

Medical Dermatology: Bugs and Drugs

Common Skin Infections and Hypersensitivity Reactions

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Disclosures

- None



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Onychomycosis



Dermatophyte infection:

- Diagnosis
 - Clinical??
 - KOH prep – GOLD STANDARD
 - Culture – would expect – *Trichophyton*, *Microsporum*, and *Epidermophyton* species
- Treatment: tinea faciei, corporis, cruris, pedis, manuum
 - Terbinafine 1% – great coverage for dermatophytes, weak against Candida
 - Clotrimazole 1% – dermatophytes < Candida
 - Econazole 1% – dermatophytes < Candida
 - Ketoconazole 2% – dermatophytes < Candida
 - Ciclopirox 0.77% – dermatophytes < Candida

Dermatophyte infections:

- Systemic therapy:—tinea capitis, folliculitis, or Majocchi granuloma
 - Terbinafine , Fluconazole, Itraconazole, Griseofulvin
- Onychomycosis
 - Nail clipping for PAS
 - Systemic - Terbinafine, Fluconazole, Itraconazole, griseofulvin
 - Topical - Ciclopirox (8.5%), Efinaconazole (18%), tavabarole (9%)

Case

- 22 year old male
- 2 week history of blistering itchy skin eruption on the arms, back, abdomen
- No fever, chills, malaise, oral/mucosal lesions
- No previous treatment
- PMHx: Healthy
- Social Hx: from Texas, college student and athlete

Bullous Impetigo

- Diagnosis:
 - CULTURE!!!
- Typically MSSA
- Where are typical impetigo would be Group A Strep or Staph aureus (MSSA >>MRSA)
- Treatment of choice is for more widespread disease Cephalexin 500 mg BID x 10 days, or 500 mg TID or QID x 7 days (can also consider dicloxicillin)
- For very limited disease can consider topical therapy with mupirocin 2% ointment or cream.

Non-bullous Impetigo



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Case

- 4YOF
- Acute onset of skin redness and blisters on the face, axillae, back 2 days prior. Started as red/dry patch on cheek. Febrile. Malaise . No ocular or oral mucosal involvement. Skin very painful.
- No medications prior to onset
- PMHx: Healthy
- Social Hx: Lives with parents and 7 year old brother.

Staphylococcal Scalded Skin Syndrome

- Children < 6 years, adults with renal insufficiency
- MSSA predominates there are reports of MRSA (adults > children). All typically from nasopharyngeal colonization but impetigo, pyogenic foci
- **Pathogenesis:**
 - phage group II strains (types 3A, 3C, 55, 71) of *S. aureus*.
 - Exfoliative toxins - ETA (chromosomally encoded), ETB (plasmid encoded), and ETD
 - Glutamate-specific Serine proteases w/very high specificity for Dsg1.
 - Bind extracellular domain of **Dsg1** directly cleave toxins, excreted renally
- **DDX:**
 - sunburn, a drug reaction, Kawasaki disease and extensive bullous impetigo, and, less often, a viral exanthem, toxic shock syndrome, GVHD and pemphigus foliaceus.

SSSS

- **Treatment:**
 - B-lactamase-resistant antibiotics (cefazolin, dicloxacillin, cephalexin) - for minimum of 7 days
 - Wound care with moist occlusion, gentle handling of skin.
- **Prognosis:**
 - Mortality in Children 3% ; Adults ~ 50%
 - Desquamation stops within 3-5 days and re-epithelialization 10-14 days, 7-10 days with proper treatment (wound care + antibiotics)
 - Important to counsel reassure parents that there is no scarring

SSSS

- **Cultures from intact bullae are negative**
- Typically blood cultures are negative
- Sites of colonization or infection:
 - Conjunctiva, nasopharynx, feces, or pyogenic foci
 - Blood cultures are almost always negative in children, but may be positive in adults.
- +/- leukocytosis
- Confirm - frozen sections – AKA Jelly Roll
- slide latex agglutination
- double immunodiffusion
- enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for toxins

QUESTIONS?

