

# Myositis 101

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#### Disclosures

- Consulting:
  - Dynavax
  - Pfizer
- Off-label use:
  - Nothing is FDA approved other than steroids



#### I hope to answer some common questions:

- What is myositis?
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#### Myositis = muscle inflammation



Mammen, Nat Rev Neurol 2011; 7:343-54







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http://www.nooruse.ee/e-ope/opiobjektid/lihasfysioloogia/lihasfsioloogia\_alused.html



#### Myositis = muscle inflammation







http://www.neuro.wustl.edu/neuromuscular/pathol/inflammation.htm



## Myopathy = muscle abnormality

- Myopathy: general term for muscle abnormality
- Myositis: muscle inflammation
- Most of the muscle disorders discussed are caused by abnormality of the immune system
- Autoimmune: immune system directed toward self
- Sometimes immune system abnormality causes myopathy without inflammation



## **Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies**

- Polymyositis (PM)
- Dermatomyositis (DM)

Isolated, adult

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- Juvenile
- Malignancy Overlap

344 THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE Feb. 13, 1975 MEDICAL PROGRESS POLYMYOSITIS AND DERMATOMYOSITIS (First of Two Parts) ANTHONY BOHAN, M.D., AND JAMES B. PETER, M.D., PH.D. Bohan & Peter, N Engl J Med 292: 344, 405, 1975 Bohan et al., Medicine 56: 255, 1977



## **Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies**

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- Dermatomyositis (DM)

- Isolated, adult
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- Inclusion body myositis (IBM)
- Antisynthetase syndrome
- Immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy (IMNM)



## Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies Immune-mediated

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#### "Cause" is a difficult term

#### Correlation or association $\neq$ Causation!

#### Number of people who drowned by falling into a pool

Films Nicolas Cage appeared in



tylervigen.com

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http://www.benchtobmore.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Chart-Tiff-copy.png



## "Cause" is a difficult term

#### **Disease triggers**

- Genetic factors
- Environmental factors
- Muscle fiber change

#### Disease mechanisms

- Immune system
- Inflammation
- Muscle damage
- Others?



# Myositis is likely triggered by genetic and environmental factors





# Genome-wide association study (GWAS) in DM/JDM

Genes related to the immune system's recognition of foreign proteins are most highly associated with DM/JDM



Miller et al., Arthritis Rheum 2013; 65: 3239-47



#### GWAS in PM and DM



#### Adult PM

# Adult and juvenile DM

Rothwell et al., Ann Rheum Dis 2016; 75: 1558-66



#### HLA-DRB1 in IBM



Rothwell et al., Arthritis Rheumatol 2017; 69: 1090-9



## **Classes of environmental exposures**

- Chemical factors
  - Silica
  - Asbestos
  - Metals
  - Pesticides
  - Industrial chemicals and solvents
  - Air pollution
  - Smoking
  - Personal care products

- Physical factors
  - Ionizing radiation
  - UV radiation
  - Electric and magnetic fields
- Biologic factors
  - Infectious agents
  - Foods and dietary contaminants
  - Molds
  - Mycotoxins
  - Other toxins

Miller, et al., J Autoimmun 2012; 39: 259-71



#### Pathogenesis of IIM

Feature	DM	PM	IBM
Increased MHC I	+	+	+
B-cell mechanisms	+	-	-
T-cell mechanisms	+	+	+
Inclusions	-	-	+
Autoantibodies (Myositis specific an	+ ntibodies)	+	+



#### MHC I expression in muscle



Normal



#### IBM

http://neuromuscular.wustl.edu/pathol/ibm.htm



#### Activated T cells (T lymphocytes) invade and damage muscle in IBM and PM



#### Arahata & Engel, Ann Neurol 1984; 16:193



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#### What does myositis to do patients?

