



**RhAPP**

RHEUMATOLOGY ADVANCED  
PRACTICE PROVIDERS

**RHAPP NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**SEPTEMBER 8-10, 2022**

The background features a large, faint watermark of the University of Pennsylvania seal. The seal is circular and contains the text "UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA" around the top and "PRACED IN 1773" around the bottom. In the center of the seal is a shield with a book and a quill, flanked by two figures.

# **Stranger Things: Recognizing the pulmonary mimics of ANCA-associated vasculitis**

**Naomi Amudala, MSN, RN  
University of Pennsylvania  
September 9, 2022**

# Disclosure Policy

All individuals in control of the content of continuing education activities provided by the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower (ACHS) are required to disclose to the audience all relevant financial relationships related to the content of the presentation or enduring material. Full disclosure of all relevant financial relationships will be made in writing to the audience prior to the activity. All other staff at the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences at Eisenhower and RhAPP have no relationships to disclose.

# Faculty Disclosures

- No disclosures

The image features a dark blue, textured background with a white border and orange accents. The text "VASCULITIS" is written in a large, red, outlined serif font, with a horizontal line above it. Below it, the word "MIMICS" is written in a smaller, red, outlined serif font, with horizontal lines on either side.

VASCULITIS  
— MIMICS —

# Learning Objectives

1

Recognize the pulmonary manifestations of ANCA-associated vasculitis


2

Understand how to evaluate a patient who is suspected to have a vasculitis flare

3

Recognize mimics of pulmonary vasculitic manifestations

# **What Is ANCA- Associated Vasculitis (AAV)?**

A decorative orange triangle is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, partially overlapping the white background and the black border.

## Variable Vessel Vasculitis

*Behçet's Disease*  
*Cogan's Syndrome*

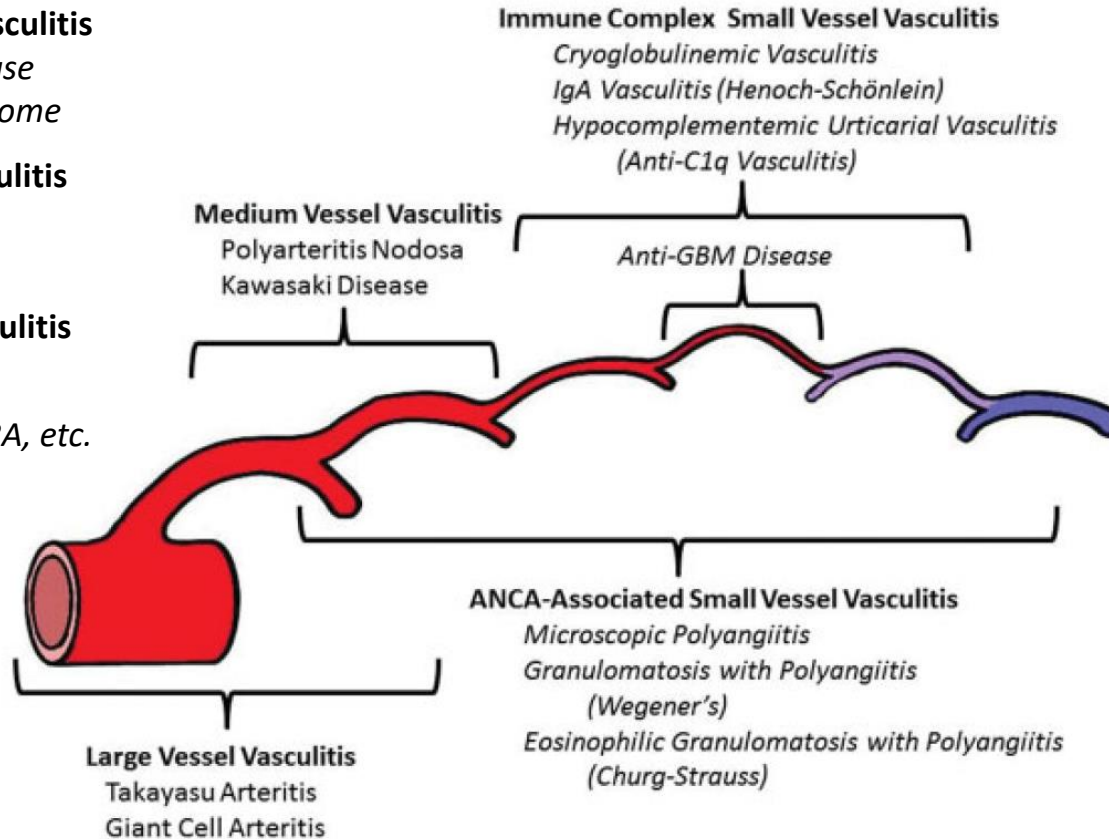
## Single-Organ Vasculitis

*CNS Vasculitis*  
*Other Organs*

## Drug-Induced Vasculitis

## Vasculitis in CTD

*SLE, SSc, SjS, RA, etc.*



# ANCA-associated Vasculitis

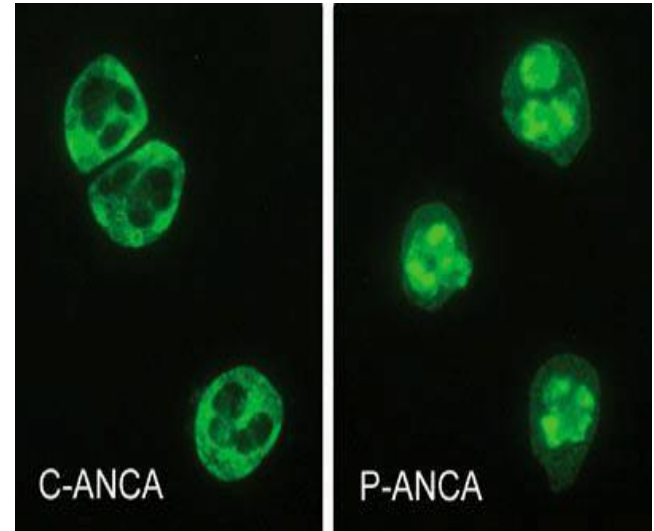
## Necrotizing inflammation of the small blood vessels

### ANCA-associated vasculitis:

- Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (GPA)
- Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA)
- Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis (EGPA)

### Almost 90% of GPA/MPA patients will be ANCA positive

- GPA: PR3-ANCA positive
- MPA: MPO-ANCA positive
- EGPA: 30-50% MPO or PR3 ANCA positive (majority MPO positive)



