

refractory status epilepticus (NORSE [n = 23]) or rapidly progressive dementia (n = 14). Fifty-three of 72 patients (74%) with available data had associated malignancy, primarily small cell lung cancer (SCLC). Two P/Q type VGCC-IgG positive patients had isolated Lambert-Eaton Myasthenic Syndrome. Additionally, 27 patients presented with non-specific symptoms or alternate diagnoses (atypical presentation); none had underlying SCLC (13 with malignancy data). Most patients with anti-GABABR encephalitis/seizure presentations had GABABR-IgG detected in CSF (95%, 52/55; of 3 who were negative, 1 had NMDA-IgG and another AMPA-IgG and CRMP5-IgG) and/or GABABR-IgG detected by CBA in serum at a dilution of 1:100 (76%, 31/41). Five encephalitis/seizure patients with GABABR-IgG detected in CSF were CBA positive only at 1:10 dilution in serum. Forty-eight of 76 patients had samples positive on tissue IFA (serum = 17/42, CSF = 40/49). Among 27 patients with atypical presentations, most did not have GABABR-IgG CSF CBA positivity (91%, 21/23) and/or GABABR-IgG 1:100 serum titer by CBA (0/17). None of 27 cases were tissue IFA positive (serum = 0/27, CSF = 0/21).

Conclusions

GABABR-IgG is associated with autoimmune encephalitis/seizure presentations. Our study highlights the importance of evaluating CSF and testing serum at both 1:10 and 1:100 dilutions, as seropositivity at only the 1:10 dilution by CBA without CSF GABABR-IgG positivity has poor clinical specificity.

Disclosure: Dr. McCombe has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Roche. Dr. McCombe has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Traveling fellow with Royal College of Canada. Dr. Mills has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. Datta has nothing to disclose. Dr. Rezk has nothing to disclose. Dr. Chia has nothing to disclose. Andrew Knight has received personal compensation for serving as an employee of Mayo Clinic Rochester MN USA. Andrew Knight has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. The institution of Dr. Zekeridou has received research support from Roche/Genentech. Dr. Zekeridou has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. Zekeridou has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. The institution of Dr. Flanagan has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Alexion. Dr. Flanagan has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Genentech. Dr. Flanagan has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Horizon Therapeutics. Dr. Flanagan has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Pharmacy times. The institution of Dr. Flanagan has received research support from Viela Bio. Dr. Flanagan has a non-compensated relationship as a Member of medical Advisory Board with The MOG Project that is relevant to AAN interests or activities. Dr. Flanagan has a non-compensated relationship as a Editorial board member with Journal of The Neurologic Sciences that is relevant to AAN interests or activities. Dr. Flanagan has a non-compensated relationship as a Editorial board member with Neuroimmunology Reports that is relevant to AAN interests or activities. The institution of Dr. McKeon has received research support from Euroimmun AG. The institution of Dr. McKeon has received research support from National Institutes of Health. Dr. McKeon has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. McKeon has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. McKeon has received publishing royalties from a publication relating to health care. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$5,000-\$9,999 for serving as a Consultant for Genentech, Inc. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Sage Therapeutics, Inc. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Astellas. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Prime Therapeutics. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for UCB. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Roche/Genentech. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Alexion. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received

personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for MedImmune/Viela Bio. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for UCB, Inc. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$5,000-\$9,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Hoffman/LaRoche AG. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Genentech. Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for F. Hoffman/LaRoche. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received personal compensation in the range of \$5,000-\$9,999 for serving on a Scientific Advisory or Data Safety Monitoring board for Alexion. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received research support from Grifols. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received research support from NIH. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received research support from Viela Bio/MedImmune/Horizon. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received research support from Alexion Pharmaceuticals. The institution of Dr. Pittock has received research support from F. Hoffman/LaRoche/Genentech. Dr. Pittock has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. Pittock has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. The institution of Dr. Dubey has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for UCB. The institution of Dr. Dubey has received personal compensation in the range of \$5,000-\$9,999 for serving as a Consultant for Astellas. Dr. Dubey has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for AGRIMS. Dr. Dubey has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Advances in Neurology. Dr. Dubey has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving on a Speakers Bureau for Moffit Cancer Center. Dr. Dubey has received research support from Department of Defense. Dr. Dubey has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. Dubey has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care. Dr. Dubey has received intellectual property interests from a discovery or technology relating to health care.