- It depends
  - On the specific disorder
  - On the individual patient
- Muscle weakness is the hallmark
- Many other things can occur



#### Assessment of Muscle Weakness

• Patient report of effect on activities

- Manual muscle strength testing
- Physiologic testing
- Functional tests
  - Timed stands
  - 6 minute walk
  - Functional Index-2



#### Evaluation of Muscle Disease: Laboratory Tests

- CK Creatine kinase (CPK)
- Aldolase
- LDH Lactate dehydrogenase
- AST aspartate aminotransferase
- ALT alanine aminotransferase



# Muscle MRI can show inflammation or scarring



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## **Resting EMG**



Normal muscle - no resting activity

Positive waves

Fibrillation potentials and occasional positive waves

Complex repetitive discharges

Myotonic discharge



#### Motor Unit Action Potentials (MUAPs)



Normal MUAPs

Myopathy: Low amplitude, short, polyphasic MUAPs

Neuropathy: Large, long duration, polyphasic MUAPs



#### Dermatomyositis: characterized by rash

- Heliotrope
- Gottron's papules
- Shawl sign & others
- Calcinosis cutis



#### Heliotrope





#### Gottron's papules





#### Gottron's sign





## Shawl sign




### Periungual erythema





#### Calcinosis cutis







#### Amyopathic Dermatomyositis (Dermatomyositis siné myositis)

- Cutaneous features of DM
- No muscle weakness
  - Maybe elevated muscle enzymes or EMG, but not weak



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# Other organ system problems – mostly PM and DM

- Lung interstitial lung disease
- Gastrointestinal dysphagia, anorexia, reflux
- Heart inflammation, fibrosis, rhythm
- Joints arthritis, arthralgia, morning stiffness
- Raynaud's phenomenon
- Constitutional fatigue, fever



# Autoimmune Connective Tissue Diseases



Other terms:

- Overlap CTD
- Undifferentiated CTD
- Mixed CTD



### Inclusion body myositis

#### Muscle biopsy findings define the disorder

#### Myxovirus-Like Structures in a Case of Human Chronic Polymyositis

Abstract. Intranuclear and intracytoplasmic aggregates of filaments with tubular structures and transverse striations occurred in muscle tissues biopsied from a patient with chronic polymyositis. The filamentous tubules bear a close resemblance to the incomplete form of myxovirus in which the envelope is missing. Three biopsies from the same patient, taken during a period of 1½ years, all revealed these structures. This finding provides presumptive evidence that a chronic persistent viral infection may be involved in the pathogenesis of chronic polymyositis.

Shi-ming Chou

Department of Pathology and Regional Primate Research Center, University of Wisconsin Medical School, Madison

15 DECEMBER 1967



# **Inclusion Body Myositis**

- First description 1967
- "IBM" term coined 1971
- Sporadic form (s-IBM)
- Several hereditary forms (h-IBM)
- Clinically similar:
  - Weakness: insidious, distal, atrophy
  - CK minimally to moderately elevated
  - EMG: myopathic +/- neurogenic
- Hereditary: younger; no inflammation



# **Clinical Features of sIBM**

- Insidious onset
- ~6 years to diagnosis
- Weakness generalized or localized to limbs; may be asymmetric
- Reflexes normal initially, eventually diminished in 40%
- Dysphagia in 2/3 late
- Myalgia uncommon but aching in thighs and knees in some



Typical involvement:

- Finger flexors
- Wrist flexors
- Knee extensors
- Ankle dorsiflexors

Needham & Mastaglia, Lancet Neurol 6: 620-31, 2007



# Anti-synthetase Syndrome

- Anti-synthetase antibody Jo-1, others
- PM/DM
- Interstitial lung disease
- Inflammatory arthritis
- Raynaud's phenomenon
- Mechanic's hands
- Fever



#### Mechanic's hands





# Immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy

- Characterized by muscle biopsy with necrotic muscle fibers without inflammation
- Specific autoantibodies
  - Anti-SRP
  - Anti-HMGCR
    - Often associated with statin use

Christopher-Stine, et al. Arthritis Rheum 2010; 62: 2757-66 Mammen, et al. Arthritis Rheum 2011; 63: 713-21



# **IIM: Epidemiology**

Incidence - 0.5 to 8/million

Polymyositis/ Dermatomyositis

Inclusion Body Myositis

Age

Bimodal, 10-15 in kids 45-60 in adults

>50

Female:male2:11:2



# Epidemiology of IBM and PM Olmsted County, 1981-2000\*

	IBM	PM	
Incidence	0.79 (0.24-1.35)	0.41 (0.08-0.73)	
Prevalence	7.06 (0.87-13.24)	3.45 (0.00-7.35)	

\*Age- and sex-adjusted rates per 100,000 population; (95% CI)

Wilson et al., J Rheumatol 2008; 35:445-7

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#### Epidemiology of DM Olmsted County, 1976-2007\*

