

Athletes with Systemic Autoimmune Disease

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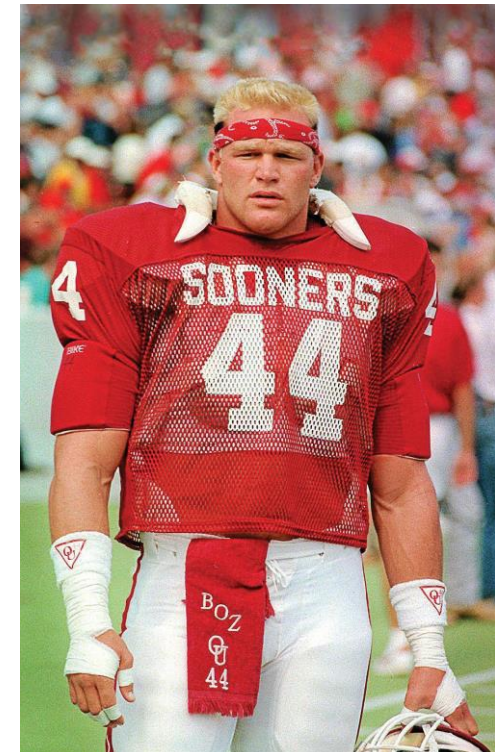
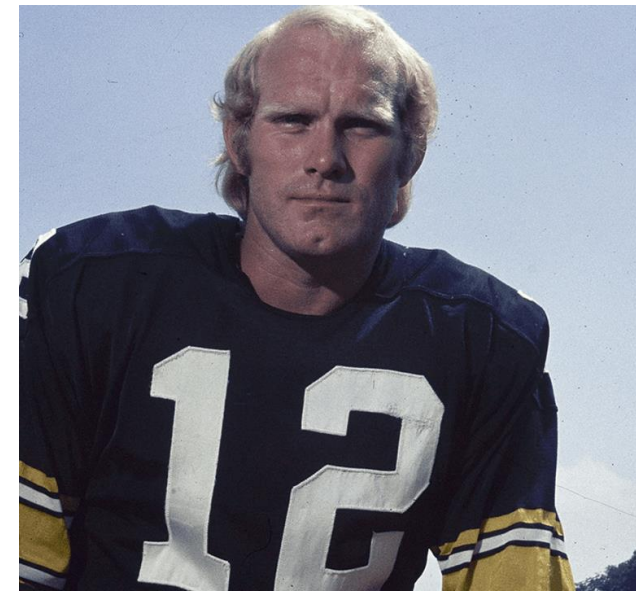
November 2, 2022

Disclosures

- Clinical Research Funding:
 - Amgen
 - Novartis
 - Roche
- Speaker:
 - Novartis



- This former NFL star entered the broadcaster's booth soon after his playing days and remains an influential media voice but also serves as a spokesman for the American College of Rheumatology:
- Boomer Esiason
- Terry Bradshaw
- Cris Collinsworth
- Phil Simms
- Brian Bosworth





Former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and rheumatoid arthritis patient Terry Bradshaw will serve as the ACR's official spokesperson for Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month in September.

- <http://blog.arthritis.org/stories-of-yes/terry-bradshaw-rheumatoid-arthritis/>
- <https://www.the-rheumatologist.org/article/hundreds-diseases-one-voice/>

RA: Key Learning Objectives

- General RA principles and some history
- Recognize clinical features, risk factors
- Recognize classification criteria for RA
- Pathophysiology and treatments



General Points

- Systemic autoimmune disease characterized by chronic inflammation (synovitis):
 - multiple joints
 - small joints in hands and feet
- ~1% of the population; F:M→3:1
- Genetic links similar to SLE

September 6, 2007

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

N Engl J Med 2007; 357:977-986

STAT4 and the Risk of Rheumatoid Arthritis and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

Elaine F. Remmers, Ph.D., Robert M. Plenge, M.D., Ph.D., Annette T. Lee, Ph.D., Robert R. Graham, Ph.D., Geoffrey Hom, Ph.D., Timothy W. Behrens, M.D., Paul I.W. de Bakker, Ph.D., Julie M. Le, B.S., Hye-Soon Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Franak Batliwalla, Ph.D., Wentian Li, Ph.D., Seth L. Masters, Ph.D., et al.

- Loss of joint function, destruction of bone and cartilage
- Shorter life expectancy→ systemic inflammation