# ANCA-Associated Vasculitis: Organ Involvement



## General Symptoms

- Fever
- Weight Loss
- Fatigue
- Night sweats
- Malaise



## Skin

- Palpable purpura
- Petechiae
- Urticaria
- Ulcers
- Livedo reticularis
- Nodules



## Nervous System

- Neuropathy
- Mononeuritis multiplex
- CNS involvement rare



## Ear and Nose

Nasal crusting  
Rhinitis / sinusitis / epistaxis  
Saddle nose deformity / nasal perforation  
Hearing loss: Conductive or Sensioneural



## Respiratory System

Pulmonary nodules  
Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage  
Subglottic stenosis



## Renal system

Glomerulonephritis  
Hematuria  
Proteinuria  
Rising creatinine



## Heart

Pericarditis  
Myocarditis  
Coronary angiitis  
Valvular disease  
Congestive heart failure



## Eye

Episcleritis  
Scleritis



## Joints

Arthralgia  
Swelling  
Arthritis

# **CASE PRESENTATION**

---

# 24 year old F

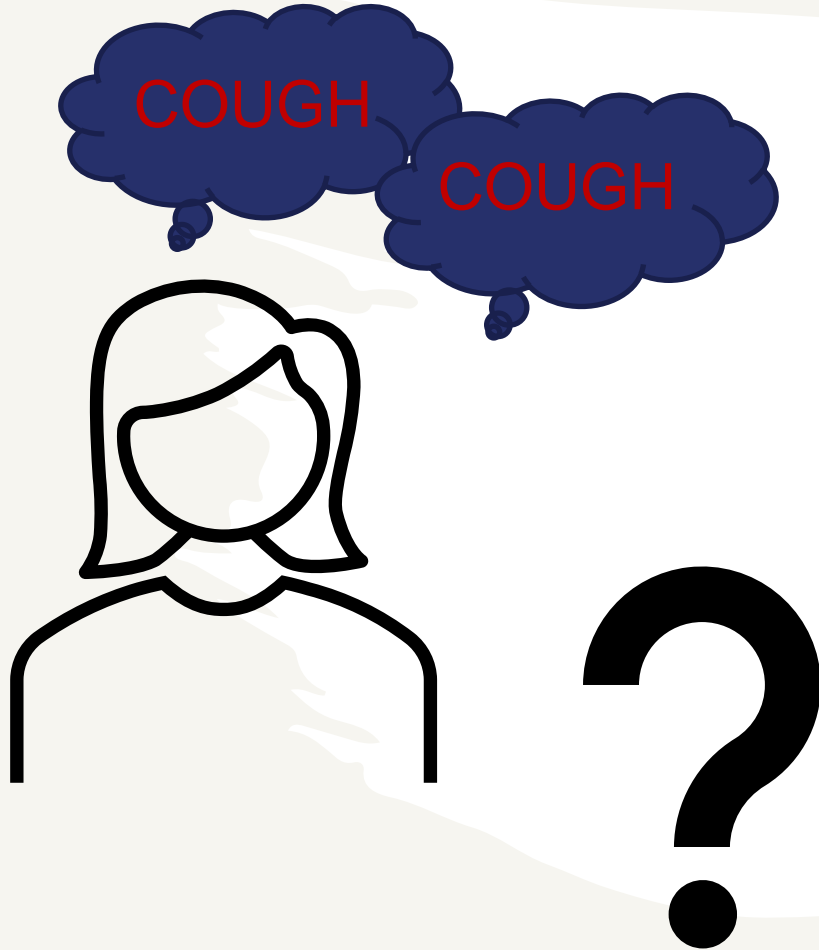
Diagnosed at the age of 10 with GPA:

- Pauci-immune glomerulonephritis on renal biopsy
- Hematuria
- Fever
- Petechial rash
- Anemia
- Arthralgia
- Hearing loss
- Upper airway disease with saddle nose deformity
- C-ANCA positive with PR3 specificity on ELISA

## Treatment course:

- IV cyclophosphamide
- Methotrexate
- Mycophenolate
- Rituximab
- As of 2017: maintained on rituximab every 6 months, methotrexate 25 mg weekly





## Two week history

- Fevers up to 101 F
- Night sweats
- Slight cough

## Covid in January, 2022

- Mild case
- Did not receive Paxlovid

**Last received rituximab in  
Feb, 2022**

# Out- patient work-up

- Rapid COVID testing negative
- COVID PCR testing negative
- Blood cultures negative
- Urine cultures negative
- ANCA negative
- D-DIMER neg
- CD 19 count undetectable

Component	Value	Ref Range & Units	Status
UA Color	Straw	<= Dk Yel	Final
UA Appearance	Clear	<= Clear	Final
UA Glucose	Negative	Negative mg/dL	Final
UA Bilirubin	Negative	Negative mg/dL	Final
UA Ketones	Trace	Negative mg/dL	Final
UA Specific Gravity	<1.005 ▾	1.010 - 1.030	Final
UA Blood	Negative	Negative mg/dL	Final
UA pH	6.0	5.0 - 7.0	Final
UA Protein	Negative	Negative mg/dL	Final
UA Urobilinogen	Normal	mg/dL	Final
UA Nitrite	Negative	Negative	Final
UA Leukocyte Esterase	Negative	Negative Leu/ul	Final

BUN	2 - 23 mg/dL	11
Creatinine	0.60 - 1.30 mg/dL	0.71
Bun/Creatinine	5.0 - 28.0	15.5
Calcium	8.3 - 10.4 mg/dL	9.2
Alkaline Phosphatase	40 - 130 IU/L	120
Bilirubin Total	0.10 - 1.10 mg/dL	0.24
AST	8 - 48 IU/L	19
ALT	7 - 54 IU/L	10
Total Protein	5.9 - 8.2 g/dL	5.6 ▾
Albumin	3.0 - 5.0 g/dL	3.8
Globulin	1.6 - 4.0 g/dL	1.8
Albumin/Globulin Ratio	0.6 - 2.8	2.1
Fasting?		Unknown
Estimated GFR	>=60 mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	>60

	150 - 4000 U/L	4.4 - 11.0
White Blood Cells	3.5 - 11.0 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	4.4
Red Blood Cells	4.00 - 5.20 10 <sup>12</sup> /L	4.41
Hemoglobin	12.0 - 16.0 g/dL	12.3
Hematocrit	36.0 - 46.0 %	37.7
MCV	80.0 - 100.0 fL	85.5
MCH	25.0 - 35.0 pg	27.9
MCHC	31.0 - 37.0 g/dL	32.6
RDW-SD	35.1 - 46.3 fL	43.6
RDW-CV	11.5 - 14.5 %	14.0
Platelet Count	140 - 444 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	221
MPV	6.5 - 12.3 fL	11.6
% Neutrophils	40.0 - 81.0 %	71.3
% Lymphocytes	18.0 - 42.0 %	21.8
% Monocytes	1.0 - 12.5 %	5.6
% Eosinophils	0.0 - 5.8 %	0.9
% Basophils	0.0 - 2.0 %	0.2
% Immature Granulocytes	0.0 - 1.0 %	0.2

**Comment:**

Immature granulocytes are left-shifted granulocytes and do not equal blasts. They are composed of metamyelocytes, myelocytes, and proerythrocytes. Occasional, persistent increase in immature granulocytes may be part of myeloid neoplastic process. Correlation with clinical findings is recommended.