	DM	CADM	
Incidence	0.96 (0.61-1.32)	0.21 (0.04-0.38)	
Prevalence	2.14 (1.31-2.98)		

\*Age- and sex-adjusted rates per 100,000 population; (95% CI)

Bendewald et al., Arch Dermatol 2010; 146: 26-30



#### Systematic Review: Adult IIM



Meyer et al., Rheumatology 2015; 54: 50-63



#### Systematic Review: sIBM





Meyer et al., Rheumatology 2015; 54: 50-63



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### **PM/DM Classification Criteria**

- Proximal muscle weakness
- Elevated serum levels of skeletal muscle enzymes
- Myopathic changes on EMG
- Muscle biopsy evidence of inflammation
- Skin rash

Definite PM or DM: 4 criteria Probable PM or DM: 3 criteria Possible PM or DM: 2 criteria

> Bohan & Peter, N Engl J Med 292: 344, 405, 1975 Bohan et al., Medicine 56: 255, 1977



# Muscle histopathology



- a) Normal muscle
- b) PM endomysial inflammation
- c) DM
  - perifascicular atrophy
- d) Necrotizing myopathy

Mammen, Nat Rev Neurol 2011; 7:343-54



### Myositis = muscle inflammation





http://www.neuro.wustl.edu/neuromuscular/pathol/inflammation.htm



#### **IBM: Vacuoles**







### IBM Congo red staining



Askansas & Engel, J Neuropathol Exp Neurol 60:1, 2001



#### Antibodies

- Immunoglobulin
- Produced by plasma cells in the immune system
- Identify and neutralize viruses and bacteria
- Each recognizes a unique protein (antigen)





# Autoantibodies

- Antibodies directed toward an individual's normal proteins
- Autoantibodies may:
  - Cause disease
  - Simply be markers of disease

Autoantibody	Target	Disorder
Antinuclear antibodies (ANA)	Contents of cell nuclei	Lupus and related conditions
Rheumatoid factor (RF)	lgG	Rheumatoid arthritis
Anti-Jo-1	Histidyl tRNA synthetase	Polymyositis with ILD
Anti-PR-3 (c-ANCA)	Neutrophil proteinase-3	Granulomatosis with polyangiitis
Anti-thyroid antibodies	TPO Thyroglobulin	Hashimoto's thyroiditis
Anti-AChR	Acetylcholine receptor on muscle	Myasthenia gravis
Anti-TTG	Tissue transglutaminase	Celiac disease



## Non-specific Autoantibodies in Myositis

#### Percent of Patients with Various Autoantibodies

Antibody	All (n=212)	PM (n=58)	DM (n=79)	CTM (n=36)	CAM (n=13)	IBM (n=26)
ANA	52	40	62	77	31	23
ds-DNA	5	3	3	11	8	4
SSA/Ro	12	12	11	17	0	12
SSB/La	8	5	6	19	8	8
Sm	3	0	1	17	0	0
U1RNP	11	7	13	25	0	0
PM/Scl	2	0	4	3	0	0
RF	6	5	8	8	0	4

Love et al, Medicine 1991; 70: 360-74



# **Myositis-Specific Antibodies**

Feature	Synthetase	SRP	Mi-2
Clinical	Arthritis, ILD fever, Raynaud's	Cardiac myalgias; black women	Classic DM
Rate	Acute	Very acute	Acute
Severity	Severe	Very severe	Mild
Season	Spring	Fall	Unknown
Response	Moderate	Poor	Good
Prognosis	Poor (70%)	Terrible (25%)	Good (~100%)
Frequency	20-25%	<5%	5-10%



# Antisynthetase antibodies

			Frequency (%)	
Antigen	tRNA synthetase	JDM*	ADM*	Non-white
Any		1-5	30	AA 29
Jo1	Histidyl-	2-5	25-30	AA13
PL12	Alanyl-	1-3	<5	
PL7	Threonyl-	<1	<5	Japanese 17
EJ	Glycyl-	<1	<5	
OJ	Isoleucyl-	<1	<5	
KS	Asparagynyl-	NA	<1	
HA	Tyrosyl-	NA	<1	
ZA	Phenylalanyl-	NA	<1	

\*Caucasian

Robinson & Reed, Nat Rev Rheumatol 2011; 7: 664-75

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# Serologic Subgroups in IIM 2