Clinical Features

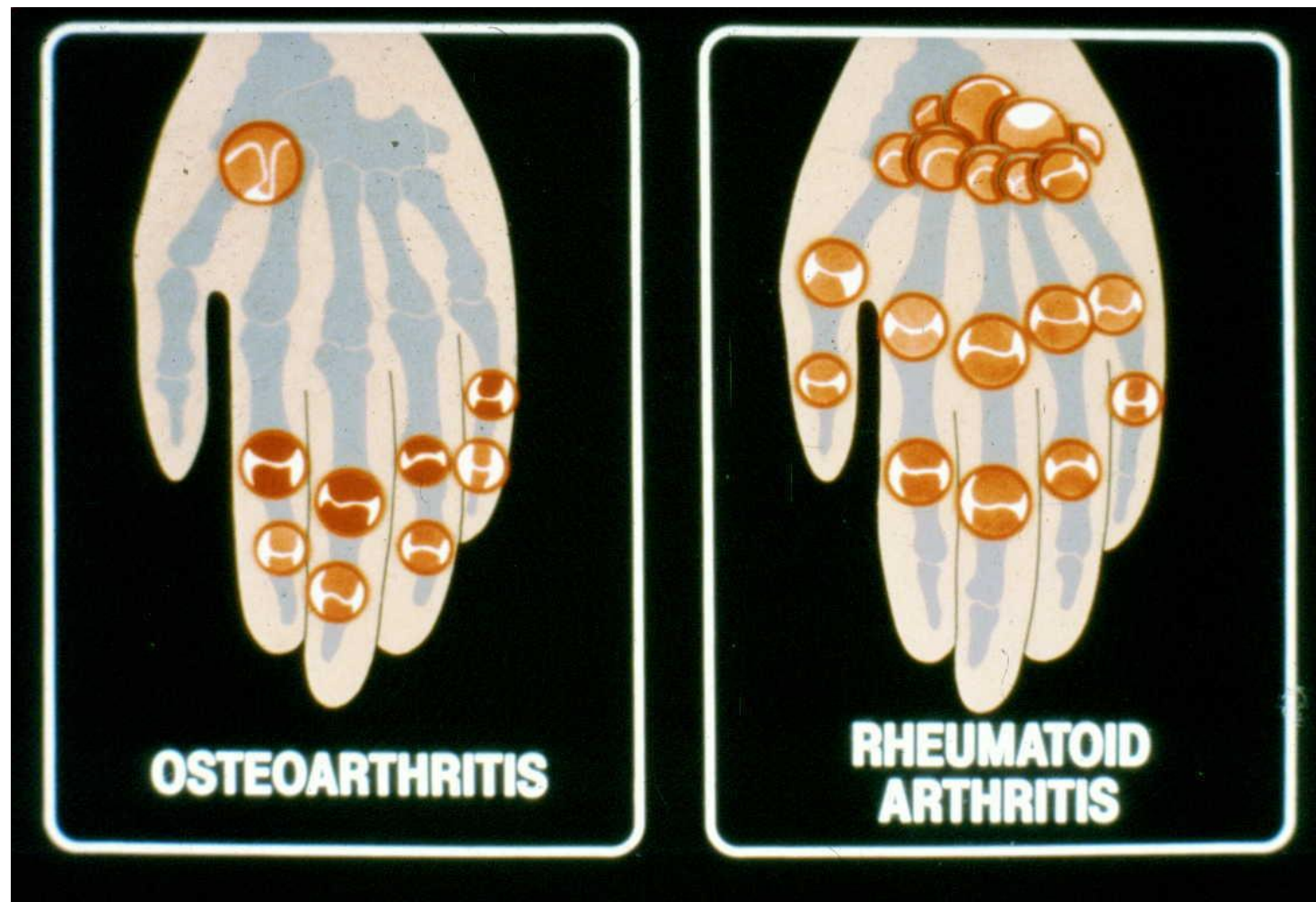


Courtesy ACR Image Bank

Clinical Features



Osteoarthritis vs. Rheumatoid Arthritis



Extra-articular manifestations



RA: Not Just a Joint Disease

**CVD
10 Years Earlier**

**6-9x ↑
Serious Infections**

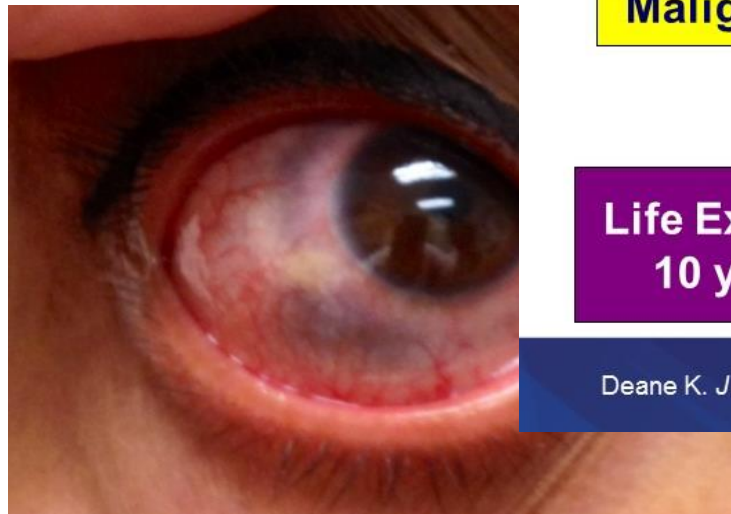
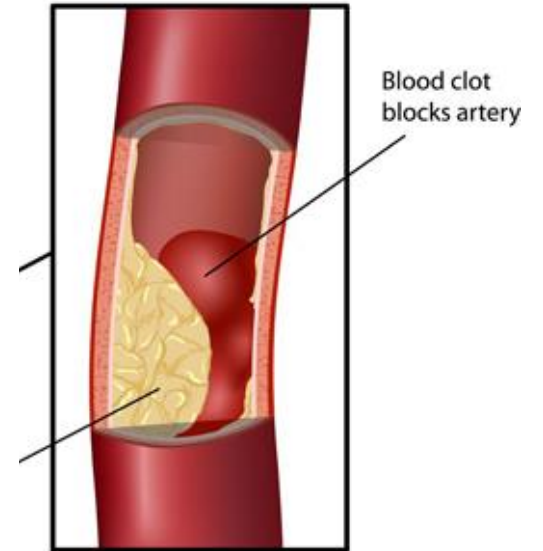
**2x ↑
Malignancy**

**Joint pain
Disability
Destruction**

**↑ Pulmonary
Disease**

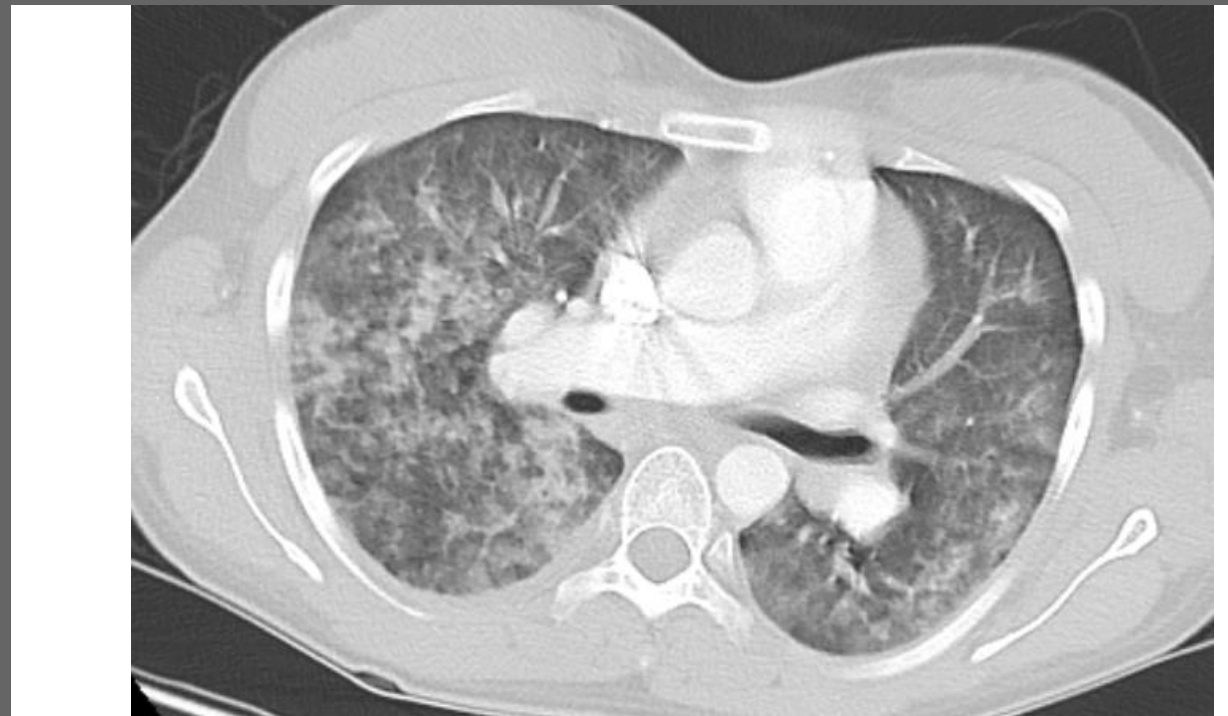
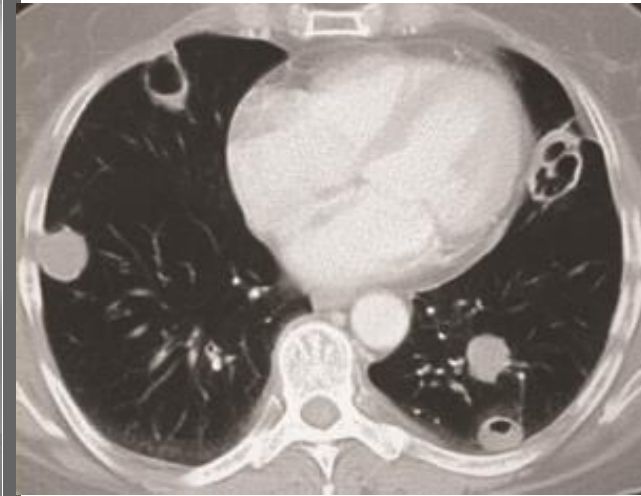
**↑ GI
Bleeding**

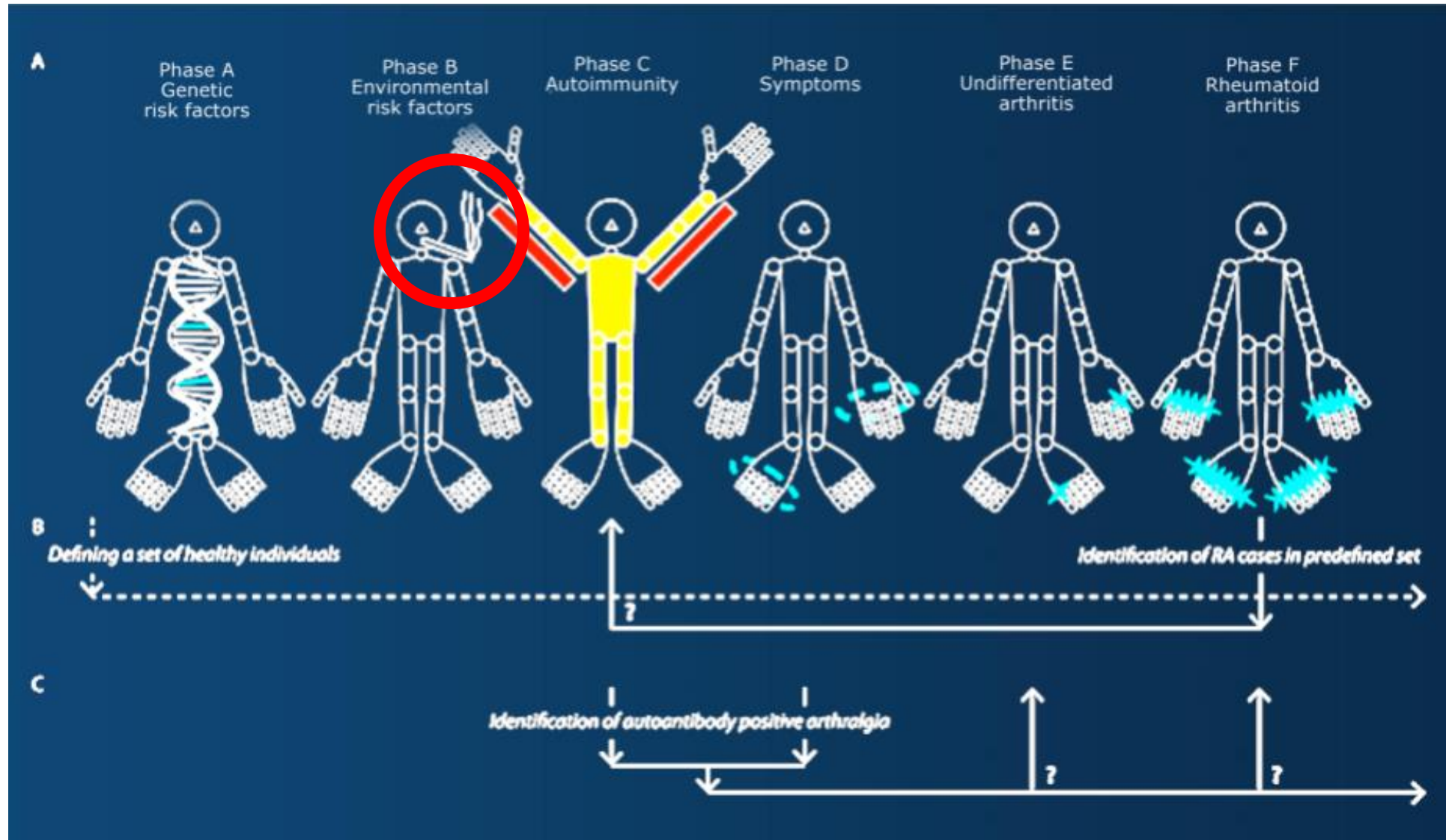
**Life Expectancy Decreased
10 yr women, 4 yr men**