Immature granulocytes >5% will be manually reviewed by lab personnel and/or pathologists.

Absolute Neutrophils	1.8 - 8.0 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	3.2
Absolute Lymphocytes	1.0 - 4.8 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	1.0
Absolute Monocytes	0.0 - 0.9 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	0.2
Absolute Eosinophils	0.0 - 0.5 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	0.0
Absolute Basophils	0.0 - 0.2 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	0.0
Absolute Immature Granulocytes	0.00 - 0.03 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	0.01

**! C-Reactive Protein**

CRP

Ref Range & Units

<=0.5 mg/dL

Value

3.8 ▲

Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate **37** mm/hr

Ref Range & Units: <=37 mm/hr

Value: 25

# Physical Exam

- Well appearing
- Vital signs stable
- Heart and lung examinations unremarkable
- SpO2 98-100% on room air → 94% on ambulation



# Chest x-ray 5/23/2022

## EXAM: X-RAY CHEST 2 VIEWS

**HISTORY:** Chest tightness, productive cough for the past 1-2 weeks. Previous diagnosis of granulomatosis with polyangiitis.

**TECHNIQUE:** PA and lateral views of the chest.

**COMPARISON:** No prior imaging submitted.

### **FINDINGS:**

Lungs/Airways: There is subtly coalescent accentuation of markings with slightly patchy character in the right infrahilar region, both anteriorly in the right middle lobe and in the right lower lobe posteriorly. There are a few accentuated markings in the left infrahilar region inferolaterally as well.

Mediastinum/Hilar: Normal in contour.

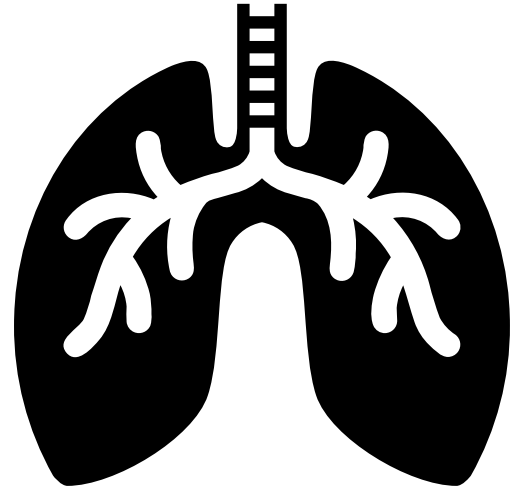
Heart/Pericardium: Normal heart size and configuration.

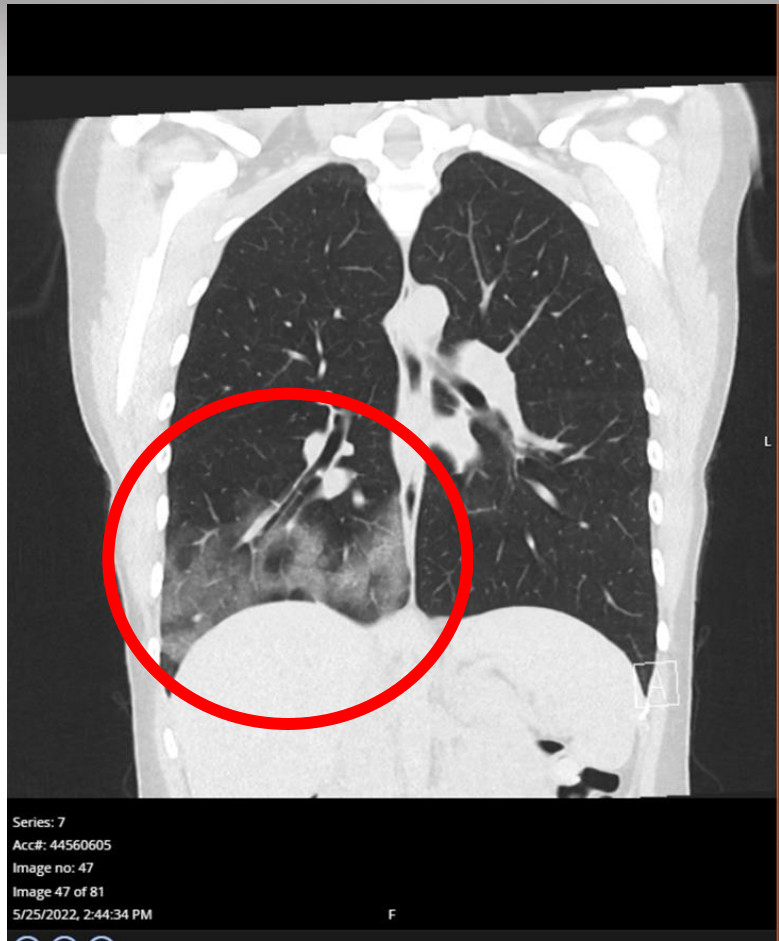
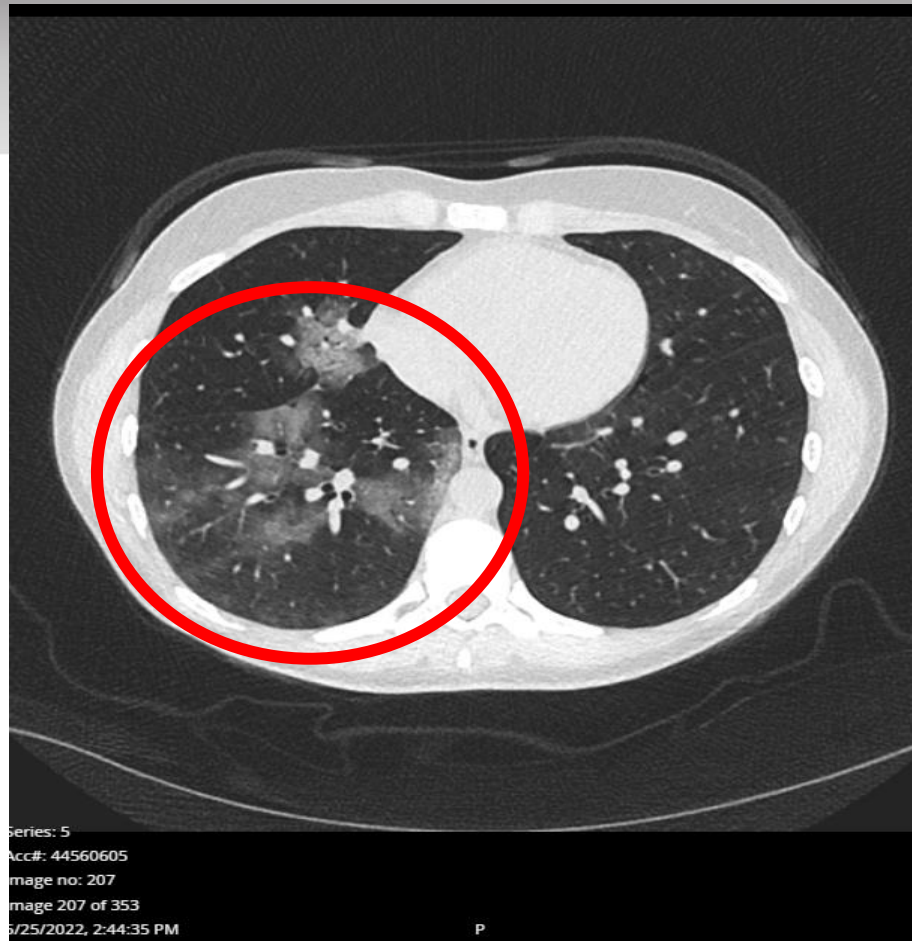
Vasculature: No pulmonary vascular congestion.

