
prophylactic interferon gamma
50 µg/m2 subcutaneously three times weekly
aggressive search for and treatment of infections
BMT
(gene therapy)

Hematol Oncol Clin North Am. 2013 Feb;27(1):89-99

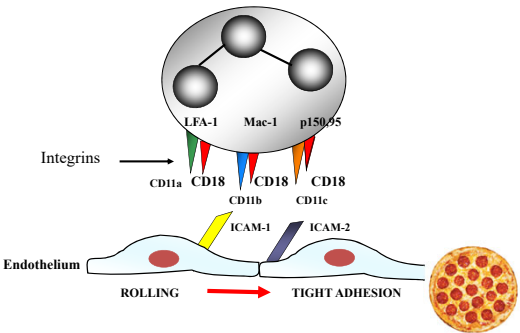
Neutrophil Rolling



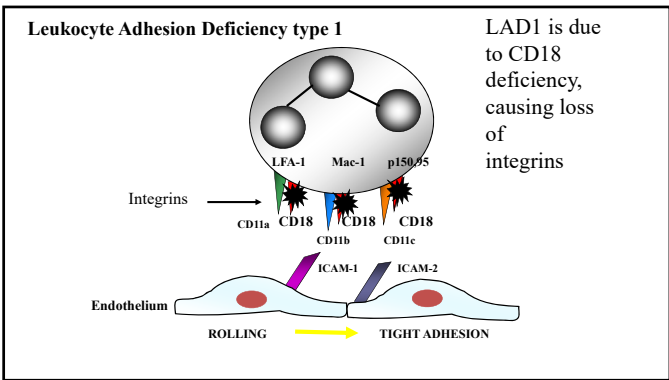
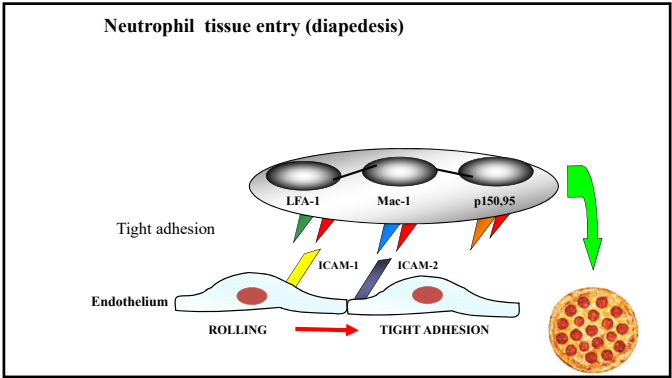
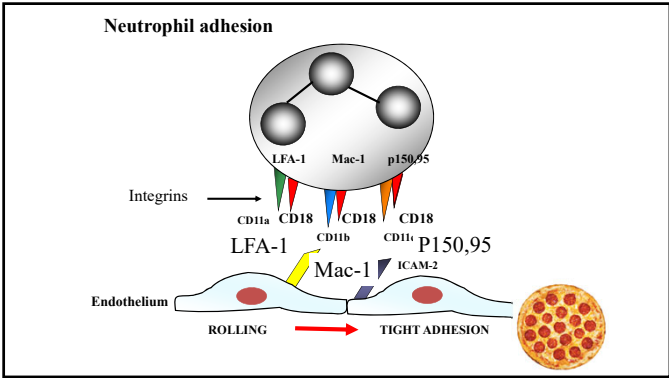
Neutrophil Rolling