RA: pulmonary complications

- Pulmonary nodules
- Interstitial lung disease
- PE vs MI
- Medications and complications
 - Methotrexate pneumonitis
 - Opportunistic infection





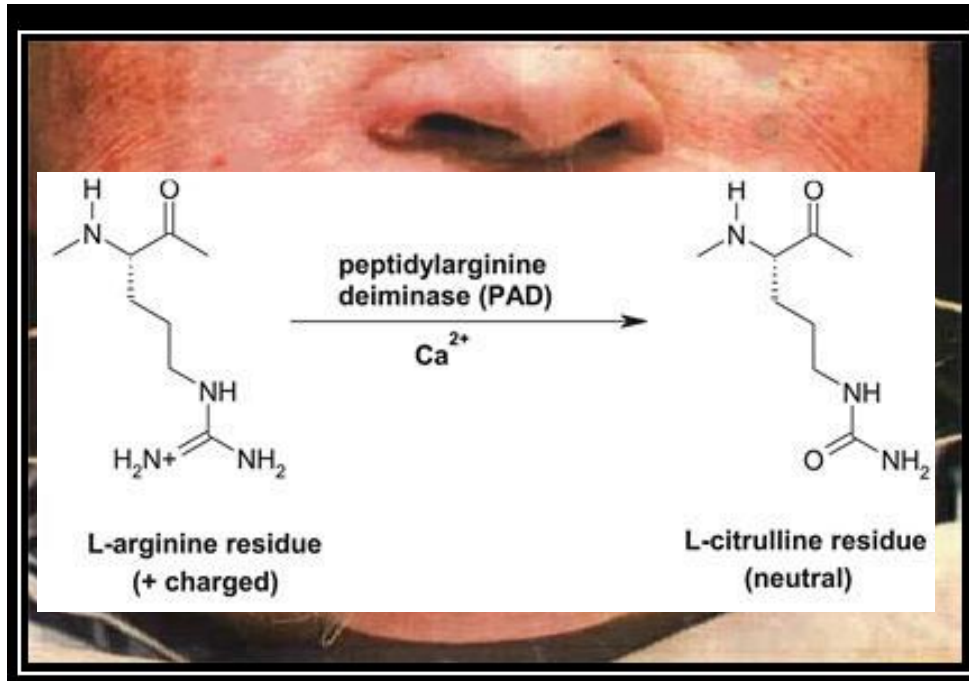
What auto antibody is most highly specific for the detection of RA?

- Anti-ribonucleoprotein (RNP)
- SSA
- Anti-cyclic citrillunated peptide (CCP)
- Rheumatoid factor (RF)
- Anti-tumor necrosis factor (TNF)

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Gingival Disease and Autoimmunity



“Antibodies to citrullinated alpha-enolase peptide 1 are specific for Rheumatoid Arthritis and cross-react with porphyromonas gingivalis enolase.” Lundberg K., Kinloch A., Fisher, B.A., et al. *Arthritis Rheum.* 58: 3009-19 **2008**.

“Associations of P. gingivalis titers with RF, antiCP suggests that infection with this organism plays a role in disease risk and progression in RA.” Mukuls TR, Payne, J.B., Reinhardt, R. A. et al *Int. Immunopharmacol.* 9:38-42 **2009**.

“Antibodies to Porphyromonas gingivalis are Associated with Anticitrullinated Protein Antibodies in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis and their Relatives.” Hitchon et al *J Rheumatol* 37:1105-1112 **2010**.

ACR 1987 Classification Criteria for Rheumatoid Arthritis

Patients Must Have Four of Seven Criteria:

Morning Stiffness Lasting at Least 1 Hour*

Swelling in 3 or More Joints*

Swelling in Hand Joints*

Symmetric Joint Swelling*

Erosions or Decalcification on X-ray of Hand

Rheumatoid Nodules

Abnormal Serum Rheumatoid Factor

* Must Be Present at Least 6 Weeks.

Real Case...

- 29 yo WF smoker with left wrist swelling and pain, right MTP swelling and pain x 9 yrs
- No stiffness or nodules or family history
- Previously diagnosed as overuse, tendonitis, 'degenerative wrist arthritis'; waitress, cross fit
- Does she fulfill 1987 criteria?
- 3/7 classification criteria



SEX: F

12:28:14
FOOTL
AP

Ref. Phys: MARWAHA
1000000000

FFS
Plate ID: 1000000000

SEX: F

9:07:26
FOOTR
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Ref. Phys: MARWAHA
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FFS
Plate ID: 1000000000



Ref Rng

6/22/2011

CRP <10.0

20.0 (H)

ESR 0 - 20 MM/HR

23 (H)

CCP IGG <5.0

181.8 (H)

RF <11

<5

Case:

A 56 yo AA female presents with 6 mos of intermittent swelling and stiffness in hands that last 1-2 days and improves spontaneously and with ibuprofen. Bouts every 2 mos. None now



SH: teacher

½ ppd tob; no etoh or drugs

FH: mother with reported RA

Exam: no synovitis appreciable; no chronic changes

Work up?

Component	Latest Ref Rng	6/20/2016 
ESR	0 - 30 mm/Hr	20
CRP	<=7.4 mg/L	2.8 

“undifferentiated arthritis”

Case:

A 56 yo AA female presents with 6 mos of intermittent swelling and stiffness in hands that last 1-2 days and improves spontaneously and with ibuprofen. Bouts every 2 mos. None now



SH: teacher

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Work up?

Component	Latest Ref Rng	6/20/2016 
ESR	0 - 30 mm/Hr	20
CRP	<=7.4 mg/L	2.8 
RF	<=14 IU/mL	190 (H)
CCP IGG	0.0 - 4.9 U/mL	>1200.0 (H)



The first prevention trial for RA conducted in the USA.

RA Treatment: Optimizing Outcomes

- Early diagnosis and risk stratification
- DMARDs early (within 3 mos of symptoms)
- “TREAT TO TARGET”
- Steroids
 - bridge to effective DMARD therapy
 - prednisone >10 mg/d rarely needed for joints
 - minimize long term side effects (osteoporosis, DM)
- Co-morbidities
 - atherosclerosis
 - osteoporosis

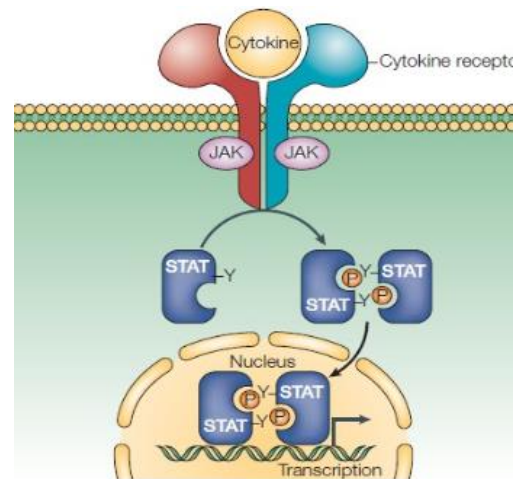
Traditional DMARD's

- methotrexate/Rheumatrex
- leflunomide/Arava
- sulfasalazine/Azulfidine
- azathioprine/Imuran
- hydroxychloroquine/Plaquenil
- mycophenolate mofetil/Cellcept
- gold
- minocycline
- doxycycline
- penicillamine
- cyclophosphamide
- cyclosporine

Biologic DMARD's

- TNF α antagonists:
 - etanercept (Enbrel)
 - infliximab (Remicade)
 - adalimumab (Humira)
 - golimumab (Simponi)
 - certolizumab (Cimzia)
 - biosimilars
- Interleukin-1 antagonist
 - anakinra (Kineret)
- Suppress T-Cell activation
 - abatacept (Orencia)

- Anti B-Cell monoclonal Ab
 - rituximab (Rituxan)
- Anti-interleukin-6
 - tocilizumab (Actemra)
 - sarilumab (Kevzara)
- Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors
 - tofacitinib (Xeljanz)
 - baricitinib (Olumiant)
 - upadacitinib (Rinvoq)



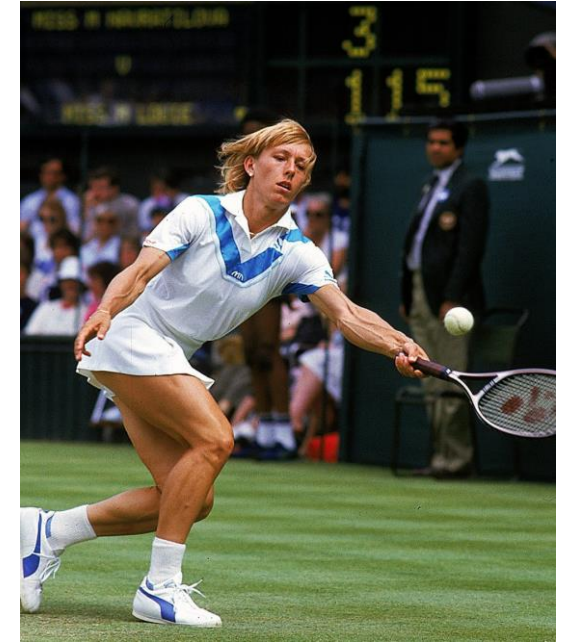
From Nature Reviews Immunology





Case 4

This female athlete played tennis at some of the highest levels until having to sit out a year of the ATP tour from fatigue and arthralgias. The condition does not typically cause swollen joints but does feature mucocutaneous dryness. Eventually though with education and management, she successfully returned to the tour.