Pleura: No effusions or thickening.

Bones: Unremarkable for age.

Other: Negative.





# Summary: History of GPA - maintained on rituximab plus methotrexate

Clue #1: Fevers plus night sweats on-going for 2 weeks

Clue #2: Slight oxygen desaturation on exertion

Clue #3: New ground glass opacities on chest CT scan

GPA flare?

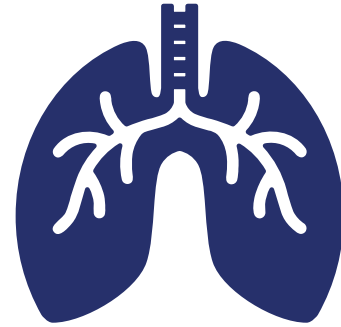
Infection?

COVID?

Other?



# **PULMONARY MANIFESTATIONS OF ANCA- ASSOCIATED VASCULITIS**



	<b>GPA</b>	<b>MPA</b>	<b>EGPA</b>
<b>Nodules</b>	50% <sup>a</sup>	7% <sup>b</sup>	14% <sup>b</sup>
<b>Tracheobronchial involvement</b>	15–55% <sup>c</sup>	50% <sup>h</sup>	Rare
<b>DAH</b>	22–30% <sup>d</sup>	25% <sup>i</sup>	4% <sup>e</sup>
<b>ILD</b>	23% <sup>i</sup>	45% <sup>f</sup>	39% <sup>e</sup>
<b>Asthma</b>	8% <sup>b</sup>	5% <sup>b</sup>	95–100% <sup>g</sup>