Neutrophil adhesion



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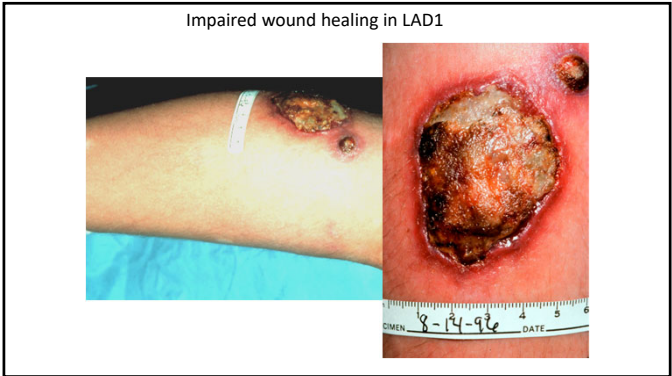
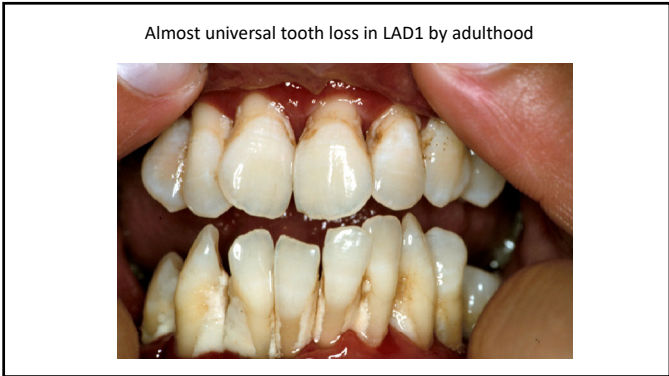
Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency Type 1 (AR)

Recurrent necrotizing infections: skin, perineum, lung, gut

Enteric GNR, GPC, NOT fungi or *Candida*

baseline leukocytosis, further WBC increase to infection

rare, consanguinity common



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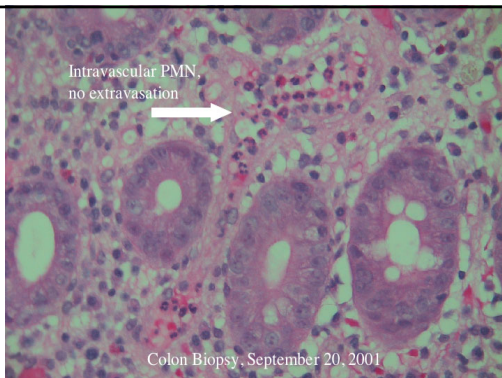
Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency I

Delayed umbilical stump separation
dystrophic, “cigarette paper” scars
gingivitis with tooth loss, alveolar ridge resorption
Biopsies: no neutrophils at sites of infection,
rare monocytes and eosinophils
Severe and moderate forms of disease

Cigarette paper scarring



Intravascular PMN,
no extravasation



Colon Biopsy, September 20, 2001

Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency 1

Mutations in CD18, obligatory chain of integrins
Binds to intercellular adhesion molecules (ICAMs)
also serve as receptors for C3bi

Dx- FACS for CD18,
Complement dependent opsonization
Rx- treatment of infections, BMT

19 year old boy with Pneumonia

Admission WBC 43,000, looked OK.
Ceftriaxone, good response.
Medical student: WBC never <11,000/mcl
Left shin ulcer not inflamed
Not healed in > 2 mos
She raises the possibility of
Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency (LAD1)

Ruling against LAD1 would be:

- a) Gingivitis, tooth loss, and alveolar ridge resorption.
- b) FACS showing 5% of normal expression of CD18 and CD11a-c on granulocytes.
- c) He is the product of a first cousin union.
- d) Extensive neutrophil infiltration in the left shin ulcer.
- e) Multiple dystrophic scars over the legs from previous ulcers

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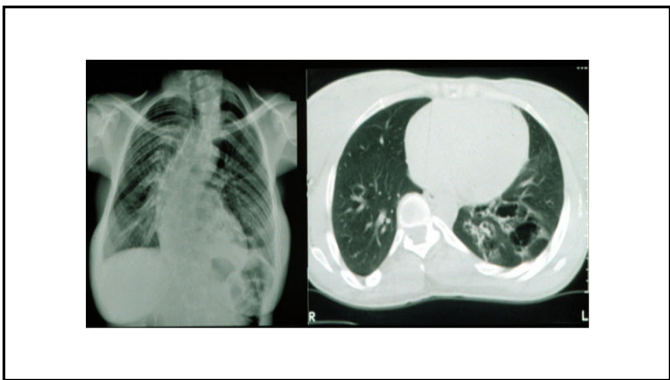
27 year old woman with boils

Referred from her internist for recurrent boils with *S. aureus*
IgE of 12,376 IU.
“Bronchitis and sinusitis at least once a year”
Persistent eczema requiring topical steroids.
Never hospitalized but having “more trouble” lately.