Who is this woman?

- Caroline Wozniacki
- Monica Seles
- Venus Williams
- Martina Navratilova



VENUS WILLIAMS DOESN'T LET SJÖGREN'S SYNDROME KEEP HER DOWN.

With help from her rheumatologist, she is back on top of her game. You can be, too! Join the **Simple Tasks Community** and you'll be entered to win an item signed by Venus.

JOIN US

Venus Williams
U.S. Tennis Pro & Spokesperson,
American College of Rheumatology



Henrik Samuel Conrad Sjögren
(July 23, 1899 – September 17, 1986)



Sjögren's syndrome – General points

- Idiopathic systemic autoimmune dz affecting exocrine glands
- Lymphocytic infiltration; end organ damage
- 9:1 female: male; primary vs secondary
- Lymphoma, primary biliary cirrhosis, vasculitis

Clinically:

- Keratoconjunctivitis sicca
 - Ocular dryness
- Xerostomia
 - Oral dryness



2016 American College of Rheumatology/European League Against Rheumatism Classification Criteria for Primary Sjögren's Syndrome

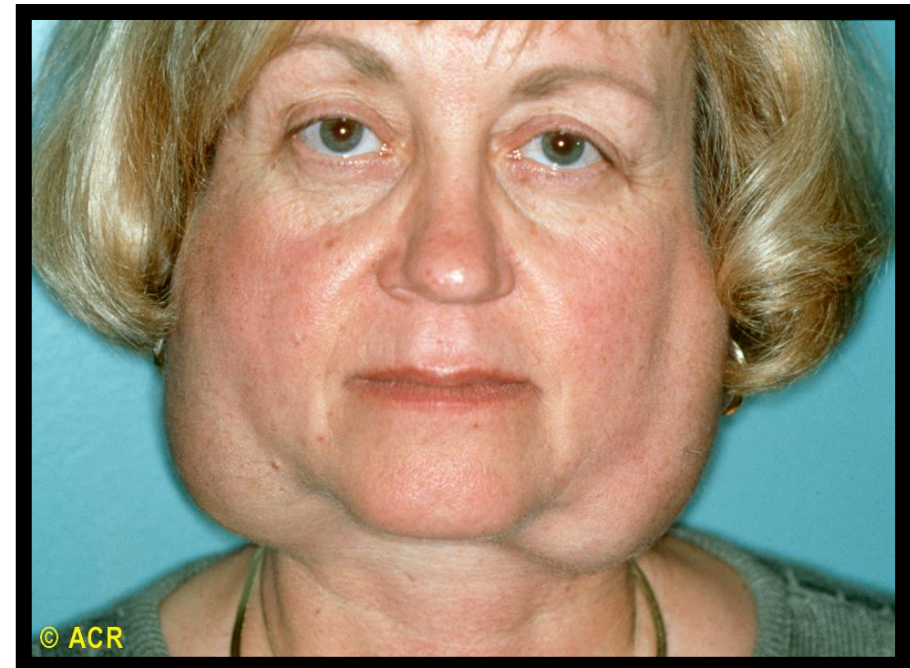
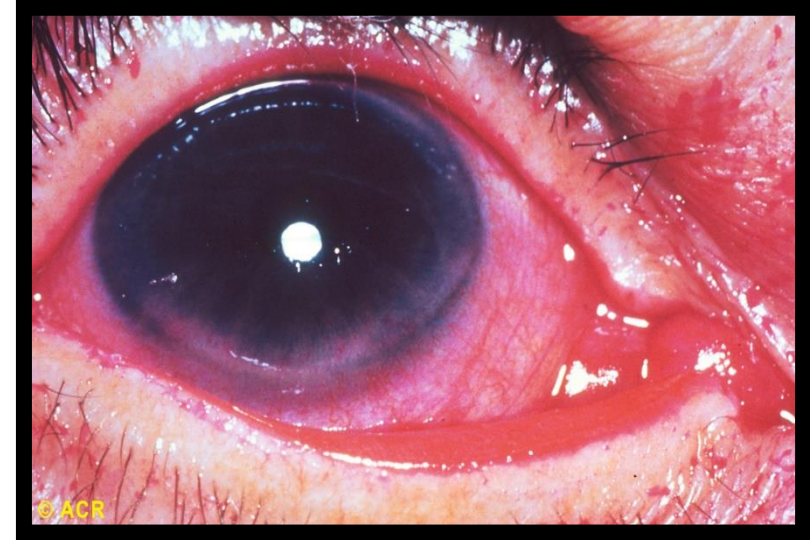
Item	Weight/score
Labial salivary gland with focal lymphocytic sialadenitis and focus score of ≥ 1 foci/4 mm ² ‡	3
Anti-SSA/Ro positive	3
Ocular Staining Score ≥ 5 (or van Bijsterveld score ≥ 4) in at least 1 eye§¶	1
Schirmer's test ≤ 5 mm/5 minutes in at least 1 eye§	1
Unstimulated whole saliva flow rate ≤ 0.1 ml/minute§#	1

Prior diagnosis of any of the following conditions would exclude participation in SS studies or therapeutic trials because of overlapping clinical features or interference with criteria tests:

- History of head and neck radiation treatment
- Hepatitis C infection
- Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
- Sarcoidosis
- Amyloidosis
- Graft versus host disease
- IgG4-related disease