# Common AAV pulmonary symptoms

- Dyspnea



- Cough



- Wheeze



## Not so common AAV pulmonary symptoms

- Stridor

- Voice changes

- Hypoxemia



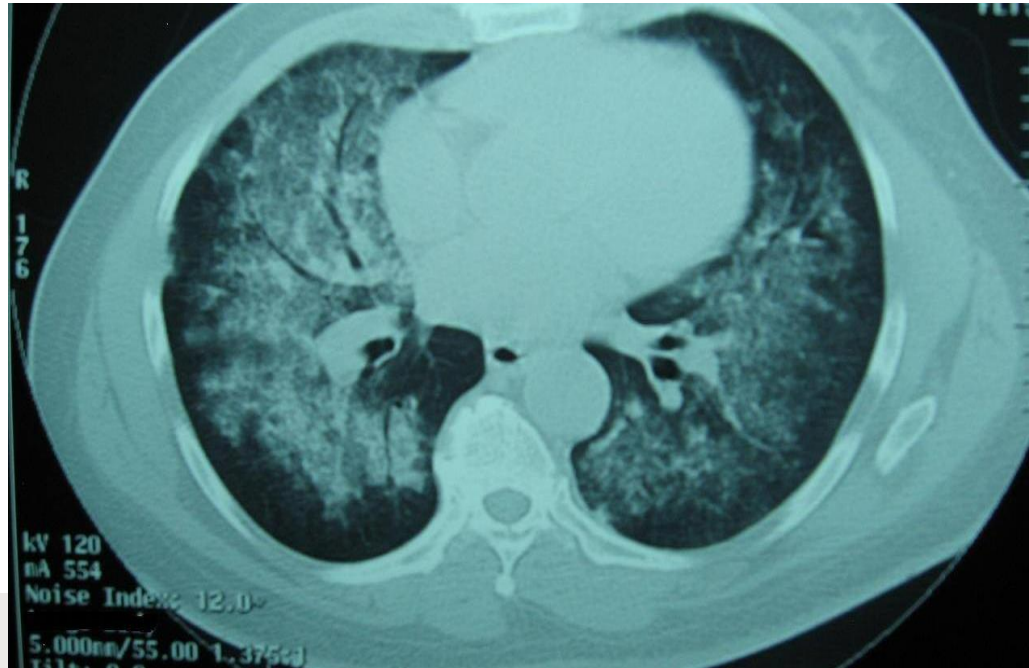


Granulomatous nodules

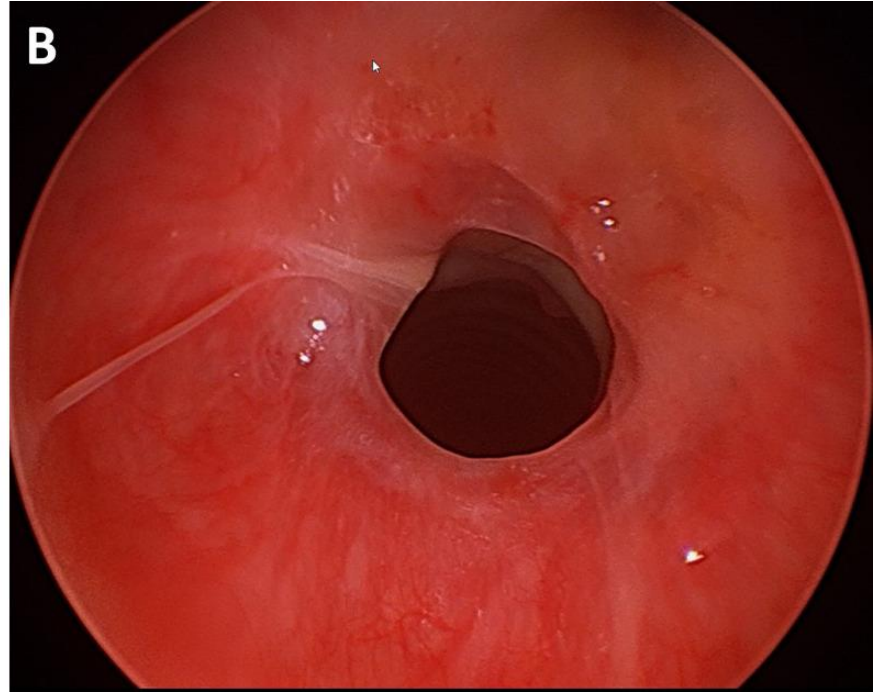
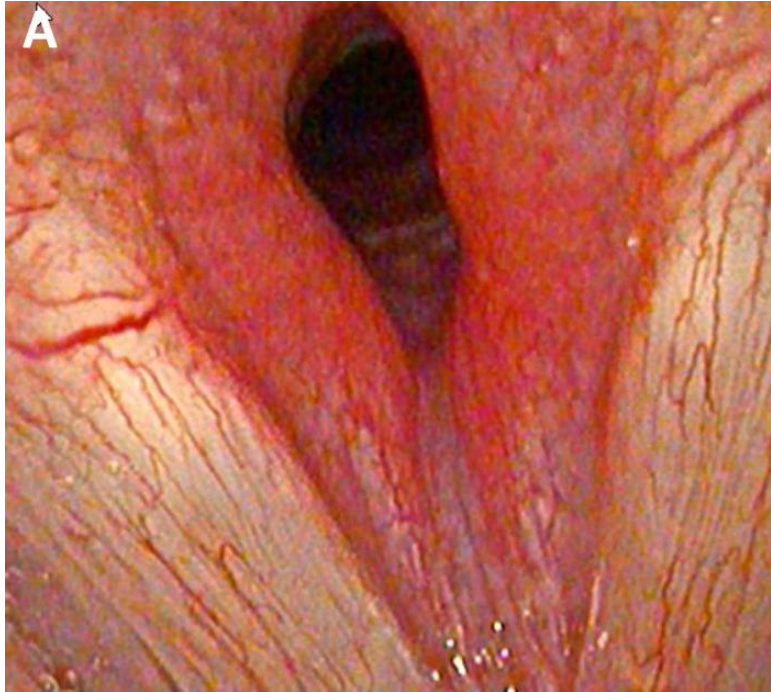


Cavitary nodule with necrosis

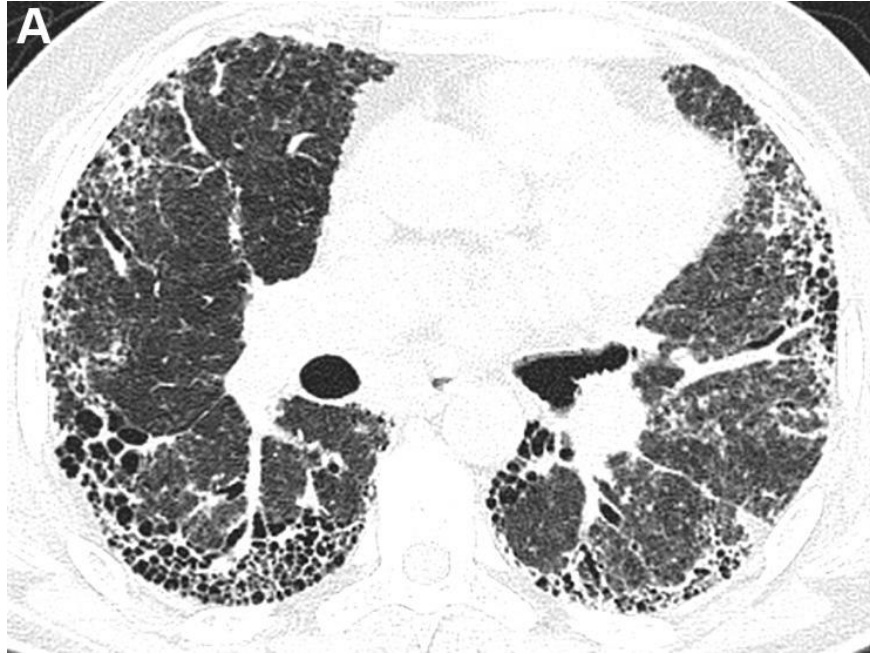
# Diffuse Alveolar Hemorrhage



# Tracheobronchial inflammation



# Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD)

