

# Vasculitis

★ **Inflam. of blood vessel wall (intima) by inflammatory cells (every where in the body so it give wide manifestation ), its autoimmune disease (unknown cause ) , Can be fatal (esp. Wegener). The inflammation depend on the area that is not recognize the Abs as normal → patchy involvement .**

★ **Because of the pathology (inflammation ) it will cause fever weight loss and depend on the organ :**

**kidney: Renal artery stenosis >> HTN , Renal failure**

**Lung : pulm. artery >> pulm. HTN**

**CNS + skin manifestation .**

**GI>> GI bleeding**

★ **when we see purpura or petechial rash >>> look to platelet count if it normal then look at platelet function (bleeding time ) if it also normal >>> its vasculitis .**

**purpura of vasculitis will be painful , elevated (palpable), distribution over dependent area .**

★ **WITH vasculitis maybe preexisting C.T disease ex. lupus RA.**

Note :

**\*\*What will happen if the blood vessel get inflamed ?**

✓ In small vessels :

1) edematous friable and may rupture → leaking of blood → bleeding .

2) edematous swollen stagnation of blood → ischemia (infarction )

✓ In medium and large size :

1) Aneurysm

2) Healing and fibrosis → narrowing → claudication of extremities

**\*\* systemic manifestation :**

✓ Fever, weight loss and tiredness

✓ Common Small vessel vasculitis : HSP

## Takayasu Arteritis :

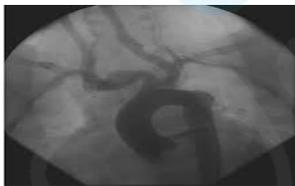
- Young age Less than 40 ( if older → atherosclerosis not vasculitis !!) , more in female .
- Affect Large vessel esp. aorta and its major branches (brain and upper limb )
- More in japan
- Manifestation :
  - ✓ claudication in upper extremities and →(unequal pulses “radio radial and radio femoral delay )→ in subclavian involvement .  
Pulse delay DDX. : coarctation of aorta and Takayasu .
  - ✓ May involve renal a and cause HTN → rare
  - ✓ erythema nodosum : painful indurated nodule in lower limb
  - ✓ Subclavian steal syndrome : aneurysm in the origin of vertebral artery >> cause wide area W low pr. >> so retrograde flow of blood from vertebral artery to subclavian artery .
  - ✓ Vertebral artery involvement (narrowing ) → pt presented with syncopal attack .

“most common cause → post streptococcal”

### ❖ dx.:

- Angiogram (aneurysm , beading , narrowing{after healing and fibrosis} ) , (IF it's chronic →collateral )
  - x-ray (aneurysm dilatation or widening).
  - PET-scan , CT , MRI .
- Note: (biopsy of aorta is contraindicated )

❖ **Investigation** : (ESR+CRP →+ve ) , (albumin →-ve ) .



### ❖ Treatment:

- 1-steroids high dose 1-2mg/kg
- 2-immunosuppressive drugs (methotrexate)
- 3-biological agent (anti-B cell agent : rituximab )
- 4- surgery : revascularization in case of vessel narrowing .

**FUO DDx in elderly :**  
-lymphoma  
-TB and Brucellosis  
-Temporal arteritis  
-Infective endocarditis

## Temporal arteritis :

- ✓ Large vessel /age >50
- ✓ Affect intracranial branches of carotid (presented by unilateral headache)
- ✓ Presented by headache 70% , tender vessel with fever (FUO).
- ✓ Jaw and tongue(lingual art.) claudication 50% (when talk and when masticate )
- ✓ The imp. complication (**abrupt** blindness) by involving ophthalmic vessel .12%
- ✓ If the pt. get one eye blindness → emergency → to protect the other eye .

**Clue of temporal arteritis :** (unilateral sudden headache , sudden blindness , polymyalgia rheumatica , FUO , anemia with high acute phase reactant , age>50 ) .

" 50% of pt." esp. in elderly think about Temporal arteritis !!!