DRUG HYPERSENSITIVITY

Immunology

- Type I
 - IgE dependent drug reactions – urticaria, angioedema, anaphylaxis
- Type II
 - Cytotoxic drug induced reactions – antibody to a fixed antigen i.e. drug-induced pemphigus
- Type III
 - Immune complex dependent drug reactions – serum sickness, vasculitis
 - 10% drug associated - Antibiotics, thiazides, ACE inhibitors, NSAIDS
- Type IV
 - T cell mediated – “delayed-type”
 - Four subtypes IVa, IVb, IVc, IVd
 - Includes
 - Morbilliform, AGEP, **Bullous (SJS/TEN)**, **DRESS**, contact dermatitis, tuberculin reaction

Type IV hypersensitivity reactions - *Internal*

- Hepatitis
- Myocarditis
- Nephritis
- Vasculitis (also in skin)
- Pneumonitis
- Colitis
- Blood cell dyscrasia
 - Neutropenia
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Anemia
 - Eosinophilia
- Encephalitis
- Drug fever

Type IV hypersensitivity reactions - *Skin*

- **DRESS**
- **SJS/TEN**
- Morbilliform
- AGEP (acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis)
- Allergic Contact (local or systemic)
- Fixed Drug Eruption
- Symmetrical drug-related intertriginous flexural exanthema (SDRIFE, AKA baboon syndrome)

Type IV Drug hypersensitivity

| | Immune Mediators | Immune cells | Exanthema |
|------------|--|--|--|
| IVa | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Th1• IFN-γ, TNF-α | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• T cells• Macrophages | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact dermatitis• Tuberculin rxn |
| IVb | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Th2• IL-4, IL-13, IL-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eosinophils | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morbilliform• DRESS |
| IVc | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CTL• Perforin• Granzyme B• Granulysin (SJS/TEN) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• T cells• NK cells (SJS/TEN) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact dermatitis• Morbilliform (CD4+)• DRESS (CD8+)• SJS/TEN (CD8+) |
| IVd | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• T cells• IL-8• GM-CSF | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PMN | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AGEP |

Morbilliform drug eruption

- Types IVb & IVc
- Most Common Drugs
 - **Beta lactam Abx, sulfonamides, AEDs, NSAIDS** – many others including herbal medicines
 - Ampicillin/Amoxicillin - Mononucleosis – viral associated
- Clinical Features
 - Onset typically > 4 days after starting medication
 - Urticarial papules, plaques, macules, patches, trunk > extremities, worse in dependent areas
 - Pruritic
 - Can lead to erythroderma and exfoliation.
 - Self limited and may resolve with continued exposure to drug (can treat through if necessary)
 - May not recur with re challenge
 - No fever
 - No internal organ involvement
 - Histology not specific
- Treatment – dc drug, topical vs systemic steroids, antihistamines

Morbilliform drug eruption

- Work up – mainly to differentiate from DRESS
- CBC with diff, BUN, Cr, Liver enzymes, Troponin, CK, Amylase, lipase

Case

- 28 year old - IVDU
- Readmitted after being started on vancomycin for MRSA endocarditis, with fever, chills, and a new rash
- Vancomycin x 3 weeks
- CBC with elevated WBC and eos $>$ 1500

Case

- 82 year old
- Recent medications within 4-8 weeks – allopurinol and nifedipine
- Hospitalized – allopurinol stopped – nifedipine continued
- Rash, fever, eosinophilia, persistent after discharge

DRESS

- Type IVb & IVc (*same as morbilliform*)
- Drugs:
 - **carbamazepine**, phenobarbital, phenytoin, allopurinol, TMP/SMX, dapsone, minocycline, gold salts, strontium ranelate, vancomycin, **lamotrigine**, nevirapine, sulfasalazine, hydroxychloroquine, ibuprofen, Proton pump inhibitors
- Clinical Features
 - Onset *typically* after 2-6 weeks of continuous drug therapy.
 - Fever, lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia, atypical lymphocytes, nephritis, myocarditis, hepatitis, myositis, pancreatitis, thyroiditis, colitis
 - Skin eruption = **variable**, typically morbilliform, but can be targetoid, bullous, pustular.
 - Reactivation of human herpesviruses (HHV4-7)
 - Resolves within 2-6 weeks after cessation of medications
- Mortality – **5-10%**