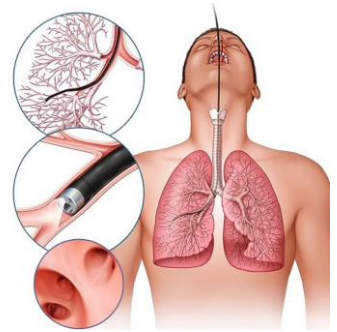


# Laboratory work-up

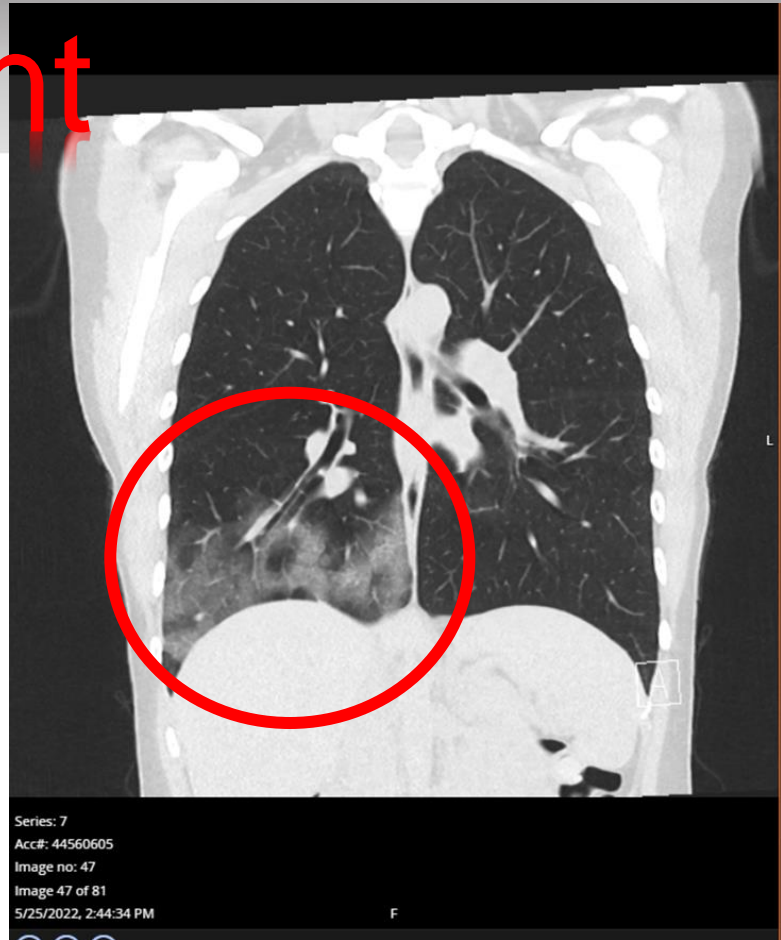
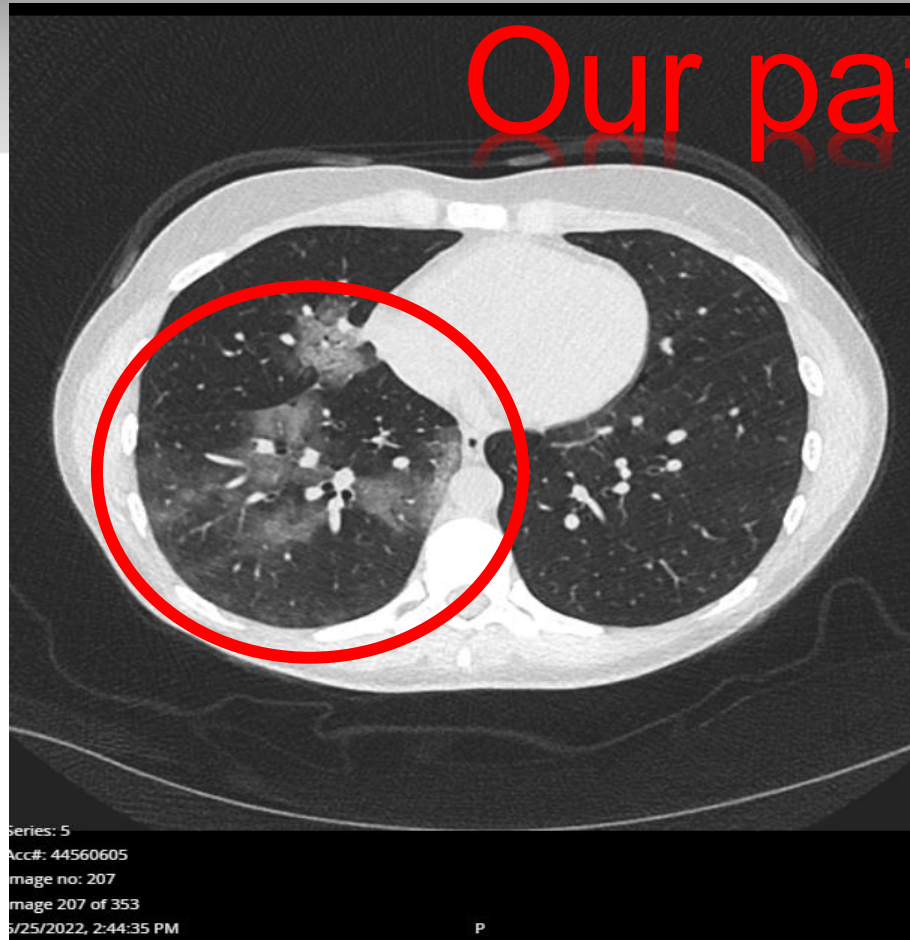
1. ANCA
2. ANA
3. Anti-GBM antibodies
4. Sm/RNP ab
5. Cardiolipin ab, lupus anticoagulant, Beta-2 glycoprotein-1 ab

# Other diagnostic work-up

1. Bronchoscopy: Helpful in visualizing the larynx, trachea, lungs, and bronchioles
2. Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL)
3. Transbronchial or endobronchial biopsies:  
Helpful in ruling out malignancy and infection



# Our patient



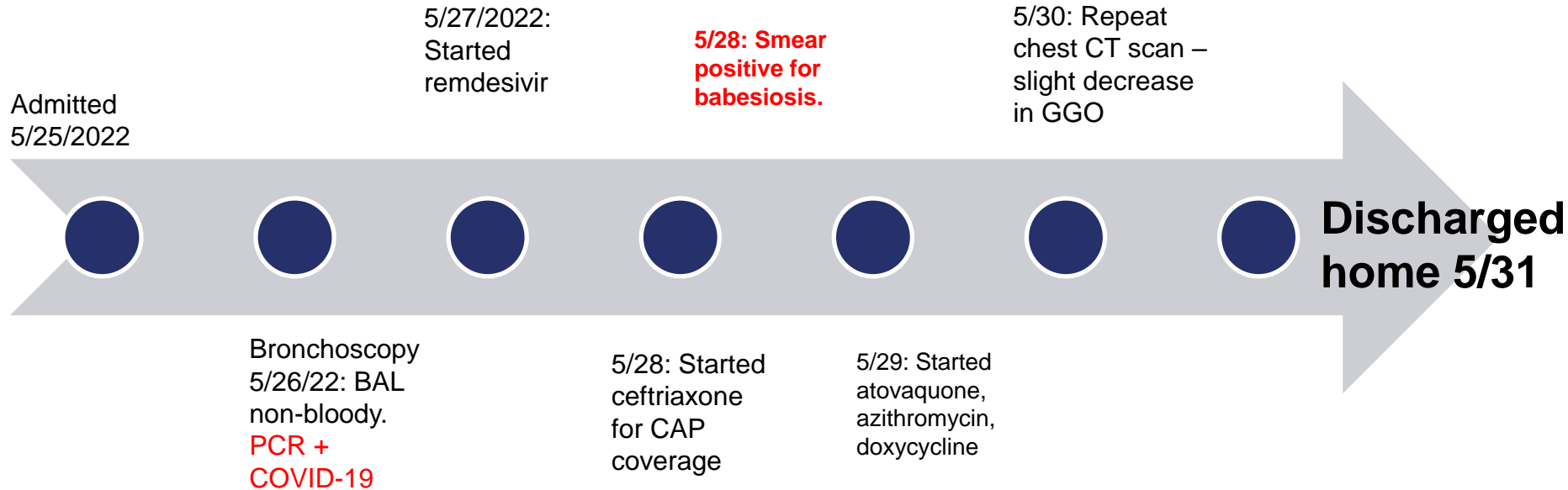
# Diffuse Alveolar Hemorrhage: Differential Diagnoses