**treat then take biopsy to avoid eye involvement .**

### ❖ **Diagnosis:**

- ✓ Temporal : biopsy from temporal (1.25 -1.5 cm due to patchy phenomena)
- ✓ CXR → JUST AORTIC DILETATION
- ✓ HIGH ESR AND CRP

### ❖ **Treatment :**

1-steroids high dose 1-2mg/kg

2-immunosuppressive drugs "steroid sparing /protect from steroid side effect withdrawal) (methotrexate)

3-biological agent (anti-B cell agent : rituximab )

**Mononeuritis multiplex (FOOT , WRIST DROP) DDx:**  
**-DM (commonest)**  
**-PAN** in young age after exclude DM  
**-Leprosy**  
**-Infiltration (compression)**

## **Polyarthrititis nodosa (PAN)**

- ✓ MEDIUM size , involve up. Limb more .
  - ✓ Manifestation :
    - Gangrene in tips of fingers and toe .
    - Livedo reticularis ( network of vascular dilatation )
    - Multiple ring lesions in the lungs
    - Radial nerve injury (mononeuritis multiplex)
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- HTN (if involve the renal artery )
  - ✓ 25-40% of Pt → HBV surface ag +ve (that's why many people says that hep.B is a cause of PAN .
  - ✓ -ve ANCA
  - ❖ **Diagnosed** : by angiograph (multiple micro aneurysms) → typical of PAN .
  - ❖ **Treated** : as above (but immunosuppressive → ciclosonide not others !), Renal transplant + control HTN

## *Small vessel arteritis*

### *1. ANCA associated*

- *Wegener granulomatosis (granulomatosis with polyangitis )*
- *Microscopic polyangitis .*
- *Eosinophilic Wegener : Bronchial asthma + high eosinophilia + vasculitis >> churgstrauss syndrom .*

### *2. Immune complex vasculitides :*

*cryoglobulinemia → IgA nephropathy and vasculitis , hypocomplementemia .*

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### Wegener -granulomatosis

- ✓ Upper respiratory tract symptoms (oral and nasal ) with lower respiratory tract (pneumonia ) and renal involvement
  - ✓ Manifestation :
    - sinusitis , epistaxis
    - Saddle-nose due to destruction of nasal septum . ( ddx : Wegener , lupus , trauma , syphilis , relapsing polychondritis )
    - skin manifestation
    - CXR showing ring lesion .
  - ✓ +ve C-ANCA ( proteinase 3 )
  - ❖ **Diagnosis : biopsy , immunofluorescence .**
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### Henoch-schonlein purpura

- ✓ Young male pt < 14 year
- ✓ Manifestation :
  - PURPURA (100%) on buttocks and behind the thigh
  - abdominal pain(mesenteric infarction )(63%).
  - renal and GI bleeding (very rare ) .
  - joint pain(83%).
- ✓ follows RTI .
- ✓ IgA mediated small vessel vasculitis after a viral infection (URT)
- ❖ **Diagnosis : skin biopsy , kidney( BIOPSY IgA deposit )** not usually.
- ❖ **Treatment :** steroid only in case of abdominal pain ( abdominal vasculitis ) and renal involvement . otherwise we don't treat .

★ **How to approach vasculitis :**

- 1- hx of medication
- 2- hep C,B >> esp in PAN
- 3- SLE manifestation
- 4- female
- 5- lab test (cbc , ESR, CPR )
- 6- KFT (proteinuria 150 mg/d, hematuria, cast )
- 7- creatinine
- 8- complement
- 9- ANA for lupus
- 10- ANCA test ( PR3 ,MPO )
- 11-nerve conduction ,, EMG(electromyogram)>> dermatomyocyte and PAN
- 12- tissue biopsy >> small vessel vasculitis , skin rash
- 13-angiogram>> takayasu, PAN .

✓ Note : MPO (myeloperoxidase) = P-ANCA → +ve in PAN and eosinophilic GPA (eosinophilic Wegener )

★ Erythema nodosum >>> tender induration ,, causes >> vasculitis , TB ,, post strep ,, sarcoidosis ,, behcet ,, IBD



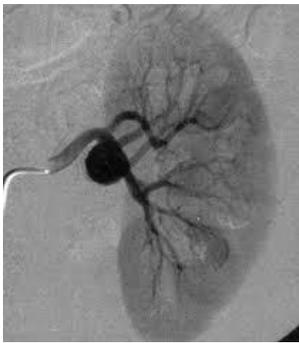
★ Pyoderma gangrenosum : ass. With arthritis , IBD , vasculitis .



★ livedo reticularis ass. With anti-phospholipid syndrome and PAN



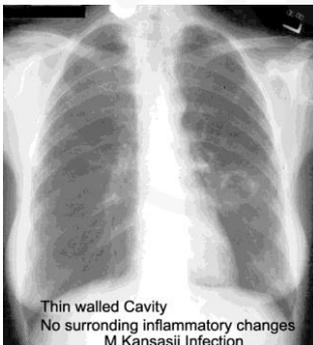
★ renal angiogram aneurysm >> PAN



★ saddle nose >> wegner , lupus , trauma , syphilis , polychondritis



★ ring lesion >> abscess , TB, staph pneumonia ,Wegener , hydatid cyst



Thin walled Cavity  
No surrounding inflammatory changes  
M Kansaii Infection