Teaching NeuroImage: Rapid Identification of Infectious Optic Neuritis by Next-Generation Sequencing

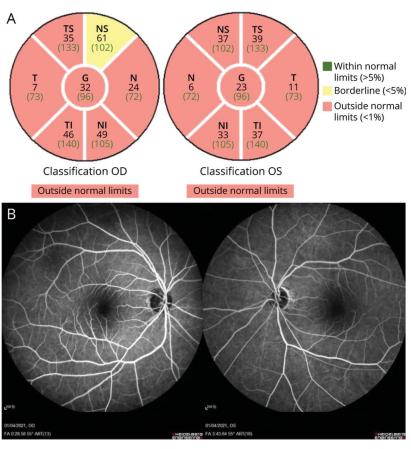
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Figure 1 Ocular Images



Optical coherence tomography of the retinal nerve fiber layer (RNFL) revealed bilateral thinning (A). Fundus angiography was unremarkable (B).

A 52-year-old, HIV-negative woman presented with one year of bilateral painless central vision loss that worsened over 3 months. A medical examination revealed Argyll Robertson pupil (i.e., accommodates but does not react to light). Single-read next-generation sequencing (NGS) of the CSF identified 89 sequence reads corresponding to Treponema, elevated CSF protein, pleocytosis, negative antiaquaporin-4, antimyelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody levels, retinal nerve fiber layer thinning, and bilateral nerve sheath

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Teaching slides

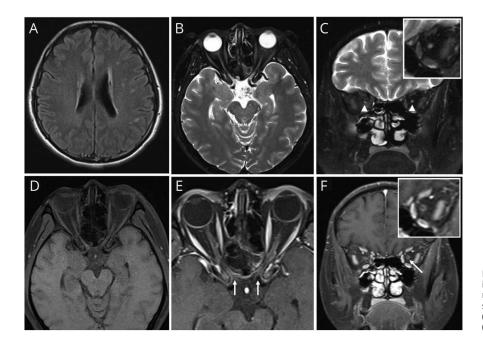
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Go to Neurology.org/N for full disclosures. Funding information and disclosures deemed relevant by the authors, if any, are provided at the end of the article.

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FLAIR (A) showed white matter lesions. T2-hyperintense lesions and atrophy in the bilateral optic nerve (arrowhead) were observed (B–C). T1-fatsaturation (D) and T1-gadolinium enhancement (E–F) demonstrated the entire optic nerve sheath (including chiasmal) (arrow).

enhancement (Figures 1–2). The patient received penicillin and oral prednisolone, which improved her vision. Infectious causes of optic neuritis are complex (Table). NGS is an emerging method with the potential to rapidly identify atypical optic neuritis.

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Table Common Pathogens of Infectious Optic Neuropathies

Viral

Herpes simplex virus, Epstein-Barr virus, chikungunya virus, dengue virus, Influenza viruses, mumps virus, varicella-zoster virus, cytomegalovirus, human immunodeficiency virus, measles virus, Rift Valley fever virus, rubella virus, zika virus, West Nile virus

Bacterial

Treponema pallidum, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Bartonella henselae bacteria, Rickettsii, bacterium Borrelia burgdorferi, Leptospires, Tropheryma whipplei, Mycobacterium leprae, Brucella genus

Fungi

Cryptococcus neoformans, Mucorales

Parasites

Toxoplasma gondii, Toxocara canis, Toxocara cati, Plasmodium, Nematodes, Onchocerca

Note: All pathogens listed in the table can be detected through next generation sequencing.

Appendix Authors

Name	Location	Contribution		
Ying Huang	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content, major role in the acquisition of data, and analysis or interpretation of data		
Yulu Liu	Liu Shenzhen People's Major role in the a Hospital (The Second of data Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China			
Yongguang Liu	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Major role in the acquisition of data		

Continued

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Appendix	(continued)		
Name	Location	Contribution	
Qiang Li	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Major role in the acquisition of data	
Xuejun Fu	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Major role in the acquisition of data and study concept or design	
Liangyu Zou	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Major role in the acquisition of data	

Αp	pe	endix	(continued)
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Name	Location	Contribution
Qianhui Xu	Shenzhen People's Hospital (The Second Clinical Medical College, Jinan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Southern University of Science and Technology), Shenzhen, China	Drafting/revision of the manuscript for content, including medical writing for content, major role in the acquisition of data, study concept or design, and analysis or interpretation of data

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