AUTOIMMUNE	INFECTION	OTHER
<h2>What do YOU think??</h2>		

# Diffuse Alveolar Hemorrhage: Differential Diagnoses

AUTOIMMUNE	INFECTION	OTHER
Systemic vasculitides (GPA, EGPA, MPA)	<b>COVID</b>	Vaping
Cryoglobulinemia	<b>Viral:</b> influenza A, Ebola, Dengue, CMV, adenovirus	Drug toxicities
Goodpasture's	<b>Bacterial:</b> Leptospirosis, tuberculosis, staph aureus, Legionella	Malignancy
SLE	<b>Parasitic:</b> malaria, paragonimus, strongyloides	Pulmonary lymphoma
Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome	<b>Fungal:</b> aspergillosis	

# Work-up continued: patient admitted



# Final BAL results 6/1 (after discharge)

## Non-Gyn Cytology Report

### Final Diagnosis

Bronchoalveolar lavage, right lower lobe:

No evidence of malignancy in this one specimen. Marked acute and chronic inflammation present.

No pneumocystis, fungus, or viral cytopathic effect identified.

Grocott stain is negative for *Pneumocystis jiroveci* with adequate control.

Iron stain is positive for few hemosiderin laden macrophages with adequate control.

Diffuse alveolar  
hemorrhage??

# Final Diagnosis ?

Infection secondary to babesiosis

DAH secondary to underlying diagnosis of GPA

Organizing pneumonia secondary to COVID-19

**Could she have all 3  
diagnoses concurrently?**

# What is babesiosis?

- Tick borne virus caused by the parasite *Babesia microti*
- Transmitted by the deer tick
- Asymptomatic infection is common
- Up to 50% of patients will have Lyme co-infection
- Severe manifestations: ARDS, severe anemia, CHF, renal failure, DIC, splenic infarction
- Case reports of pulmonary edema
- ? Ground glass opacities
- Was babesiosis found incidentally?

# COVID-19: Testing

[Respir Med Case Rep.](#) 2020; 30: 101120.

PMCID: PMC7298516

Published online 2020 Jun 8. doi: [10.1016/j.rmcr.2020.101120](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rmcr.2020.101120)

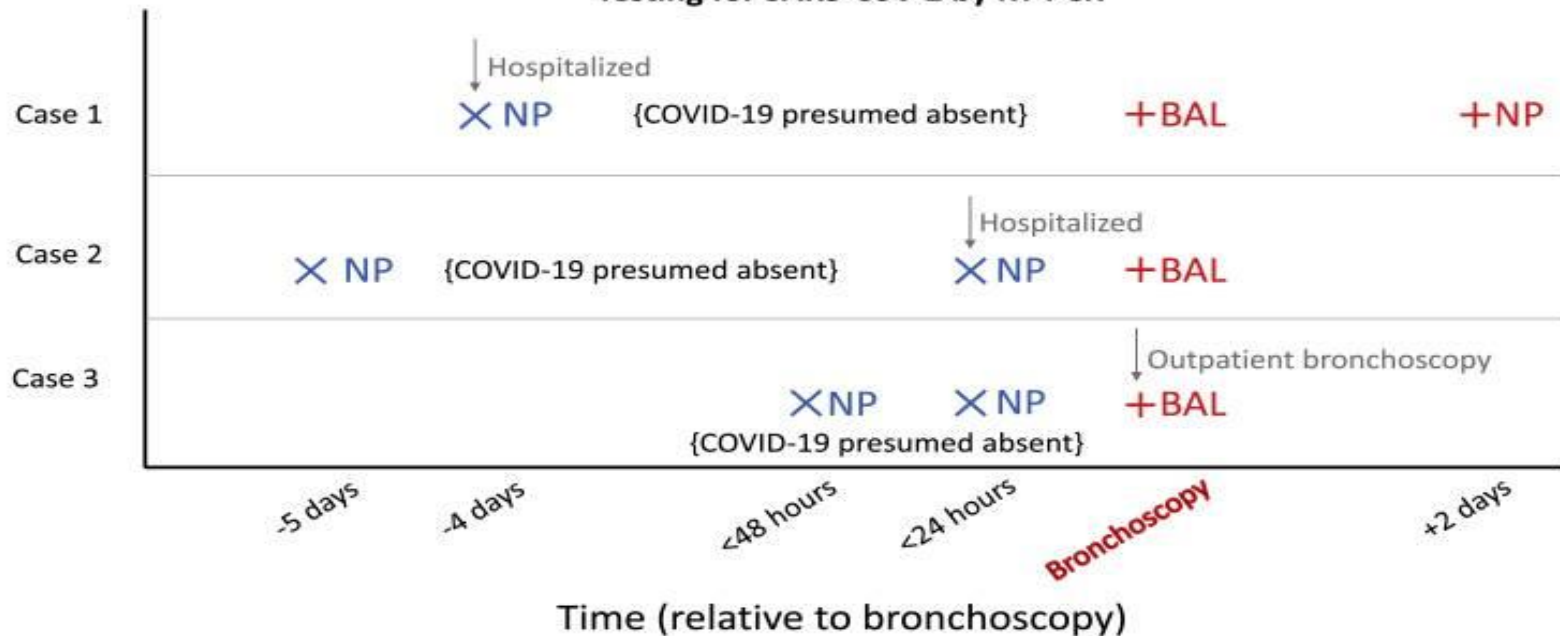
PMID: [32566476](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32566476/)

## Detection of SARS-CoV-2 by bronchoscopy after negative nasopharyngeal testing: Stay vigilant for COVID-19

[Kathleen J. Ramos](#),<sup>a,\*</sup> [Siddhartha G. Kapnadak](#),<sup>a</sup> [Bridget F. Collins](#),<sup>a</sup> [Paul S. Pottinger](#),<sup>b</sup> [Richard Wall](#),<sup>c</sup> [James A. Mays](#),<sup>d</sup>  
[Garrett A. Perchetti](#),<sup>d</sup> [Keith R. Jerome](#),<sup>d,e</sup> [Sandeep Khot](#),<sup>f</sup> [Ajit P. Limaye](#),<sup>b</sup> [Patrick C. Mathias](#),<sup>d,g</sup> and  
[Alexander Greninger](#)<sup>d,e</sup>

▶ [Author information](#) ▶ [Article notes](#) ▶ [Copyright and License information](#) ▶ [Disclaimer](#)

## Testing for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR



× NP Negative nasopharyngeal (NP) test

+ NP Positive NP test

+ BAL Positive bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) test

[Hematol Oncol Stem Cell Ther.](#) 2021 Mar; 14(1): 65–70.