HIE (Job’s) Syndrome History and Exam

Eczema	100%
Facies	100% ($\geq 16y$)
Boils	87%
Pneumonia	87%
Mucocutaneous Candidiasis	83%
Pulmonary Cysts	77%
Scoliosis	76% ($\geq 16y$)
Delayed dental deciduation	72%
Coronary artery aneurysms	65%
Pathologic fractures	57%



Pulmonary Pathogens in HIE

Primary pathogens:

Staphylococcus aureus
Streptococcus pneumoniae
Hemophilus influenzae

Secondary pathogens:

Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Aspergillus fumigatus

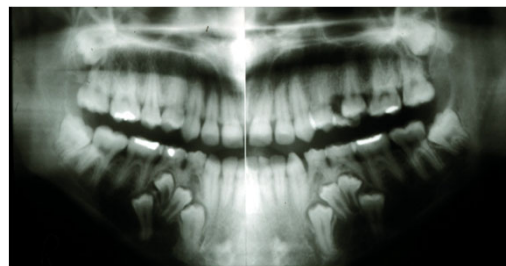
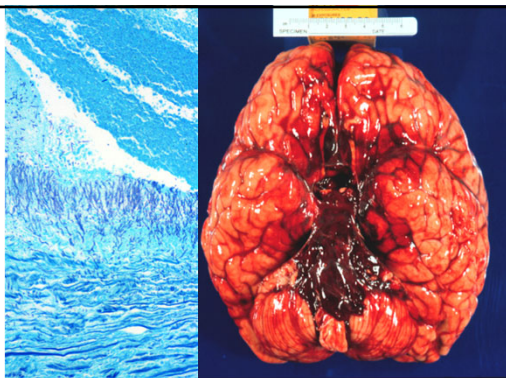
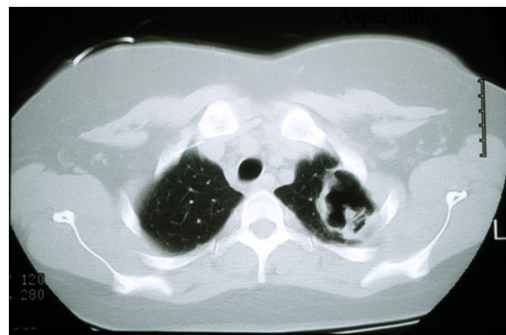
Others:

Pneumocystis jiroveci, *M. avium* complex



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Group A strep



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HIE Laboratory Findings

Hyper IgE

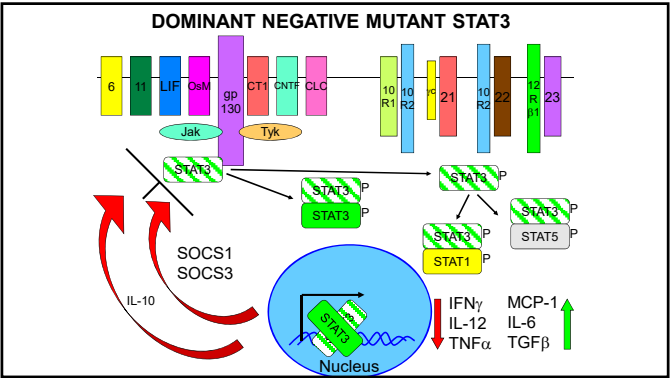
97% >2000 IU/ml

Eosinophilia

93% >2SD above mean

No correlation between IgE and eosinophilia

IgE values declined into the normal range in 17%



Hyper IgE Recurrent Infection (Job's)

