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Management of Extrahepatic Manifestations of Liver Disease

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Disclosures

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Disclosures

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Research Support: Gilead, Clinical Area- Viral Hepatitis

Research Support: Intercept (spouse), Clinical Area- NASH

Research Support: Conatus (spouse), Clinical Area-IBD

Speaker Bureau: Gilead (self + spouse), Clinical Area- Viral Hepatitis

Speakers Bureau: AbbVie (self + spouse), Clinical Area- Viral Hepatitis

Speakers Bureau: AbbVie (self), Clinical Area- IBD

Speakers Bureau: Intercept (spouse), Clinical Area- NASH

Objectives

- By the end of this presentation, you should be able to:
 - Identify extrahepatic manifestations (EHM) of liver disease
 - Recognize benign from serious EHM findings
 - Determine a management strategy for common EHMs

Case Study

- 57 y/o AAM presents to PCP c/o pruritus with associated raised skin lesions
- SH: Lives alone, unemployed, smokes ½ PPD, drinks socially, uses marijuana weekly
- PMH: HTN, s/p MI 2014 with stent placement x2, KCD stage 2
- Vitals/Stats: BMI 29.2, BP 148/88, HR 73, RR 14
- Exam: Unremarkable except skin lesions



What Is an Extrahepatic Manifestation (EHM)?

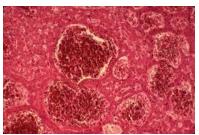
- Sign or symptom of underlying liver disease occurring outside of the liver
- Some are serious or life-threatening
- Others offer clinical clues underlying liver disease is present

- Why do they occur?
 - Hepatocytes are responsible for homeostasis
 - Disruptions in homeostasis may lead to clinical effects
 - May be direct or indirect

EHM by System

Cardiovascular

- Arteriovenous shunting
- Peliosis hepatis



Telangiectasia

Respiratory System

- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Hepatopulmonary Syndrome:
 - Decompensated liver disease
 - Arterial deoxygenation
 - Intrapulmonary vasodilatation
- Portopulmonary hypertension:
 - Portal hypertension without shunting or vasodilation

Cardiovascular and Respiratory Management

Hepatopulmonary Syndrome

- Liver transplantation
- Many experimental therapies: sorafenib, norfloxacin, indomethacin, mycophenolate mofetil, methylene blue
- Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunting (TIPS)

Portopulmonary Hypertension

- Exercise as tolerated
- Diuretic therapy
- Avoid TIPS and β-blockers and Ca-channel blockers
- Liver transplant in patients
 responsive to pulmonary artery
 hypertension therapies:
 ambrisentan and
 tadalafil, prostacyclins

EHM by Organ

Kidneys

- Hepatitis-associated nephropathy
 - Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis
 - Membranous nephropathy
- Hepatorenal syndrome

Skin

- Jaundice
- Pruritus
- Xanthelasma
- "Bronze diabetes"

Palmar Erythema

Hair thinning/loss

Terry's nails



Image credit: https://www.medicinenet.com/image-collection/xanthelasma_picture/picture.html; Indramohan & Aoun, 2016.

Management

Renal

- Treat underlying cause (viral hepatitis)
- Monitor for proteinuria and hematuria
- Control hypertension
- Plasmapheresis
- Hemodialysis
- Medication: cyclophosphamide, mycophenolate mofetil, corticosteroids

Skin

- Treat underlying causes
- Xanthelasma may be surgically removed
- Pruritus: antihistamines, cholestyramine, menthol ointment, rifampin, naltrexone, sertraline
- Salvage therapy for refractory cholestatic pruritus

EHM by System

Nervous System

- Hepatic Encephalopathy
- Encephalomyelitis (HAV)
- Myelopathy (HCV)
- Guillain Barre (HBV, HCV)

Hematologic

- Ecchymoses
- Bleeding

Management of Hepatic Encephalopathy

- 2014 AASLD Hepatic Encephalopathy Practice Guidelines – 74 pages
 - Grade severity (0-4)
 - Identify & treat precipitating cause
 - Infection, electrolyte imbalance, medication effect, etc.
 - Medications: lactulose, rifaximin, branch chain amino acids, antibiotics, probiotics, zinc
 - Ammonia monitoring is not necessary