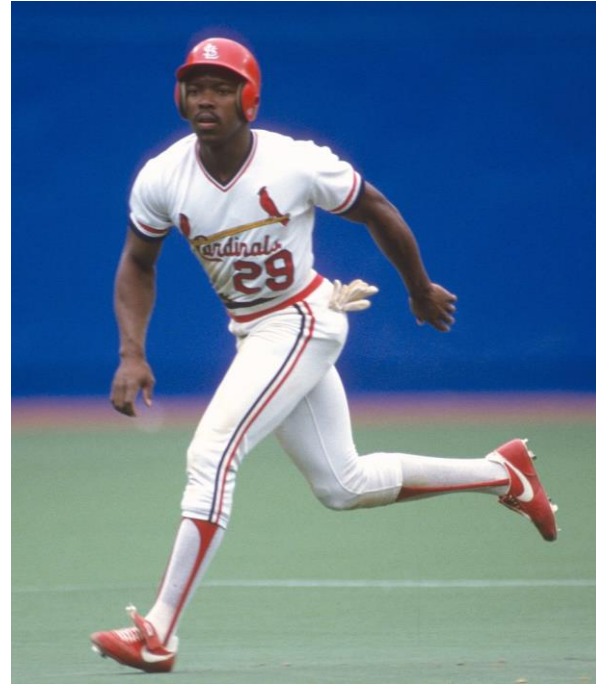
Sjogrens Key Points

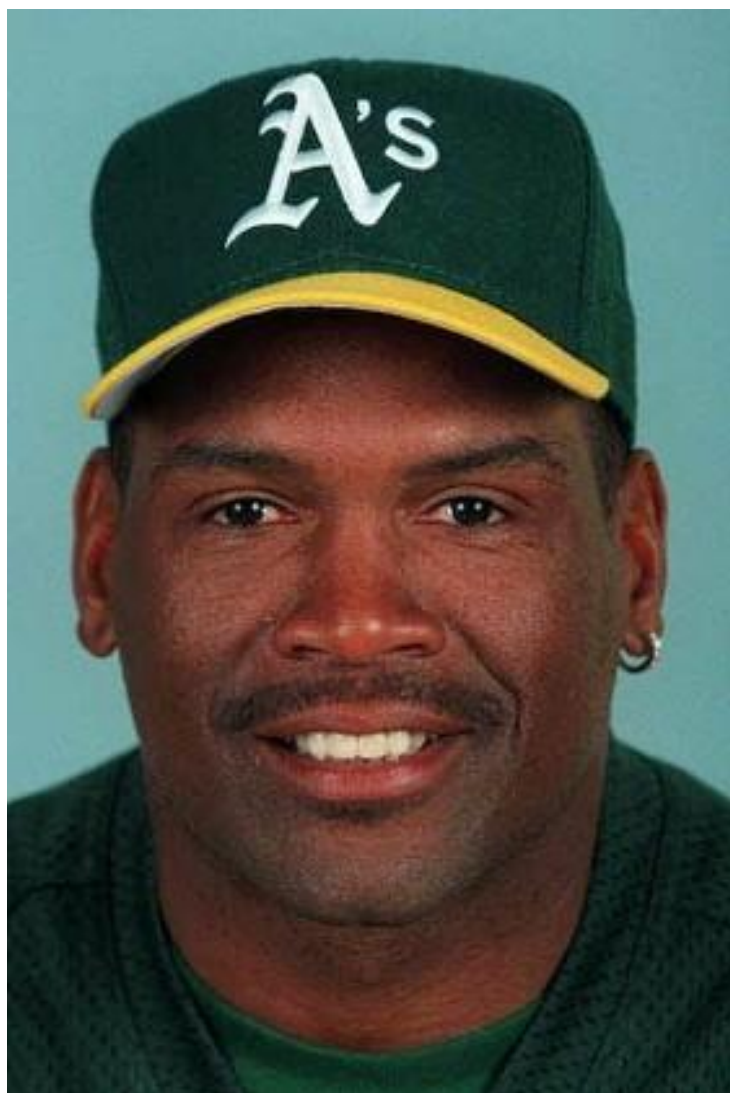
- Symptoms :
 - Mucocutaneous
 - Ophthalmologic
 - Arthritis
 - Vasculitis
- Diagnosis
 - Parotid
 - SSA
 - Lymphoma
- Management (all off label)
 - Hydroxychloroquine
 - Mycophenolate
 - Corticosteroids
 - Rituximab?
 - Nipocalimab? Anti-Ig



Case 6

- This feared leadoff hitter in MLB holds the distinction of playing in 4 decades and only after developing kidney failure from an autoimmune disease, did he eventually have to retire, only to be inducted into the HOF in 2017:
- Ricky Henderson
- Lenny Dykstra
- Vince Coleman
- Derek Jeter
- Tim Lincecum





Raines diagnosis: Lupus

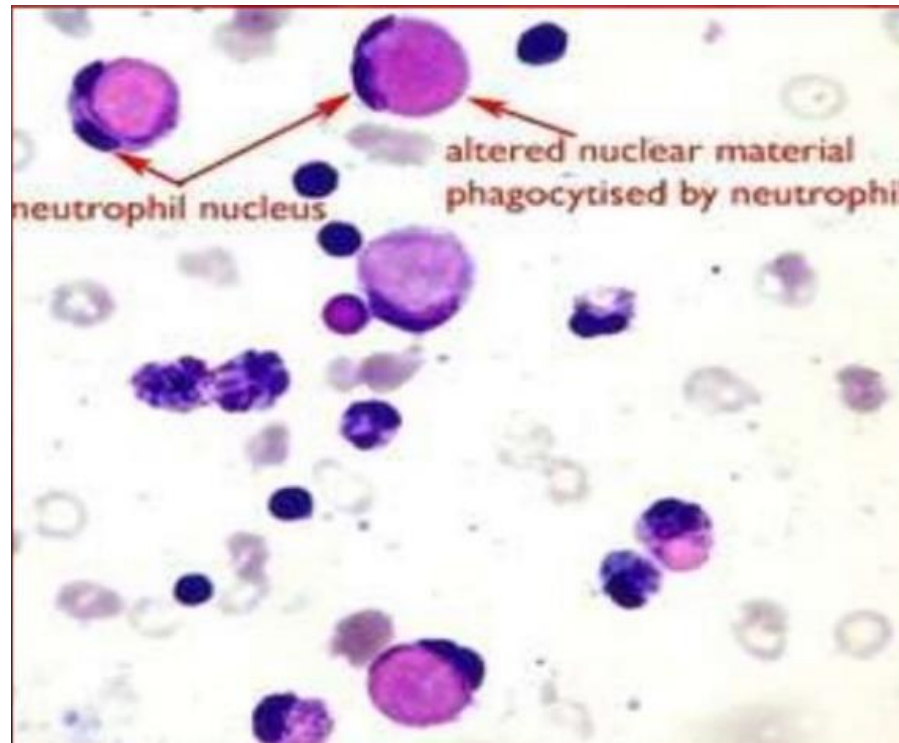


Ross McKeon, OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

Aug. 7, 1999

DEFINITION

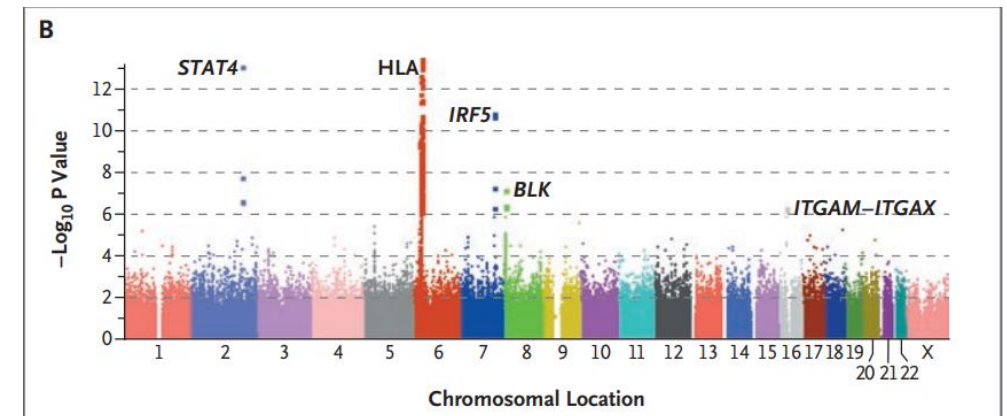
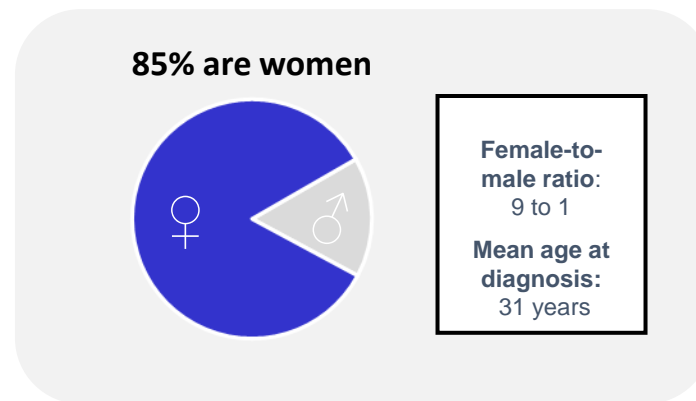
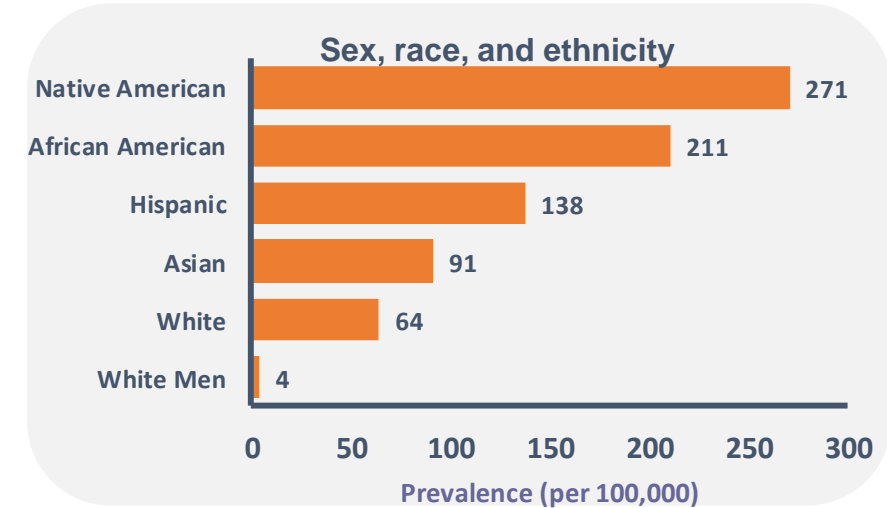
- “Inflammatory heterogeneous autoimmune disorder affecting multiple organ systems characterized by the production of auto-antibodies directed against cell nuclei”



EPIDEMIOLOGY

Age, gender, race and genetics

- Peak incidence 14-45 years
- Female predominance
 - severity is =
- Ethnic predisposition
- Genetics:
 - protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 22 (PTPN22)
 - HLA DRB1, ITGAM or ITGAX
- Environmental triggers
 - UV light
 - Viruses
 - Hormones (Estrogen)
 - TOBACCO



Case 1



34 yo female presents with fevers, fatigue and a month of worsening redness and rash on cheeks and forehead; worse in sun