Table 1 Scoring System for Classifying DRESS Cases as Definite, Probable, Possible, or No Case, from Kardaun et al¹¹

| Score | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
|---|------|-------|--|--|
| Fever $\geq 38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ | No/U | Yes | Yes | |
| Enlarged lymph nodes | | No/U | Yes | |
| Eosinophilia | | No/U | | |
| Eosinophils | | | $0.7-1.499 \times 10^9 \text{ L}^{-1}$ | $\geq 1.5 \times 10^9 \text{ L}^{-1}$ $\geq 20\%$ |
| Eosinophils, if leukocytes $< 4.0 \times 10^9 \text{ L}^{-1}$ | | | 10%-19.9% | |
| Atypical lymphocytes | | No/U | Yes | |
| Skin involvement | | | | |
| Skin rash extent (% body surface area) | | No/U | $> 50\%$ | |
| Skin rash suggesting DRESS | No | U | Yes | |
| Biopsy suggesting DRESS | No | Yes/U | | |
| Organ involvement* | | | | |
| Liver | | No/U | Yes | |
| Kidney | | No/U | Yes | |
| Muscle/heart | | No/U | Yes | |
| Pancreas | | No/U | Yes | |
| Other organ | | No/U | Yes | |
| Resolution ≥ 15 days | No/U | Yes | | |
| Evaluation of other potential causes | | | | |
| Antinuclear antibody | | | | |
| Blood culture | | | | |
| Serology for HAV/HBV/HCV | | | | |
| Chlamydia/mycoplasma | | | | |
| If none positive and ≥ 3 of above negative | | | Yes | |

DRESS = Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptom; U = unknown/unclassifiable; HAV = hepatitis A virus; HBV = hepatitis B virus; HCV = hepatitis C virus.

*After exclusion of other explanations: 1, one organ; 2, two or more organs. Final score < 2 , no case; final score 2-3; possible case; final score 4-5, probable case; final score > 5 , definite case.

2-3= possible, 4-5 probable, > 5 definite

DRESS: *Internal organ involvement*

- **Hepatitis**
 - Most common – typically self limited
 - **can be fulminant and fatal – most common cause of death in DRESS**
 - Less responsive to steroids – may need higher doses
- **Nephritis**
 - Common, self limited
 - Can be fulminant leading to chronic renal failure and death
 - Less responsive to steroids
- **Thyroiditis**
 - Case reports in patient with chronic DRESS
- **Pancreatitis**
 - Less common than hepatitis or nephritis
 - Associated with delayed T1DM
 - Transient elevations of amylase/lipase

DRESS: *Myocarditis*

- Numerous case reports -- **Mortality up to 50%**
- Acute eosinophilic myocarditis (hypersensitivity myocarditis)
 - May go undetected
 - cardiac enzymes **not** always elevated
 - **Pro-BNP**
 - Non-specific S-T segment or T-wave abnormalities, sinus tachycardia, conduction delay
 - Systolic dysfunction
 - Sudden cardiac death
- Acute necrotizing eosinophilic myocarditis (ANEM)
 - More severe
 - Chest pain, ST segment elevation, ↑cardiac enzymes
 - ↓systolic function, biventricular failure, ↑mm wall thickness
- Median 14 days, Mean 35 days, & up to 4 months after dx
- Typically responds best to treatment with corticosteroids
- **Renal and liver toxicity of most common cause of mortality but cardiac toxicity has highest mortality rate**

DRESS – *approach to patient*

- CBC with diff, LFT, BUN, Cr, CK, Troponin, Amylase, Lipase, Pro BNP
- EKG & ECHO
- Case reports of T1DM and auto-immune thyroiditis
 - monitor TSH, T3, T4, and glucose
- Patients need to be followed closely with repeat labs during and after treatment phase
- I always counsel about the possibility of cardiac involvement, especially during the first 2 weeks after diagnosis (70% develop within 2 weeks of dx.)