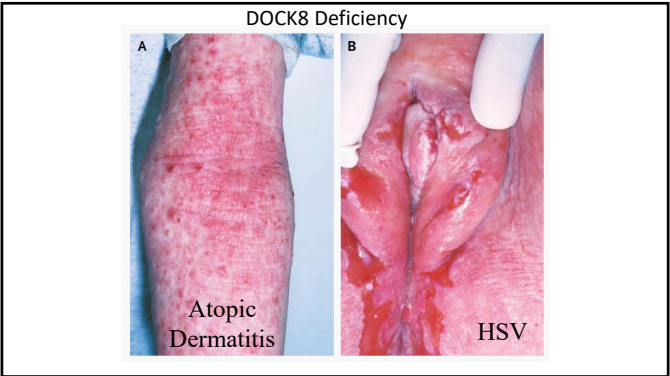
recurrent sinopulmonary infections *S. aureus*, *S. pneumo*, *H. flu*
 post-infectious pulmonary cyst formation
 recurrent *S. aureus* skin abscesses
 characteristic facies, eczema, scoliosis, fractures
 very elevated IgE (>2000 IU), eosinophilia

DDx- atopic dermatitis is a close mimic
 HIE: onset of rash near birth, pneumonia, lung cysts, skeletal
 Mutations in STAT3
Rx- treatment of infections, prophylactic antibiotics, antifungals.
 BMT

DOCK8 Deficiency

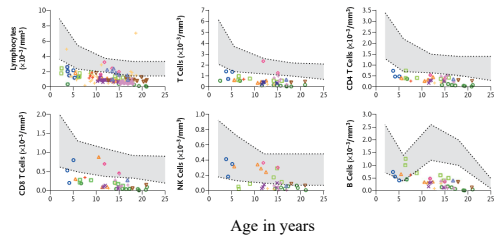
Autosomal Recessive
 Eczema, **allergies**, asthma, high IgE
Staph, *Strep*, *H. flu*, *Acinetobacter*, *Pseudomonas*
Candida, *Cryptococcus*, *Histoplasma*
HPV, HSV, molluscum
 Squamous cell carcinomas, lymphoma

J Clin Immunol 2021 May 1. doi: 10.1007/s10875-021-01051-1.

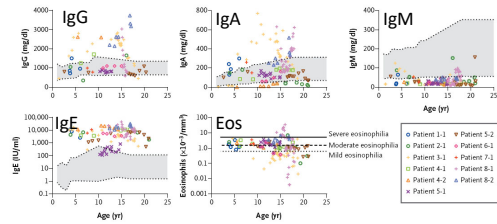


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DOCK8: Lymphopenia is common and somewhat progressive



DOCK8: IgE and eosinophils are high, IgM is low



DOCK8 vs. STAT3 Hyper IgEs

	DOCK8 (Recessive)	STAT3 (Dominant)
Pneumonia	+	+++
Pneumatocoeles	-	+++
Retained teeth	-	+++
Fractures	-	+++
Viral infections	+++	-
Fungal infections	+	++
Allergies	+++	-
IgM	low	normal
eosinophils	+ to +++	+

15 year old girl with recurrent infections

Infancy: eczema, recurrent pneumonias, skin infections

IgE 14,574 IU/ml

Allergist: use bed covers to avoid dust mites.

Going over the allotted 15 minutes you elicit points trying to establish whether she has hyper-IgE recurrent infection syndrome (Job's).

Which one of the following is not supportive of the diagnosis of Job's:

- a) Pneumatocoeles
- b) Scoliosis
- c) Severe warts
- d) Retained baby teeth
- e) Recurrent fractures

18 year old male with lymph node

Referred from hematologist/oncologist
nodes biopsied for Hodgkin showed granulomata and grew *M. avium*.

PMH recurrent salmonellosis as a child.
Sibling had tuberculosis but is now cured.

CD4+ number is normal, HIV -

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Clinical Spectrum of NTM Infections

- Disseminated

Severe, Young

IFN γ /IL-12 defects

NEMO, STAT1
- Skin

Exposure

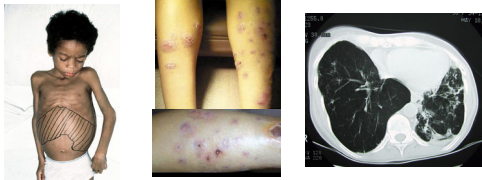
Inoculation
- Pulmonary

Chronic, Older

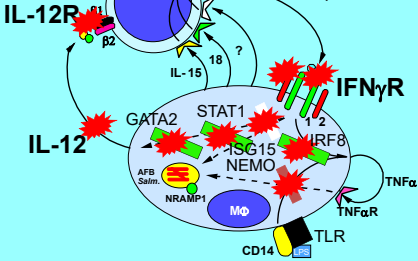
Bronchiectasis

Cystic fibrosis (CF)

