

Myositis and Cancer

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? Classification of myositis according to Abs



Courtesy of Prof FW Miller -1999

Myositis-specific autoantibodies



Slide Courtesy of Dr H Gunawardena

Myositis classification according to Abs



Courtesy of Fred Miller, many other contributors - 2008

Diagnostic Criteria

Bohan & Peter Diagnostic Criteria (N Engl J Med - 1975, 292: 344 & 403)

- Proximal muscle weakness
- Elevated CPK (or other muscle-specific enzymes)
- Characteristic needle EMG findings
- Characteristic muscle histology
 - Diagnosis of myositis "probable or definite" if 3 or 4 of items respectively are +ve (with characteristic skin changes in DM). Main aim of criteria is to exclude from research studies patients do <u>not</u> have myositis.

Percutaneous Muscle Biopsy Forceps (Conchotome-type)



Characteristic Muscle Histology

- CD4+ perivascular T cells in DM
- CD8+ endomyseal T cells in PM
- CD68+ macrophages in both
- Up regulation of surface MHC
- <u>Problems with histology:</u>
 - Unreliable as disease often patchy
 - Limited availability of full immunohistochemistry etc
 - Poor correlation between inflammatory load and weakness



MRI for Monitoring

- T1-weighted images sensitive at detecting changes in muscle fat content, therefore good at detecting atrophy and fatty replacement.
- STIR images very sensitive to changes in muscle water content, therefore good at detecting oedema, but latter <u>not</u> specific for myositis.



Poor Response to Treatment

CK remains high and/or patient remains weak, despite high dose steroids & multiple DMARDS:

- Myositis truly drug-resistant
- Myositis misdiagnosed
- Myositis fully suppressed, but muscles remain weak
- Myositis cancer-associated

Miss SB (36 year old DM, anti-SRP +ve, CK>3000 for 12 months)



Mrs SF (34 year old DM, anti-140 +ve, CK <150, no response to Rx to date)





Poor Response to Treatment

CK remains high and/or patient remains weak, despite high dose steroids & multiple DMARDS <u>+</u> IVIGs:

- Myositis truly drug resistant
- <u>Myositis misdiagnosed</u>
- Myositis fully suppressed, but muscles remain weak
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Poor Response to Treatment Should always Prompt a Critical Review of Original Diagnosis





Poor Response to Treatment

CK remains high and/or patient remains weak, despite high dose steroids & multiple DMARDS <u>+</u> IVIGs:

- Myositis truly drug resistant
- Myositis misdiagnosed
- Myositis suppressed, but muscles remain atrophic and weak
- Myositis cancer-associated

Mrs CH (Anti-Jo-1 +ve PM, CK <150 for years, remains weak)





Poor Response to Treatment

CK remains high and/or patient remains weak, despite high dose steroids & multiple DMARDS <u>+</u> IVIGs:

- Myositis truly drug resistant
- Myositis misdiagnosed
- Myositis fully suppressed, but muscles remain weak
- <u>Myositis is cancer-associated</u>

Mr ME

- 2003, 63 yr old retired boiler-maker with known pleural plaques developed erythematous rash over scalp, myalgias and weakness.
- S/B local rheumatologist, "atypical" DM, proximal weakness, CK 2000, EMG +ve, Bx NAD, muscle MRI NAD. Bohan & Peter probable, therefore onto pred 60 mg/day (HRCT chest, abdo USS, PSA, clinical exam all –ve for malignancy).
- 2003-5, no response to pred at 45-60 mg/day, therefore AZA 150 mg/day added.
- June 2005, referred to RGC as drug-resistant DM. O/E no rash, obvious proximal weakness (3+). Differential: ?drug resistant myositis, ?IBM, ?other. Admitted to Hope Hospital for investigation.

Mr ME

- Results: CK 408 U/L (N<195), proximal weakness 3+, EMG +ve, Bx +ve (CD4 and CD8+ve cells seen, MHC staining on surface of majority of muscle cells, *no inclusions*), thus Bohan & Peter definite and active myositis. Ciclosporin 150 mg/day added to regime.
- "Progress": By Sept '05 (i.e 4 months of triple Rx, with pred at 25 mg) no improvement at all. RGC asked local rheumatologist to give x3 IVIGs.
- Jan '06 Hope review: IVIGs gave transient improvements in general well being, but not in weakness, ciclosporin and pred therefore increased.
- Feb '06: Admitted breathless to local hospital, CXR now showed new mass lesion, USS showed hepatic mets.
 - Lack of therapeutic response due to malignancy (i.e CAM)

Definition of cancer-associated myositis (CAM)

 Malignancy occurring 3 years either side of and in association with a myositis onset and if malignancy successfully treated, myositis should also get better.

Association of cancer with myositis





Photos courtesy of Dr I Bruce

Risk of malignancy: comparison of myositis vs. general population



Anti-155/140 antibody



¹Targoff et al. 2006; ²Kaji et al 2007



The diagnostic utility of serology for predicting the risk of cancer-associated myositis in adults.

Chinoy et al

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Methods

- Cross-sectional design
- AOMIC cohort
- Myositis probable/definite according to Bohan & Peter¹
- CAM according to modified Bohan & Peter²
- PM (n=109)
- DM (n=103)
- CTD-overlap (n=70)



¹Bohan & Peter, 1975; ²Troyanov et al, 2005

Relationship between myositis and cancer onset in 282 cases



Relationship between myositis and cancer onset



Serological typing

- Performed in University of Pittsburgh, PA
- Anti-aminoacyl tRNA synthetases
 Jo-1, PL-7, PL-12, EJ, OJ, KS
- Other MSAs/MAAs
 - PM-Scl, Ku, U1-RNP, U3-RNP, Mi-2, SRP
 - 155/140

CAM frequency in 282 cases

Total





- Total : n = 282
- CAM : n =
- CAM (DM)
- : n = 16 (6%)
- : n = 15 (15%)

Antibody frequencies in CAM/non-CAM groups using routine hospital-based immunology



Non-CAM

n=266

n=16

CAM

Antibody frequencies in CAM/non-CAM groups using research laboratory immunology



Associations with CAM



Frequency of clinical phenotypes by myositis Ab status



Antibody subtypes

Frequency of clinical phenotypes by myositis Ab status



Antibody subtypes

Breakdown of individual malignancies in CAM



Conclusions

- An absence of MSA/MAAs on <u>routine</u> myositis Ab testing should arouse suspicion of the presence or future development of CAM.
- Anti-155/140 Ab testing defines CAM as a new sero-phenotype.



"Traditional" myositis clinical subtypes

Polymyositis



Dermatomyositis



Commoner Modes of Death in Myositis

- Right heart failure due to ILD.
- Malignancy-related, in cancer-associated myositis (CAM).
- Iatragenic problems GIT bleeds, ? increased cardiovascular risks and ? increased malignancy risks due to long-term immunosuppression.
- Ventilator-related deaths.