PMH: HTN, childhood ITP

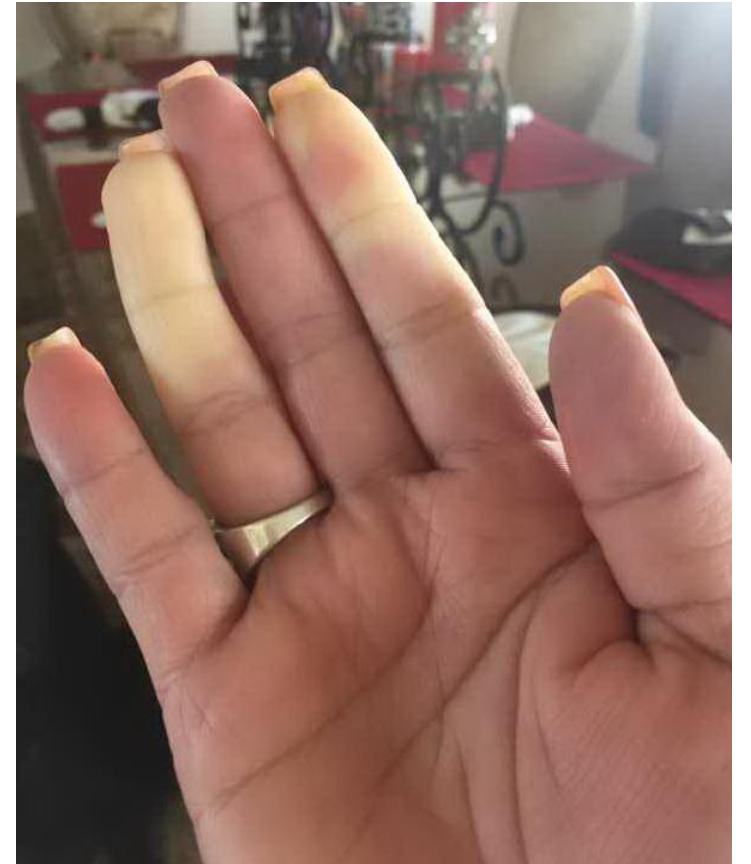
G3P1 (2 miscarriages)

FH: mother with RA

Meds: hydralazine, amlodipine

CLINICAL FEATURES: General Clinical

- Fatigue
- Fevers
- Malaise
- Weight loss
- Anorexia
- Alopecia
- Raynaud's
- Lymphadenopathy



Dermatologic domain

- Malar Rash
 - Fixed erythema; malar eminences
 - Spares the nasolabial folds

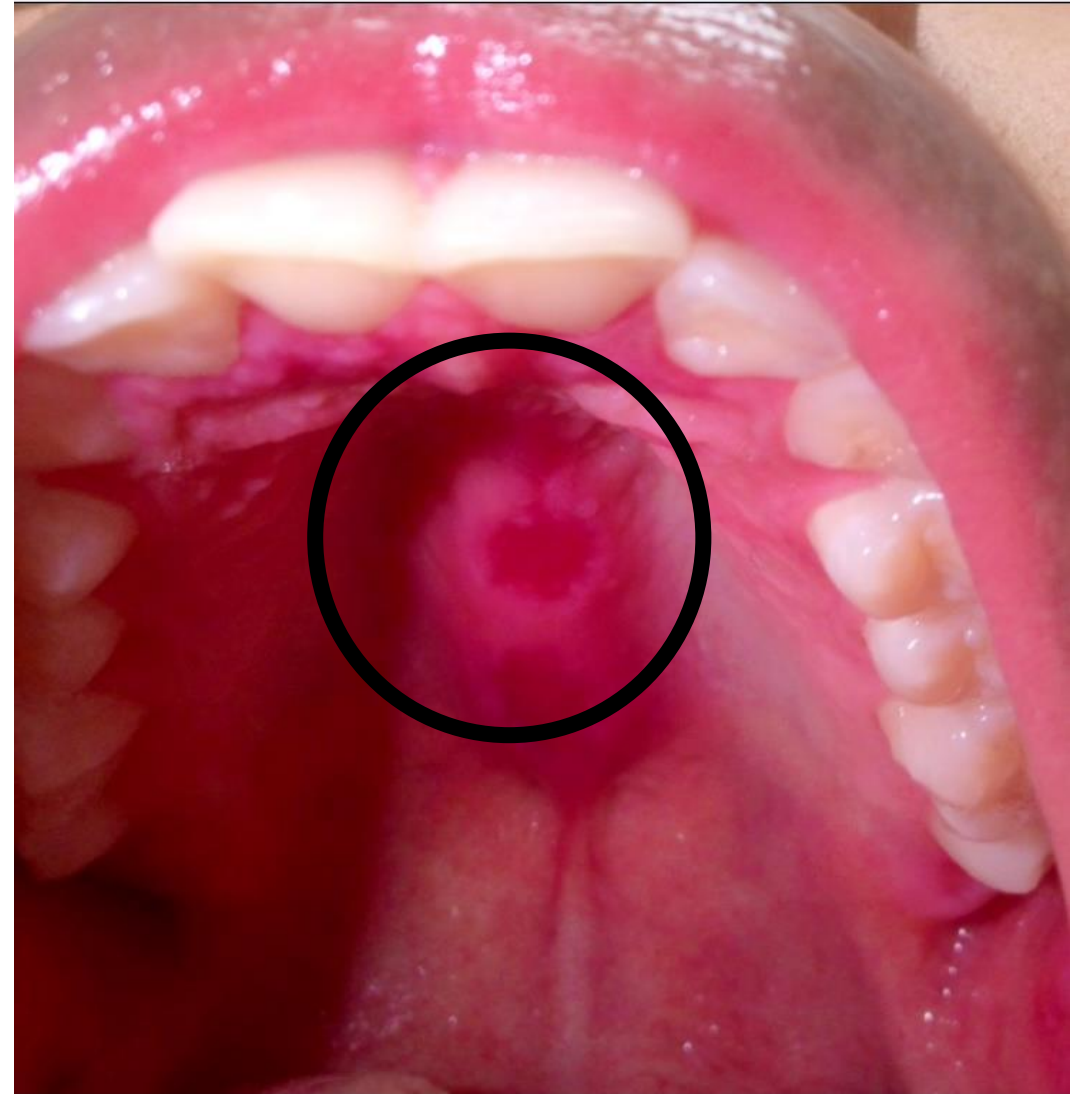
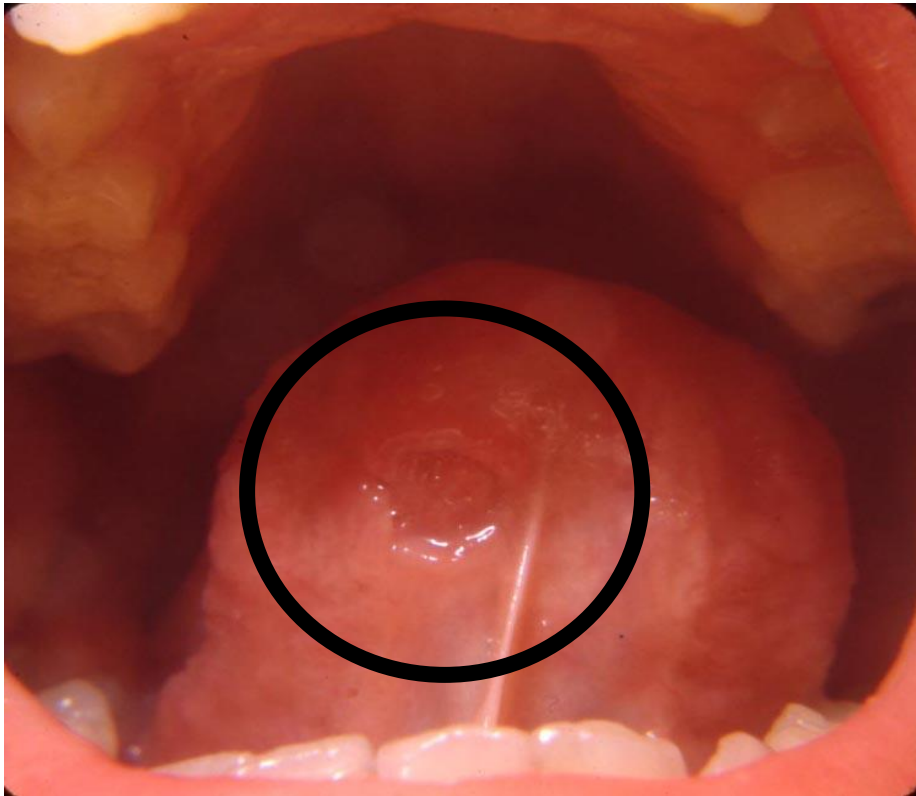


- Discoid Lupus Erythematosus (DLE)
 - Erythematous patches with central clearing
 - keratotic scaling
 - follicular plugging



ORAL ULCERS

- Oral/nasopharyngeal ulceration
- Usually painless



CLINICAL FEATURES: Musculoskeletal

- transient, small joints, symmetrical
- “Jaccoud’s” arthritis
- Most common presenting feature of SLE (90%)



Case 2

23 Cambodian female with several weeks of worsening white, painful fingers that can turn blue and red. She tried natural options including CBD, plant-based diet and mindfulness as well as echinacea for “immune health”

She now presents to ED with dyspnea and hemoptysis. She is intubated. CT chest reveals....