A Case of Paraneoplastic NMOSD With Sarcoma and Unusual Cauda Equina Enhancement

Mohammed Hussein, Danny Samkutty, Sarah Durica, Nidhiben Anadani

Objective

To describe a case of sarcoma associated with NMOSD presenting with myeloradiculitis.

Background

Neuromyelitis optica is a demyelinating disease of the CNS that predominantly affects the spinal cord and optic nerves. Reports of NMOSD occurring in the setting of cancer suggest that aquaporin-4 autoimmunity may have a paraneoplastic basis. Here, we describe a patient with metastatic sarcoma who tested positive for aquaporin-4 IgG consistent with NMOSD.

Design/Methods

66-year-old man with left thigh soft tissue sarcoma with metastasis to the lungs admitted for 2-day history of urinary retention. Neurological exam showed bilateral lower extremity weakness, with decreased patellar reflexes. MRI spine showed cord swelling with enhancement from C6 downwards into the thoracic spine with associated syringomyelia and diffuse enhancement of the cauda equina. MRI brain was normal without abnormal enhancement in the optic nerves. CSF analysis demonstrated elevated protein and 0 oligoclonal bands. Was started on methylprednisolone 1 gram daily for 5 days empirically for transverse myelitis. Extensive serum and CSF workup for other causes of myelopathy including rheumatologic, infectious, and nutritional etiologies were unremarkable until NMO IgG antibody came back positive at 1:10000 titer. He had minimal clinical improvement after methylprednisolone course and so was started on plasmapheresis for five days. His weakness improved slightly but continued to have urinary retention. Discharged to a long-term acute care facility on prednisone 60 mg daily with intermittent bladder catheterization and plan for follow-up with Neuroimmunology.

Results

NA.

Conclusions

Myeloradicitis has been reported with anti-MOG disease but is not a typical finding for NMO. We report this case to highlight this unusual finding. In addition, sarcoma is an uncommon cause of paraneoplastic syndromes and to our knowledge, this is the first report of sarcoma being associated with paraneoplastic NMOSD.

Disclosure: Dr. Hussein has nothing to disclose. Dr. Samkutty has nothing to disclose. Dr. Durica has nothing to disclose. Dr. Anadani has nothing to disclose.

Missed Opportunities to Prevent N-methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor (NMDAR) Encephalitis in a DREAMer

Paul Crane, Matthew Jensen, Suzanne Liu, Justin Abbatemarco, Jana Wold, Holly Leydard, Umang Swami, Michelle Miranda, Stacey Clardy

Objective

Describe a case of NMDAR encephalitis in a young Latino male patient, additionally the factors resulting in delayed preventative and diagnostic medical care, which contributed to the development of a preventable case of NMDAR encephalitis.

Background

Adolescent undocumented immigrants in the United States face a history of prejudice and bias that perpetuates disparities and stigmas related to their healthcare. The lack of culturally informed practices among healthcare workers can create multiple lost opportunities to deliver standard of care practices, including routine testicular exams. The treatment of NMDAR encephalitis with immunotherapy, and resection of culpable tumors when present, can be lifesaving. Recognition of the germ cell tumor association has also renewed awareness of the importance of screening for such tumors.

Design/Methods

N/A.

Results

Case: A 25-year-old male who immigrated from Mexico to the U.S. at age 13 presented to the hospital for concern of status epilepticus. His past medical history included atypical developmental delay beginning in late teenage years. A large abdominal mass was identified on imaging as a stage IIIC (pT1bN0M1bS2) NSGCT (70% teratoma/30% seminoma) tumor arising from an unresected, undescended left testicle. Autonomic instability in the setting of this malignancy prompted an evaluation for, and diagnosis of, NMDAR encephalitis. His course was complicated by altered mental status, seizures, sympathetic storming, and orofacial dystonia. After tumor resection, and initiation of immune therapy, the patient showed a remarkable recovery.

