

outcome, and dorsolateral and anterior cord lesions had a better prognosis.

**Disclosure:** Dr. Vorasoot has nothing to disclose. Miss Saichua has nothing to disclose. Miss Sirikarn has nothing to disclose. Mrs. Boonrod has nothing to disclose. Narongrit Kasemsap has nothing to disclose. Kannikar Kongbunkiat has nothing to disclose. Somsak Tiamkao has nothing to disclose.

## Characterization of Neurosarcoid Myelitis and Assessment of Treatment Response: A Multicenter Retrospective Study

Denis Balaban, Giovanna Manzano, Ahya Ali, Eoin Flanagan, Allen Aksamit, Vyanka Redenbaugh, Stacey Clardy, Rohini Samudralwar, Paunel Agyei, Aram Zabeti, Robert Baughman, Bart Chwalisz, Michael Levy, Shamik Bhattacharyya

### Objective

To determine if initial treatment with corticosteroids plus steroid-sparing immunosuppressive therapy (IST) results in faster gadolinium contrast-enhancement resolution in neurosarcoid myelitis (NSM) than corticosteroid monotherapy (CSM).

### Background

Neurosarcoidosis is a rare cause of myelitis, treated initially with corticosteroids. Whether combination therapy of corticosteroids plus IST is more effective than CSM at disease onset is unknown.

### Design/Methods

We retrospectively reviewed cases of definite or probable NSM, defined by Neurosarcoidosis Consortium Consensus Group, in adults treated at six United States centers. We characterized clinicoradiographic features and treatment outcomes after NSM diagnosis. Treatment groups were defined as CSM, corticosteroids plus intermediate oral IST (methotrexate or mycophenolate mofetil), corticosteroids plus highly effective IST (cyclophosphamide/TNF-alpha inhibitors), or corticosteroids plus other. We hypothesized that initial treatment with corticosteroids and IST would result in faster gadolinium contrast-enhancement resolution (primary end point).

### Results

63 patients with NSM (32 female, 30 definite, median age 48) were identified. 86% had spinal cord enhancement on post-gadolinium T1 sequences (8% without enhancement, 6% without data). Time from symptom onset to treatment initiation varied from 11 days to 10 years (median 4 months). All but one patient received corticosteroids initially. 16/63 received corticosteroids alone. 29/63 received corticosteroids and subsequently IST (10 TNF-alpha inhibitor/cyclophosphamide, 10 mycophenolate/methotrexate, 9 other). Median time to IST initiation was 9.1 months (range 1–132). 16/63 were treated with initial IST (4 TNF-alpha/cyclophosphamide, 8 mycophenolate/methotrexate, 4 other). There was no significant difference in time to contrast-enhancement resolution between corticosteroids with/without subsequent IST versus corticosteroids + initial IST (Wilcoxon-rank sum test 0.93) or CSM versus corticosteroids + initial IST (Wilcoxon-rank sum test 0.97). Limitations are small sample size, variations in initiation of treatment and doses used, and intervals of clinical/radiographic follow-up.

### Conclusions

Standardization of reporting and monitoring of treatment and outcomes is needed for patients with NSM to better assess optimal initial therapy plans.

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Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Speaker Honoraria for Grand Rounds with Barrow Neurological Institute. Dr. Samudralwar has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Sanofi Genzyme. Dr. Samudralwar has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Biogen. Dr. Samudralwar has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for EMD Serono. Dr. Agyei has nothing to disclose. Dr. Zabeti has received personal compensation in the range of \$10,000-\$49,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Alexion. Dr. Zabeti has received personal compensation in the range of \$5,000-\$9,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Alexion. Dr. Zabeti has received personal compensation in the range of \$10,000-\$49,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Biogen. 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## Resolution of Recurrent VZV Myelitis With the Use of Intravenous (IV) Immunoglobulin (IG)

Danelvis Paredes, Elijah Lackey, Christopher Eckstein

### Objective

To present a case of a patient with recurrent VZV myelitis successfully treated with Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG).

### Background

VZV myelitis is a rare complication of VZV reactivation that tends to be monophasic. There is no solid evidence for a particular treatment regimen for VZV myelitis. No prior reports or studies have looked at using intravenous immunoglobulin for this condition, particularly for refractory cases.