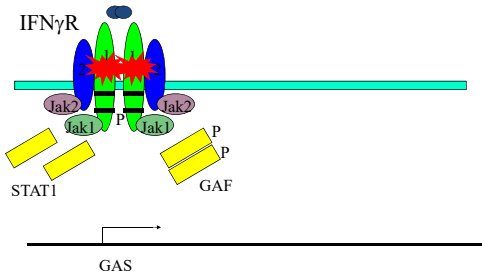
Ciliary dyskinesia (PCD)



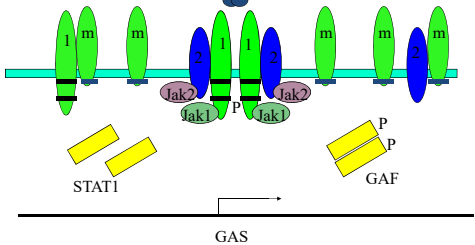
Disseminated NTM Only Not Pulmonary



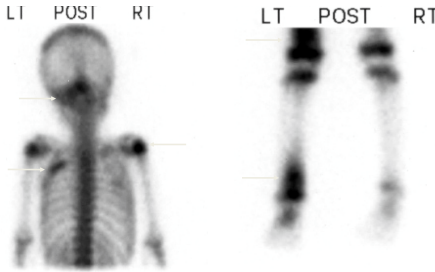
Autosomal Recessive IFNGR1 (both alleles)



Autosomal Dominant IFNGR1 (one allele)



Mycobacterial Osteomyelitis in Dominant IFN γ R1 Deficiency



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IFNGR1: Dominant vs. Recessive

Characteristic	AD	AR
IFN γ R1 display	high	none
IFN γ responsiveness	low	none
Clinical presentation	local	disseminated
Granulomata	present	absent
Osteomyelitis	100%	rare
Survival	excellent	most die

Pathogens in human IFN γ R deficiencies

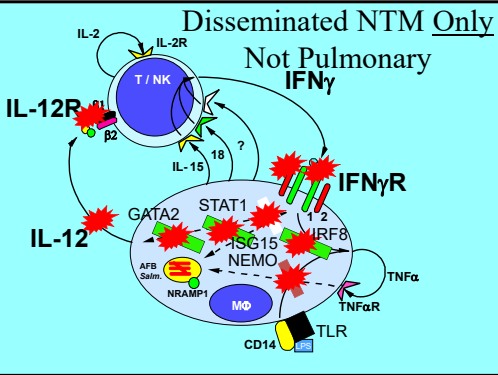
<i>M. avium</i>	<i>Salmonella</i>
<i>M. intracellulare</i>	<i>Listeria</i>
<i>M. chelonae</i>	
<i>M. abscessus</i>	CMV
<i>M. smegmatis</i>	HSV
<i>M. fortuitum</i>	VZV
<i>M. tuberculosis</i>	RSV
<i>Bacille Calmette Guerin</i>	HHV-8
	<i>Coccidioides</i>
	<i>Histoplasma</i>

Interferon γ Receptor Deficiencies

Absent or defective IFN γ R1
 MAC and other NTM, *Salmonella*, TB, viruses
 complete defects present in childhood
 partial defects present later in life
 may be misdiagnosed as malignancy!
 NOT a cause of isolated lung disease in adults

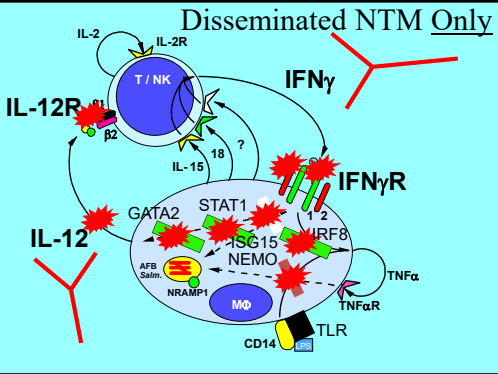
Dx- genetics, flow cytometry for IFN γ R1
 Rx- antimycobacterials (BMT for recessive)

N Engl J Med. 2017 Sep 14;377(11):1077-1091.