Conclusions

This patient's preventive healthcare was impacted at multiple timepoints by changing political policies and a lack of culturally informed practices that unpredictably disrupted reliable access to medical care. Recognition of care gaps allows us to expand our differential diagnoses, and enact a comprehensive approach to fill in gaps. Effective communication, incorporating focused discussions within culturally sensitive frameworks, requires ongoing education for clinicians regarding the populations they serve to prevent disease and minimize health care disparities.

Disclosure: Dr. Crane has nothing to disclose. Dr. Jensen has nothing to disclose. The institution of an immediate family member of Dr. Liu has received research support from NIH. Dr. Abbatemarco has nothing to disclose. Dr. Wold has nothing to disclose. Holly Leydard has nothing to disclose. Dr. Swami has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Seattle Genetics. The institution of Dr. Swami has received

research support from Janssen. The institution of Dr. Swami has received research support from Astellas/Seattle Genetics. The institution of Dr. Swami has received research support from Exelixis. Dr. Miranda has nothing to disclose. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation for serving as an employee of Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation for serving as an employee of University of Utah Health. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving as a Consultant for Clarion. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for ExpertConnect. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving as a Consultant for VielaBio. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving as a Consultant for Genentech. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Consultant for Alexion. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$0-\$499 for serving as a Consultant for GuidePoint. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$10,000-\$49,999 for serving as an Editor, Associate Editor, or Editorial Advisory Board Member for Neurology/AAN Publications. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received research support from Alexion Pharma. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received research support from Sumaira Foundation for NMO. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received research support from Immune Deficiency Foundation. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received research support from Western Institute for Veteran Research. The institution of Dr. Clardy has received research support from NIH/NINDS. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a AAN Summer Meeting CoDirector Travel and Lodging with AAN. Dr. Clardy has received personal compensation in the range of \$500-\$4,999 for serving as a Grand Rounds Travel and Lodging with U of Iowa. 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.

Neuronal Uptake of Paraneoplastic and Other IgGs is Mediated by the Fc Portion of the IgG Molecule and Involves Previously Uncharacterized Neuronal FcγRI Receptors: Implications for Antibody-Mediated Neuronal Injury

Tammy Smith, Suzanne Liu, Noel Carlson, Stacey Clardy, John Greenlee

Objective

To investigate the mechanisms by which neurons take up paraneoplastic and other antibodies.

Background

Our laboratory has previously demonstrated that neurons can take up both normal and paraneoplastic IgGs and that paraneoplastic autoantibodies such as anti-Yo and anti-Hu can bind to their intracellular target antigens to produce neuronal death. In this study we investigated how neuronal antibody uptake occurs.

Design/Methods

We first compared neuronal uptake of normal and paraneoplastic Fab fragments with that of normal IgG Fc fragments or whole paraneoplastic IgGs. To determine whether neurons expressed receptors capable of binding the Fc portion of the IgG molecule, paraformaldehyde-fixed mouse and rat brains sections were probed with antibodies for the three major types of Fc receptors: FcγRI (CD64), FcγRII, (CD32) and FcγRIII (CD16). Neuronal uptake of antineuronal IgGs was compared between wild type mice and knockout mice lacking the FcγRI receptor. We also investigated whether neuronal IgG uptake could be blocked by normal IgG.

Results

Neurons incorporated the Fc fragment of normal IgG but not the Fab fragment. Intact paraneoplastic IgGs were taken up by neurons, but immunospecific Fab fragments were excluded. Neurons throughout cerebrum, cerebellum, and brainstem showed immunolabeling for FcγRI, but only rare neurons expressed FcγRII or FcγRIII. Uptake of paraneoplastic IgG and neuronal death were not observed in cultures from FcγRI knockout mice but were extensive in cultures from wild type controls. Paraneoplastic antibody uptake could be inhibited by normal IgG.

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Neurology 2022;99;S65-S66

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000903524.66021.04

This information is current as of December 5, 2022

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