### Design/Methods

75 year old female with history of hypertension presented with paresthesia on lateral side of right lower extremity, followed by vesicular rash T2 dermatomal distribution. Over a period of 2 weeks patient started experiencing bilateral lower extremity weakness R>L. CNS imaging revealed C3-C6 enhancing lesion and T2 hyperintense lesion. VZV confirmed by skin biopsy. Lumbar puncture (LP) was remarkable only for mildly elevated protein (67 mg/dL), although this LP was 4 weeks after initial symptoms. Patient was treated initially with 5 days of 1 g IV Solumedrol and valacyclovir 1 g TID with improvement of weakness and rash. However, over the next two years, the patient continued to get occasional vesicles with a flare of her myelitis shortly after valacyclovir down-titration trial. She was started on monthly IVIG (1 g/kg IVIG over 2 days) given her refractory and recurrent myelitis. Since starting monthly IVIG, the patient has not had any more zoster outbreaks or further episodes of myelitis. She has gradually improved her balance and gait as well.

### Results

N/A.

### Conclusions

We present an unusual case of recurrent VZV myelitis successfully treated with monthly IVIG. The successful treatment of this patient with IVIG should prompt consideration for its use in similar cases of recurrent VZV myelitis and may provide insight for future studies on how to treat VZV-related diseases. Rapid initiation of this treatment when the condition is recognized early could significantly improve outcomes and patients' quality of life.

**Disclosure:** Dr. Paredes has nothing to disclose. Dr. Lackey has nothing to disclose. The institution of Dr. Eckstein has received research support from Biogen. The institution of Dr. Eckstein has received research support from Genzyme.

## Sjogren's Sensory Neuropathy: A Potentially Treatable Condition with Early Intervention

Ryan Naum, Kelly Gwathmey

### Objective

To describe 2 cases of Sjögren's syndrome sensory neuropathy (SSSN) in which early intervention resulted in excellent clinical outcomes.

### Background

Acquired sensory neuropathies (i.e. dorsal root ganglionopathies) are rare sensory neuropathies most commonly associated with Sjögren's syndrome (SS) and paraneoplastic syndromes.

### Design/Methods

We describe 2 patients who presented with painful sensory symptoms, sicca symptoms and with positive SSA and antinuclear antibodies. The first patient presented with perceived symmetric hand weakness (despite no motor nerve conduction abnormalities), total body numbness and paresthesia, as well as sensory ataxia, while the other presented with asymmetric numbness and pain in the left foot and hand. The electrophysiological profiles varied considerably between the 2 patients. The first patient demonstrated complete absence of sensory nerve action potentials (SNAPs) whereas the second patient had only asymmetrical superficial peroneal and sural SNAPs, corresponding with his clinical deficit. The first patient was diagnosed with SSSN, while the other was diagnosed with asymmetrical sensory neuropathy in SS. The first patient was treated with mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) with dramatic symptomatic improvement and near recovery of clinical deficits. The second patient was treated with prednisone, methotrexate, and ultimately switched to MMF and rituximab with significant improvement in symptoms.

### Results

NA.

### Conclusions

SS is commonly associated with sensory neuropathies including sensory neuropathies. Both patients met diagnostic criteria for SSSN, though with differing severities. To date, there has been no randomized controlled trial evaluating treatments of SSSN. However, our findings suggest that early use of MMF could result in considerable benefit in a disease that is often functionally devastating.

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## NMDA Receptor Encephalitis With Severe Orofacial Dyskinesias Treated With Tramadol and Clonazepam

Falen Fernandes, Fraser Clift, Laura Chu

### Objective

N/A.

### Background

Anti-N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor (NMDAR) encephalitis is a neuroinflammatory disease mediated by antibodies targeting the GluN1 subunit of the NMDAR. It presents with well-defined neuropsychiatric symptoms, including psychosis, agitation, seizures, and memory disturbances.<sup>1</sup> Movement disorders including orofacial dyskinesias are common, but often difficult to manage, with no specific published guidelines.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

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