Published online 2020 Oct 8. doi: [10.1016/j.hemonc.2020.09.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hemonc.2020.09.002)

PMCID: PMC7543702

PMID: [33058787](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33058787/)

“ Cite

☆ Favorites

## Bronchoalveolar lavage-based COVID-19 testing in patients with cancer

[Muhammad Bilal Abid](#),<sup>a,b,\*</sup> [Saurabh Chhabra](#),<sup>b</sup> [Blake Buchan](#),<sup>c</sup> [Mary Beth Graham](#),<sup>a</sup> [Sameem Abedin](#),<sup>b</sup> [Bicky Thapa](#),<sup>b</sup> [Anita D'Souza](#),<sup>b</sup> [Ben George](#),<sup>b</sup> and [Mehdi Hamadani](#)<sup>b</sup>

► [Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) [Disclaimer](#)

This article has been [cited by](#) other articles in PMC.

### Abstract

Go to: ►

#### Objective/Background

A few case reports in the setting of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and multiplex polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-based assays for common respiratory pathogens have shown a higher yield of bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) samples than upper airway specimens in immunocompromised patients.

SHARE



RESOURCES

[Similar articles in PubMed](#)

## Patient 1

## Patient 2

## Patient 3

Day of symptoms when tested positive for COVID-19	Day 8 (Positive from BAL; NP swab negative 4 times while inpatient)	Day 10	Day 8
Source of testing	BAL	BAL	BAL
Days between first negative NP swab and positive BAL	6 weeks	3 days	2 days
Number of negative NP swabs before positive BAL	4	1	1
Admission CXR/Chest CT	Bilateral GGO with cavitation	Bilateral GGO with consolidative opacities	Bilateral GGO with consolidative opacities

# Our patient – post hospitalization

---

## 1. COVID-19

- Completed 5 day course of Remdesivir
- Discharged on ceftriaxone for CAP coverage
- Hold methotrexate until course completed.

## 2. Babesiosis

- Atovaquone 750mg PO twice daily
- Azithromycin 500mg PO daily
- Doxycycline 100mg twice daily for empiric coverage of other tick borne illnesses
- Continue on medications for 2-4 weeks until repeat smear

## 3. Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis

- Repeat chest CT scan in 4 weeks
- Plan to repeat rituximab at the end of August
- Possible DAH → check labs once a week to monitor H/H

# Summary

## **When evaluating a patient with vasculitis:**

Avoid assuming that all new symptoms are due to vasculitis

Avoid treating for vasculitis in the absence of definitive proof for active disease

Be aware that vasculitis and mimics can co-exist

# References

1. Abid MB, Chhabra S, Buchan B, Graham MB, Abedin S, Thapa B, D'Souza A, George B, Hamadani M. Bronchoalveolar lavage-based COVID-19 testing in patients with cancer. *Hematol Oncol Stem Cell Ther*. 2021 Mar;14(1):65-70. doi: 10.1016/j.hemonc.2020.09.002. Epub 2020 Oct 8. PMID: 33058787; PMCID: PMC7543702.
2. Parekh M, Donuru A, Balasubramanya R, Kapur S. Review of the Chest CT Differential Diagnosis of Ground-Glass Opacities in the COVID Era. *Radiology*. 2020 Dec;297(3):E289-E302. doi: 10.1148/radiol.2020202504. Epub 2020 Jul 7. PMID: 32633678; PMCID: PMC7350036.
3. Park MS. Diffuse alveolar hemorrhage. *Tuberc Respir Dis (Seoul)*. 2013 Apr;74(4):151-62. doi: 10.4046/trd.2013.74.4.151. Epub 2013 Apr 30. PMID: 23678356; PMCID: PMC3651925.
4. Ramos KJ, Kapnadak SG, Collins BF, Pottinger PS, Wall R, Mays JA, Perchetti GA, Jerome KR, Khot S, Limaye AP, Mathias PC, Greninger A. Detection of SARS-CoV-2 by bronchoscopy after negative nasopharyngeal testing: Stay vigilant for COVID-19. *Respir Med Case Rep*. 2020 Jun 8;30:101120. doi: 10.1016/j.rmcr.2020.101120. PMID: 32566476; PMCID: PMC7298516.
5. Sacoto G, Boukhlal S, Specks U, Flores-Suárez LF, Cornec D. Lung involvement in ANCA-associated vasculitis. *Presse Med*. 2020 Oct;49(3):104039. doi: 10.1016/j.lpm.2020.104039. Epub 2020 Jul 7. PMID: 32650042.
6. Sebastiani M, Manfredi A, Vacchi C, Cassone G, Faverio P, Cavazza A, Sverzellati N, Salvarani C, Luppi F. Epidemiology and management of interstitial lung disease in ANCA-associated vasculitis. *Clin Exp Rheumatol*. 2020 Mar-Apr;38 Suppl 124(2):221-231. Epub 2020 Apr 22. PMID: 32324122.
7. <http://bjmp.org/files/2011-4-1/bjmp-2011-4-1-a402.pdf>
8. Vannier Edouard G. Babesiosis: Clinical manifestations and diagnosis. In: UptoDate, Baron EI (Ed), UptoDate, Waltham, MA. (Accessed on July 11, 2022.)
9. von Ranke FM, Zanetti G, Hochegger B, Marchiori E. Infectious diseases causing diffuse alveolar hemorrhage in immunocompetent patients: a state-of-the-art review. *Lung*. 2013 Feb;191(1):9-18. doi: 10.1007/s00408-012-9431-7. Epub 2012 Nov 6. PMID: 23128913; PMCID: PMC7102311.

When you order something online vs.  
when it arrives





Penn Medicine