IL-12 β R1 Deficiency

Similar to IFN γ R defects
 disease is usually milder and later onset
 residual IFN γ production
 similar pathogens-NTM, TB, *Salmonella*, *cocci*
 Dx- genetics, flow cytometry
 Rx- antimycobacterials, IFN γ systemically



18 - Clinical Immunology and Host Defense

Speaker: Steven Holland, MD

Anti-IFN γ autoantibody syndrome

Disseminated NTM later in life
Predominantly female, mostly East Asian
NTM, TB

Dx- autoantibody detection
Rx- antimycobacterials, possibly rituximab

NEJM 2012;367:725

20 yo with back pain

WBC 12,000/ μ l, ESR 93 mm/hr, PPD12 mm
2 weeks pain over L2 and a lytic lesion
Biopsy: histiocytic malignancy, chemotherapy started
Father had similar illness, turned out to be MAC

You suspect that she has the autosomal dominant form of IFN γ R1 deficiency and you need to prove it before radiation starts.

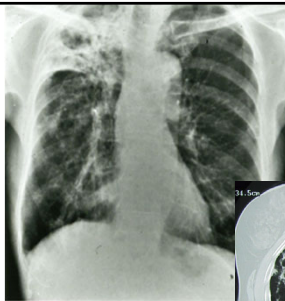
To confirm the diagnosis, you should:

- a) Show high TNF α from stimulated cells
- b) Show high IL-12 from stimulated cells
- c) Show high IFN γ R1 on cell surfaces
- d) Show high TNF α R on cell surfaces
- e) Show low IFN γ R1 on cell surfaces

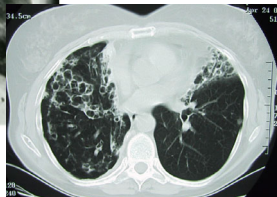
GATA2 Deficiency

Adolescent to adult onset
HPV (hands, genitals, cervical, vulvar)
disseminated NTM (mediastinal *M. kansasii*)
pancytopenia
Labs: profound monocytopenia, low B, low NK
CT: subpleural blebs
Autosomal dominant
Dx: genetic, hypocellular marrow
Rx: antibiotics, BMT

Blood 2014; 123:809-21



Pulmonary
NTM



Pulmonary NTM: Adults

Female predominance
Caucasian predominance
Post menopausal
“Lady Windermere Syndrome”
tall, thin, pectus abnormalities
Association with CFTR mutations
Complex immunologic and somatic genetics

Szymanski Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2015

18 - Clinical Immunology and Host Defense

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Remember

Disseminated NTM means immunodeficiency

Corollary: Isolated Pulmonary NTM Does not

CD4+ T-lymphocytopenia

HIV associated

autoimmune associated

idiopathic CD4+ T-lymphocytopenia (ICL)

≤ 300 CD4+/ μ l

associated with AIDS-like infections (crypto, PCP, MAC)

exclude HIV infection (PCR, bDNA, p24, culture)

often older onset than HIV associated OI

Dx- determination of ICL (FACS)

Often due to an underlying defect, so LOOK

Rx- treat infections (follow CD4+, ?cytokines)

Screening Laboratories

For Lymphocytes

Ig levels

immunization status (tetanus, pneumovax)

CD4+ number

Genetics (exome studies, panels)

Screening Laboratories

phagocytes

DHR for superoxide

FACS (CD18, CD11a-c, IFN γ R1, IL-12R β 1)

complement

CH₅₀ (classical pathway)

AH₅₀ (alternative pathway)

ELISA for individual components

Think about the gene involved!

Use Pubmed OMIM

sequence gives a solid diagnosis

It is the SOS

History

Physical

Imaging

Laboratories

(talk to the lab yourself!!!)



Zebra mussel