- Anti-TIF-1γ (anti-transcription intermediary factor 1γ; anti-p155): DM, including JDM, malignancy *Targoff et al., Arthritis Rheum 2006; 54: 3682-3689* Trallero-Araguas et al., Medicine 2010; 89: 47-52
- Anti-MDA-5 (anti-melanoma differentiation-associated protein 5; anti-CADM): CADM, rapidly progressive ILD Sato et al., Arthritis Rheum 2005; 52:1571-6
- Anti-NXP2 (anti-nuclear matrix protein 2; anti-MJ): JDM, especially with calcinosis, malignancy

Gunawardena et al., Arthritis Rheum 2009; 60: 1807-14

Gunawardena et al., Rheumatology 48: 607-12, 2009



# Autoantibodies in IBM

#### Anti-cytoplasmic 5'-nucleotidase 1A

- Initially detected as 43 kd autoantibody
  - 13/25 (52%) IBM + vs 0/40 controls

Salajegheh, et al., PLoS One 2011; 6(5): e20266

- Antigen identified as cN1A
  - Most abundant in skeletal muscle
  - Catalyzes nucleotide hydrolysis to nucleosides
  - Perinuclear and vacuole accumulation of cN1A

Larman, et al., Ann Neruol 2013; 73: 408-18



### Anti-cN1A Verification

Table 1 Sensitivity and specificity of anti-cN-1A autoantibodies				
	Anti-cN-1A reactivity*			
Sera	Number	n	Per cent	
Inclusion body myositis	238	88	37 🔶	
Polymyositis/dermatomyositis	185	8	4	
Polymyositis/scleroderma overlap	12	0	0	
Neuromuscular diseases	93	4	4	
Sjögren's syndrome	22	8	36 🗲	
Systemic lupus erythematosus	44	9	20 🗲	
Scleroderma	44	1	2	
Rheumatoid arthritis	44	1	2	
Multiple sclerosis	40	2	5	
Type 1 diabetes	40	0	0	
Disease controls†	458	16	3	

\*Reactivity with at least one of the three cN-1A peptides higher than cut-off. †Disease controls: total of all disease control groups except IBM, SLE and SjS. cN-1A, cytosolic 5'-nucleotidase 1A; IBM, inclusion body myositis; SjS, Sjögren's syndrome; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus.

Herbert, et al., Ann Rheum Dis 2016; 75:696-701



# **Myositis Specific Autoantibodies**



Betteridge & McHugh, J Intern Med 2015; Epub



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# General Approach to Treatment of Myositis PM, DM, ASS, Overlap myositis





# General Approach to Treatment of Myositis PM, DM, ASS, Overlap myositis




# General Approach to Treatment of Myositis PM, DM, ASS, Overlap myositis





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## General Approach to Treatment of Myositis Immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy





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## General Approach to Treatment of Myositis Cancer-associated myositis



suppressing agents?

Steroids?



## General Approach to Treatment of Myositis Inclusion body myositis



Immune suppressing agents?

Steroids?





# Approach to Management

- Start with high-dose prednisone (e.g., 1 mg/kg/day)
  - Consider IV to begin
  - Consider split daily dose
- Continue about 1 month with slow taper
- Use an immunosuppressive agent
- Attention to side effects of therapy (e.g., osteoporosis, infection)



# My Approach to Prednisone

- Begin 1 mg/kg/d (usually max 80 mg/d)
- Continue 1 month
- 2 weeks each:
  - 40 mg/d
  - 30 mg/d
  - 25 mg/d
  - 20 mg/d
  - 17.5 mg/d
  - 15 mg/d
  - 12.5 mg/d
- 10 mg/d and then decide what next



# My Approach to Immunosuppressives

#### First-line agents

- Methotrexate
- Azathioprine (Imuran)
- Mycophenolate mofetil (CellCept)

#### Second-line agents

- IVIg
- Rituximab (Rituxan)
- Tacrolimus (Prograf)
- Cyclosporine A (Neoral, Sandimmune)
- Leflunomide (Arava)

#### Severe disease

 Cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan)

#### **Studies**

- Abatacept (Orencia)
- Tocilizumab (Actemra)
- Belimumab (Benlysta)

#### Never used

ACTHAR gel



# Also remember

- Pneumocystis pneumonia prophylaxis when on high dose prednisone
- Influenza, pneumococcal, and other immunizations
- Osteoporosis attention: calcium and vitamin D; bone density
- Mobility and assistive devices; fall prevention
- Dysphagia
- Exercise



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