Neurologic Management

- Encephalomyelitis very rare, consultation with neurology needed. Requires supportive care, EEG, LP, brain and spine imaging
- Guillain Barre also rare, described in HAV, HBV, and HCV. May require IV IG, plasmapheresis, supportive care

EHM by Organ

Thyroid

Hypothyroidism

Management: dietary supplements, nutraceuticals, desiccated thyroid, levothyroxine

Eyes

 Sicca Syndrome (Sjogren's Syndrome if autoimmune disorder present)

Management: artificial tears, artificial saliva, immunosuppressants (hydroxychloroquine)

EHM by Organ

Soft Tissue

Dupuytren's Contracture

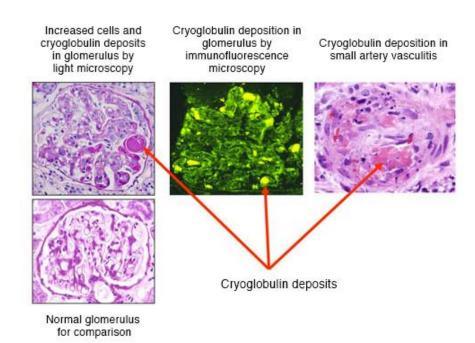


- May be r/t heavy alcohol use, diabetes, male sex over 40, and smoking
- Management: stretching, corticosteroid injections, collagenase clostridium histolyticum injection, low-dose radiation, surgery

Image credit: https://www.orthobullets.com/hand/6058/dupuytrens-disease; Soreide et al. 2018.

EHM & the Immune System

- Cryoglobulinemia
 - Palpable Purpura
 - Vasculitis
 - Nephropathy



Disease Specific EHMs

Hepatitis C Infection

- Accelerated atherosclerosis
- Cardiomyopathy
- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Peripheral Neuropathy
- Prurigo Nodularis
- Lichen Planus
- Porphyria Cutanea Tarda

- Lymphoma
- Insulin Resistance/Diabetes
- Fatigue
- Depression
- Cognitive Impairment
- Immune system changes

Disease Specific EHMs

NASH

 Accelerated atherosclerosis

Wilson's Disease

- Psychiatric: personality changes, cognitive dysfunction
- Motor: dyspraxia, ataxia, tremor-rigidity syndrome

Disease Specific EHMs

Primary Biliary Cholangitis

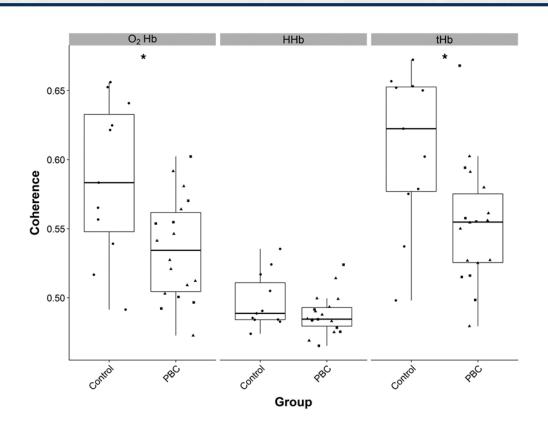
- Autonomic Dysfunction
- Sensory neuropathy
- Fatigue

Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis

- Vitiligo
- Fatigue



Near-Infrared Spectroscopy Reveals Brain Hypoxia and Cerebrovascular Dysregulation in Primary Biliary Cholangitis



Case Study

- Labs: AMA, ANA, EMA, CRP, ESR, CBC, CMP, Viral Hepatitis Panel
- Results: autoantibodies all negative
- CRP and ESR mildly elevated
- CBC shows plt 180, WBC 4.8, Hgb 16.1
- CMP shows AST 41, ALT 65, creatinine 1.2
- Viral Panel shows HCV Ab+, reflex HCV RNA 41,800
- Diagnosis: Prurigo Nodularis secondary to chronic HCV infection

Case Study

6 months later, HCV cure confirmed

Near complete resolution of prurigo nodularis



Summary

- EHMs are numerous: close attention on physical exam is important
- EHMs may resolve if underlying cause is treated
- Referrals to specialists may be needed
- Hepatitis C virus infection is a common cause for EHM
 - Direct cytopathic role has been identified in B-cell lymphomas, but most EHMs likely secondary to host immune response

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