5/15/2013 4:33:29

Kais

A

R

Im

4:48:02



5/15/2013 4:33:29

A

Kais

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4:48:02

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5/15/2013 4:33:29

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CLINICAL FEATURES: SEROSITIS

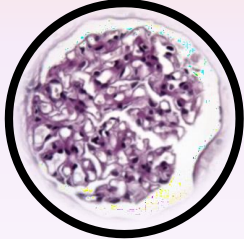
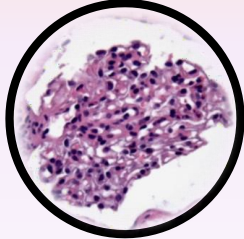
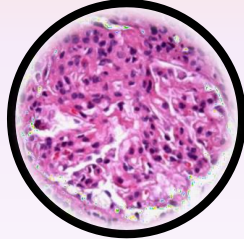
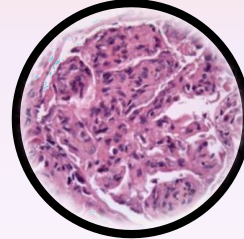
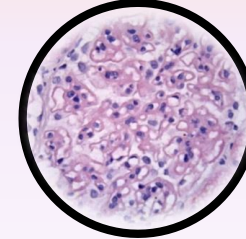
- Pleural
 - Pulmonary hemorrhage (EMERGENCY)
- Peritoneal
 - Mesenteric vasculitis
- Cardiac
 - Pericardial effusion

(Steroid and mycophenolate worked for my patient!)

CLINICAL FEATURES: Renal (Lupus Nephritis)

- Hallmark: proteinuria (>0.5 gms daily) and casts
 - “Foamy” urine
 - Nephrotic syndrome
 - Hypoalbuminemia
 - Hyperlipidemia
 - Thrombophilia

ISN/RPS Lupus Nephritis Classification System and Prevalence (In Those Biopsied)

Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
				
Minimal mesangial LN ^{1,2}	Mesangial proliferative LN ^{1,2}	Focal proliferative LN ^{1,2}	Diffuse proliferative LN ^{1,2}	Membranous LN ^{1,2} with global or segmental, continuous, granular, subepithelial immune deposits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal glomeruli¹ Mesangial immune deposits¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesangial hypercellularity and/or matrix expansion¹ Mesangial immune deposits¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <50% glomeruli involved, endocapillary hypercellularity^{1,4} Active, chronic, and/or active/chronic lesions⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IV-S – diffuse segmental LN; IV-G – diffuse global LN^{1,2} ≥50% glomeruli involved, subendothelial deposits¹; endocapillary hypercellularity⁴ Active, chronic, and/or active/chronic lesions⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subepithelial deposits¹ Active or chronic glomerular lesions (Class III + V/IV + V)¹
Prevalence: 0.4%^{3,*}	Prevalence: 11.1%^{3,*}	Prevalence: 25.1%^{3,*}	Prevalence: 53.1%^{3,*}	Prevalence: 10.3%^{3,*,+}

1. Kiremitci S, Ensari A. *ScientificWorldJournal*. 2014;2014:580620. doi: 10.1155/2014/580620. 2. Hahn BH, et al. *Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken)*. 2012;64(6):797-808. 3. Faezi S, et al. *Rheum Res*. 2017;2(2):51-59. 4. Bajema IM, et al. *Kidney Int*. 2018;93(4):789-796. 5. Markowitz GS, D'Agati VD. *Kidney Int*. 2007;71(6):491-495.

Immunological findings

- **ANA** - 95-100%-sensitive but highly nonspecific for SLE
- **Anti-dsDNA**-specific(60%)-specific for SLE
- 4 RNA associated antibodies
 - **Anti-Sm (Smith)**
 - Anti Ro/SSA-antibody
 - Anti La/SSB-antibody
 - Anti-RNP
- **Antiphospholipid antibodies**
 - Lupus anticoagulant-antibodies to coagulation factors. Prolonged aPTT
 - Anti-cardiolipin
 - Anti-beta 2 glycoprotein
- **Depressed serum complement (c3, c4)**
- Anti histone antibodies
- **Coombs**

2012 SLICC Classification Criteria

SLICC[†] Classification Criteria for Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

RheumTutor.com
RHEUMATISM TUTOR.COM

Requirements: ≥ 4 criteria (at least 1 clinical and 1 laboratory criteria)
OR biopsy-proven lupus nephritis with positive ANA or Anti-DNA

Clinical Criteria

1. Acute Cutaneous Lupus*
2. Chronic Cutaneous Lupus*
3. Oral or nasal ulcers *
4. Non-scarring alopecia
5. Arthritis *
6. Serositis *
7. Renal *
8. Neurologic *
9. Hemolytic anemia
10. Leukopenia *
11. Thrombocytopenia ($<100,000/\text{mm}^3$)

Immunologic Criteria

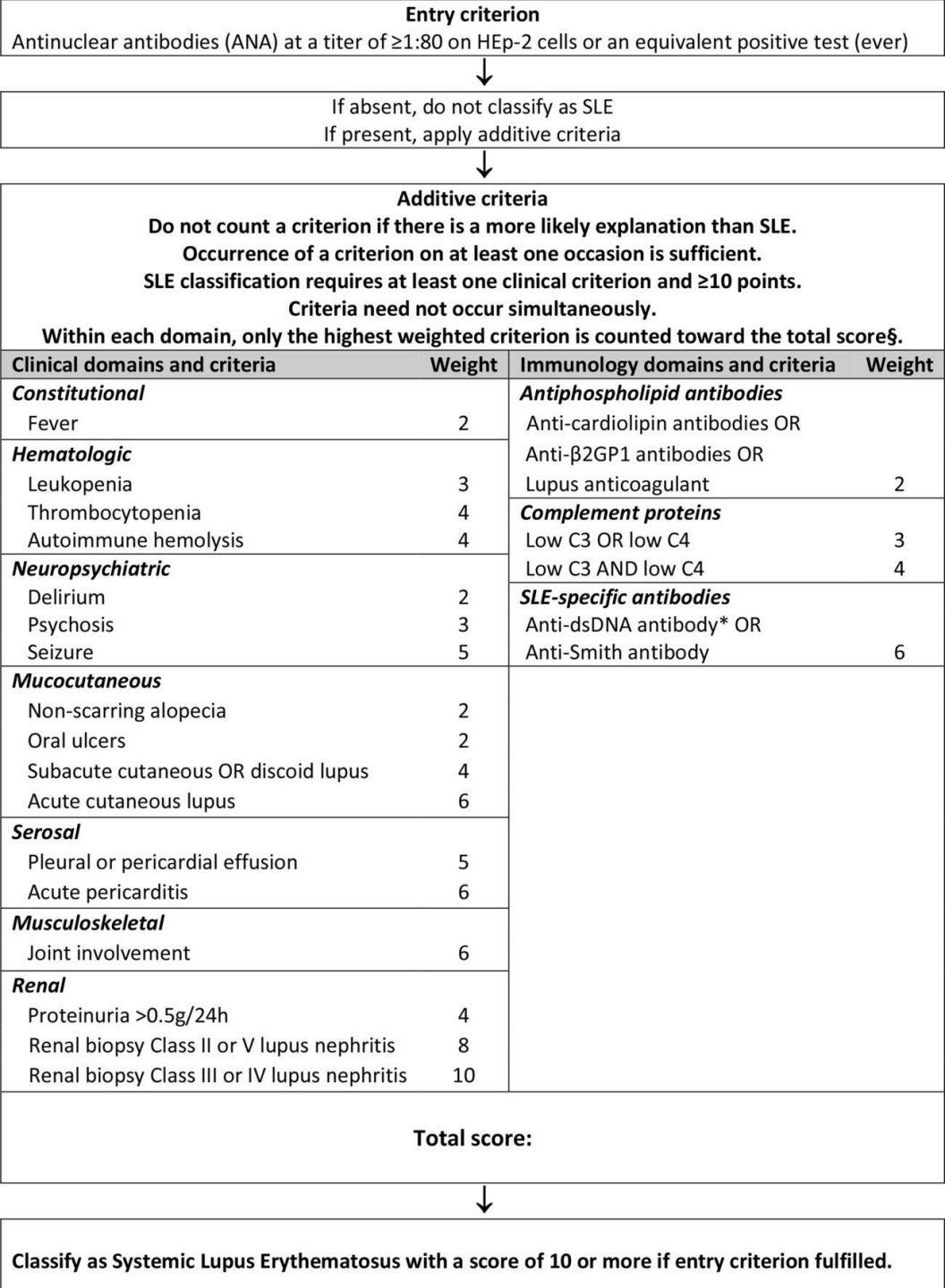
1. ANA
2. Anti-DNA
3. Anti-Sm
4. Antiphospholipid Ab *
5. Low complement (C3, C4, CH50)
6. Direct Coombs' test (do not count in the presence of hemolytic anemia)