DRESS: *Treatment*

- Stop all possible offending medications
- Corticosteroids:
 - Start at 1 mg/kg with slow taper (2-6 months)
 - Doses likely higher if inpatient - solumedrol 1 gram daily for cardiac/renal involvement, 250 mg IV x 3 days for others
 - All followed by oral slow taper of prednisone
- Others:
 - Cyclosporine
 - IVIG
 - Mycophenolate mofetil
 - Rituximab, azathioprine, plasmapheresis

DRESS: *Conclusions*

- DRESS typically develops after 2 weeks of continuous therapy
- Early recognition and diagnosis of and treatment DRESS is related to decreased morbidity and mortality
- DRESS is caused by many common medications
- Renal and Hepatic failure most common cause of mortality
- Myocarditis is an under recognized and potentially fatal complication of DRESS with the **highest mortality rate**

SJS/TEN

- **Clinical presentation**

- Fever
- Flu-like symptoms x 1-3 days
- Photophobia, conjunctival itching, dysphagia, painful skin
- Present with quick onset (~3 days) - symmetric burning/pain of skin followed by dusky macules, patches with epidermal detachment – **including mucous membranes**

- **Diagnosis**

- Clinical
- Skin biopsy for H&E and direct immunofluorescence

SJS/TEN

- **Type IVc**
 - Granzyme B, perforins, **Granulysin** → keratinocyte apoptosis
 - Granulysin – now thought to be the main contributing factor
 - Drug-Specific CD8 T-cells and NK cells
 - MHC-1 and T cell receptors → clonal expansion of cytotoxic T-cells
- 2-13 per million/year
- **Risk Factors**
 - HIV – **100** times general population
 - Autoimmune disease – **50X** in SLE
 - Active malignancy (hematologic) – **50X**

SJS/TEN

- **Drugs:**
 - Antibiotics – **50%** - TMP/SMX, B-lactams, Fluoroquinolones
 - Antiepileptic/mood stabilizers – 24% lamotrigine, phenytoin, carbamazepine
 - Allopurinol
 - NSAIDS - oxicam
 - Others: nevirapine, modafinil, minocycline, **PPIs**
 - Typically within 1-3 weeks (avg 14 days)
 - Unlikely after first 8 weeks

SJS/TEN

- Mortality:
 - SJS < 10%
 - SJS/TEN 10-30%
 - TEN > 40%
- Treatment:
 - Burn unit and supportive care
 - Multidisciplinary consultation – Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Urology, OB/GYN
 - Corticosteroids – early may increase survival
 - Cyclosporine
 - Etanercept (TNF alpha inhibitors)
 - IVIG?

HLA TYPES & DRUG ERUPTIONS

- HLA-B*1502
 - Carbamazepine & phenytoin - SJS/TEN
 - FDA recommends screening for pts from: **Taiwan, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, & India** prior to starting medication
- HLA-B*0206
 - SJS/TEN with severe ocular involvement
- HLA-A*3101
 - European descent – SJS/TEN
 - Japanese – DRESS, SJS/TEN
 - Consider screening prior to starting carbamazepine
- HLA*5701
 - Abacavir hypersensitivity
- HLA-B*5801
 - Allopurinol-induced SJS/TEN or DRESS
 - Han Chinese in Taiwan

SJS/TEN: *Conclusions*

- SJS/TEN is a subtype of Type IV drug hypersensitivity
- **Mortality of 20-25%**
- Antibiotics, AEDs/mood stabilizers, allopurinol, NSAIDs are common inciting medications
- Uncommon after 8 weeks of therapy
- Early diagnosis and treatment in an experienced burn unit provide are the standard of care and decrease morbidity and mortality

Questions?

- THANK YOU!!!
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