[†]SLICC: Systemic Lupus International Collaborating Clinics

* See notes for criteria details

2019 European League Against Rheumatism/ ACR Classification Criteria for Lupus

Arthritis & Rheumatology, First published: 06
August 2019, DOI: (10.1002/art.40930)



CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA

- Useful for trials, but diagnosis is ultimately clinical
- Not all “Lupus” is SLE
 - Drug induced **lupus** (anti-histone antibody)
 - Anti-hypertensives (hydralazine)
 - Anti-infectives (Isoniazid, terbinafine)
 - Procainamide
 - Anti-epiletics
 - Discoid **Lupus**
 - Subacute Cutaneous **Lupus Erythematosus (SCLE)**
 - **Lupus** pernio (recall sarcoid)
- Non-rheumatic:
 - HIV, HBV, HCV, endocarditis, viral infections
 - hematologic malignancies, lymphoma
 - rosacea, OA and TPO antibodies

SLE – Treatment I

- **Mild severity** (mild skin or joint involvement)
 - NSAID
 - low dose glucocorticoids
 - hydroxychloroquine
- **Intermediate severity** (serositis, cytopenia, marked skin or joint involvement):
 - glucocorticoids (1 mg/kg/day)
 - azathioprine
 - methotrexate, leflunomide
 - mycophenolate mofetil



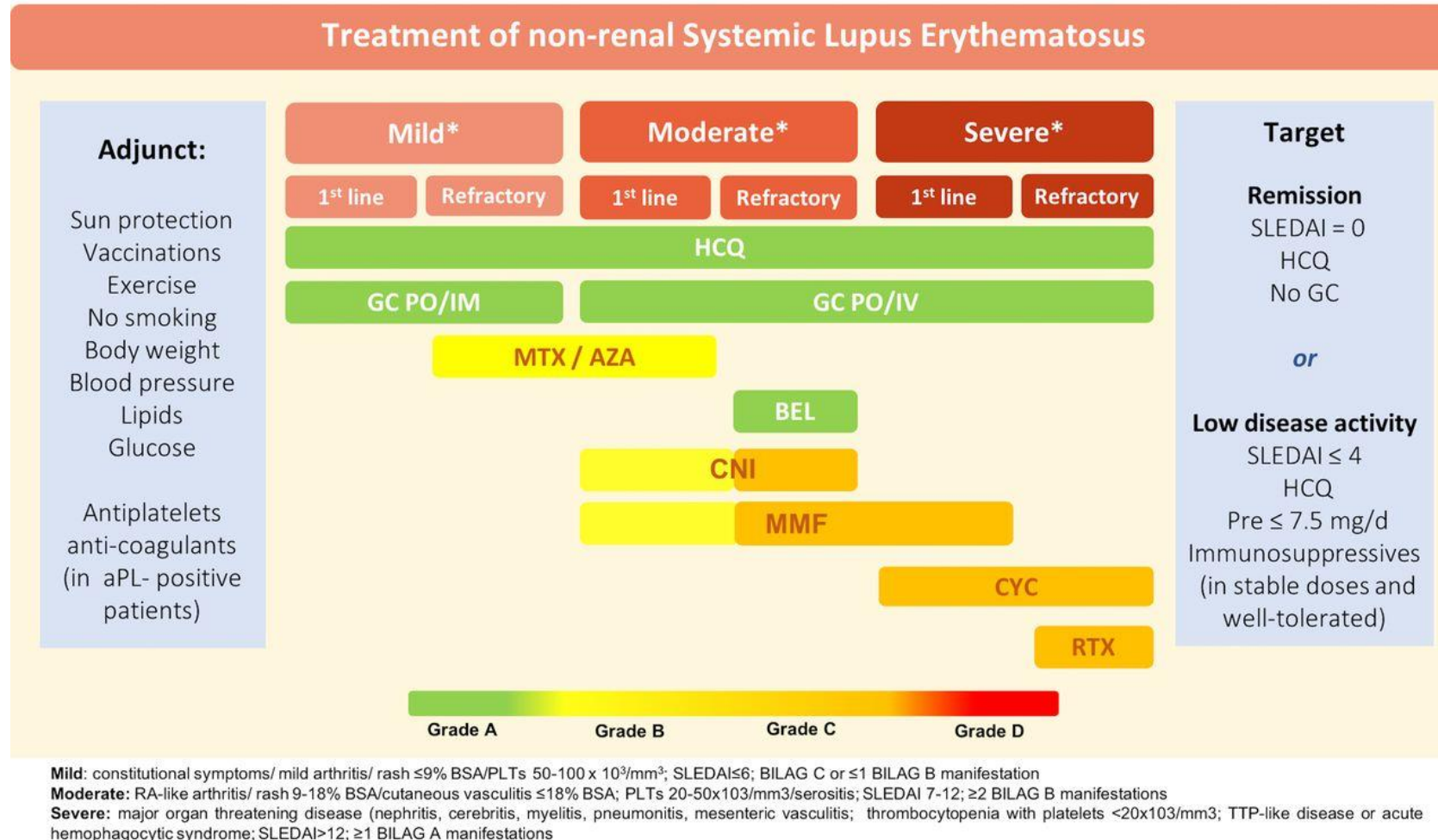
2 months of hydroxychloroquine...



SLE – Treatment II

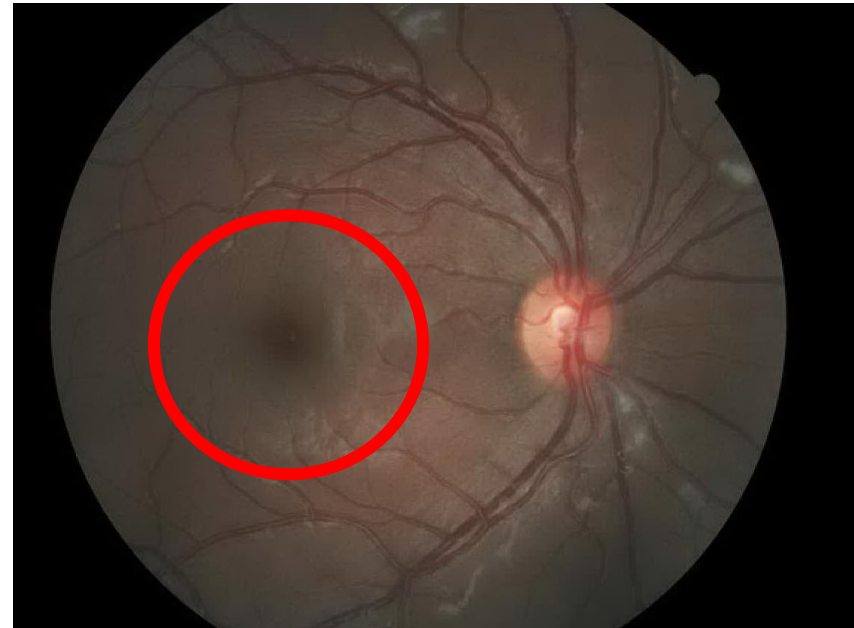
- **Severe life-threatening organ involvements** (pulmonary hemorrhage, pericarditis, nephritis, systemic vasculitis, hematologic, neuropsychiatric manifestations)
 - glucocorticoids (methylprednisolone up to 1000 mg/day x 3 days)
 - cyclophosphamide
 - plasmapheresis
 - IV immunoglobulin
 - mycophenolate mofetil
 - rituximab
 - belimumab, 2011 (FDA → lupus nephritis: dec 17, 2020)
 - voclosporin (FDA → lupus nephritis: jan 22, 2021)
 - anifrolumab (FDA → lupus aug 2, 2021)

Treatment of non-renal SLE—recommended drugs with respective grading of recommendation.
aPL, antiphospholipid antibodies; AZA, azathioprine; BEL, belimumab; BILAG: British Isles Lupus Assessment Group disease activity index; CNIs, calcineurin inhibitors; CYC, cyclophosphamide; GC, glucocorticoids; HCQ, hydroxychloroquine; IM, intramuscular; MMF, mycophenolate mofetil; MTX, methotrexate; Pre, prednisone; PO, per os; RTX, rituximab; PLTs: Platelets; SLEDAI, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Disease Activity Index.



SLE – TREATMENT PRINCIPLES

- Only 6 FDA approved treatments, many off label
- Recognize side effects, toxicity, infection risk and other complications
- Cholesterol, aspirin, sunscreen, ACE inhibitors, tobacco cessation, calcium, 25 OH vit D
- Teratogenicity
- Adherence
- Rare hydroxychloroquine AE:





LOMALINDASTEVE@GMAIL.COM



Summary: Rheumatic diseases in the active patient:

Many early symptoms may be similar to those of young training athletes

- Mechanical LBP, sciatica and spondylolysis vs IBP
- Sprain, tendonitis, meniscal tear vs synovitis vs enthesitis
- Fatigue, exercise tolerance

Keys:

- Mechanism of injury (or lack thereof)
- Family pedigree
- Demographics (lupus, RA, sjogrens, SpA)
- ROS (constitutional, MSK, skin, pulm, renal)
- Extensive exam and lab work up
- Recognition of rheumatic syndromes