



**RhAPP**

RHEUMATOLOGY ADVANCED  
PRACTICE PROVIDERS

**RHAPP NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**SEPTEMBER 8-10, 2022**

# Adult Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathy

Jeannette Hart PA-C MCHS  
Kadlec Clinic-Rheumatology  
Tri-Cities, WA

# 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

## Speakers Bureau:

- AbbVie
- AstraZeneca
- Sanofi

## Objectives


Weakness vs.  
Fatigue vs. Malaise



IIM then and now



IIM- Clinic serological  
Subtypes



Clinical Vignettes



Abstract Review

# Adult IIM- It's Complicated

- Heterogeneous group of disorders
- Muscle weakness +/- extramuscular
  - Lungs, skin, heart, joints
- Does NOT include
  - neurologic, metabolic, toxin/drug induced, or infectious inflammatory myopathies
- The presence of myositis on biopsy alone doesn't diagnose IIM
  - Inflammation can be secondary to muscle damage
  - Inflammation can be seen in hereditary muscle diseases (LGMD)



# Weakness... Fatigue...Malaise



**Fatigue differs from weakness -fatigue is a loss of strength with activity that recovers with rest.**



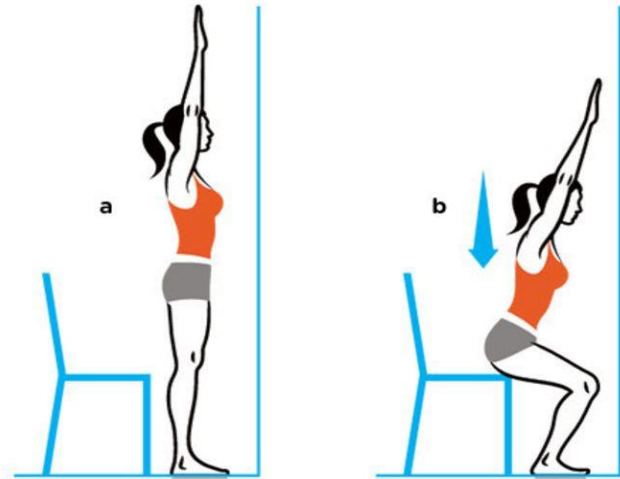
**Malaise differs from weakness- malaise is a subjective feeling of weakness without objective findings.**



**Investigate the history of “weakness”**

# Weakness is...

- A reduction of muscle power:
  - difficulty climbing stairs
  - getting up from toilet
  - stepping up a curb
  - standing from a squat
  - washing/brushing hair
- MMT: 1-5



# Diagnosing Adult IIM Prior to 2017

## PM, DM

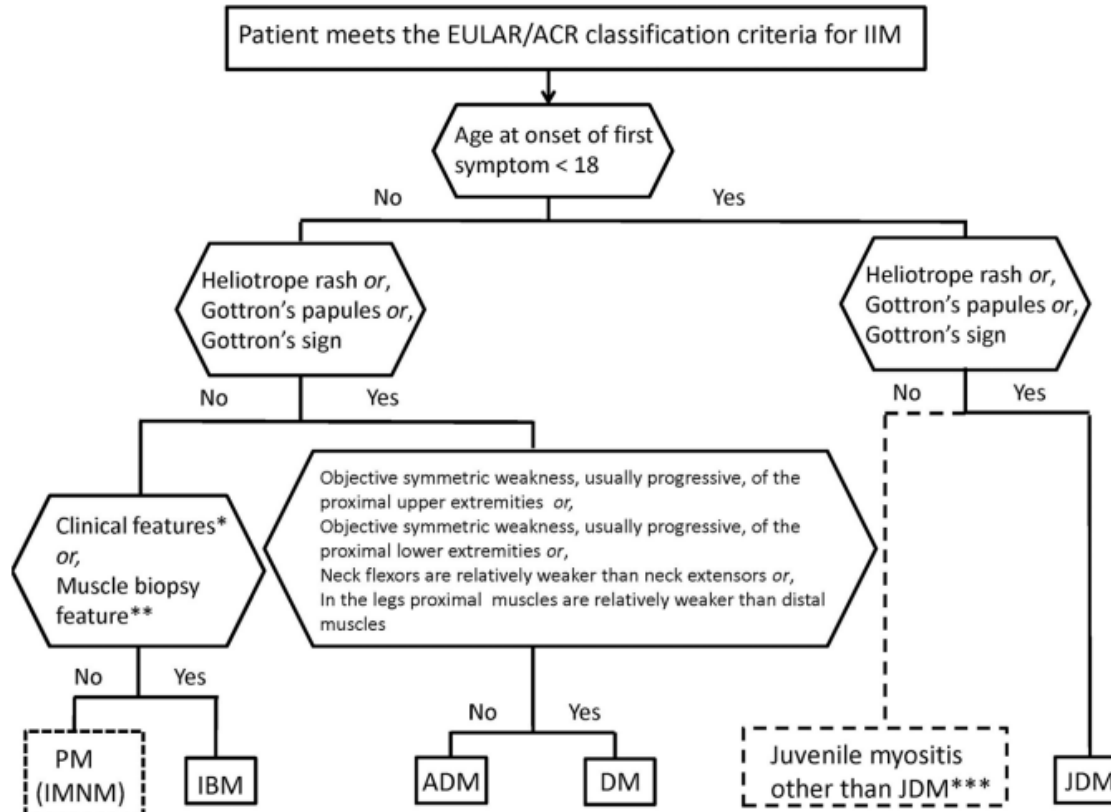
### Bohan and Peter Criteria of 1975

- 1) Symmetrical proximal muscle weakness
- 2) Muscle biopsy evidence of myositis
- 3) Elevation in serum skeletal muscle enzymes
- 4) Characteristic electromyography pattern of myositis
- 5) Typical rash of dermatomyositis

- Definite: #5 + any three 1-4
- Probably: #5 + any two 1-4
- Possible: #5 + any one 1-4



# 2017 EULAR-ACR Criteria



# ClinicoSEROLOGICAL subtypes

DM: Dermatomyositis / Amyopathic (amyotrophic)

IMNM: Immune-mediated necrotizing myositis

IBM: Inclusion body myositis

PM: Polymyositis

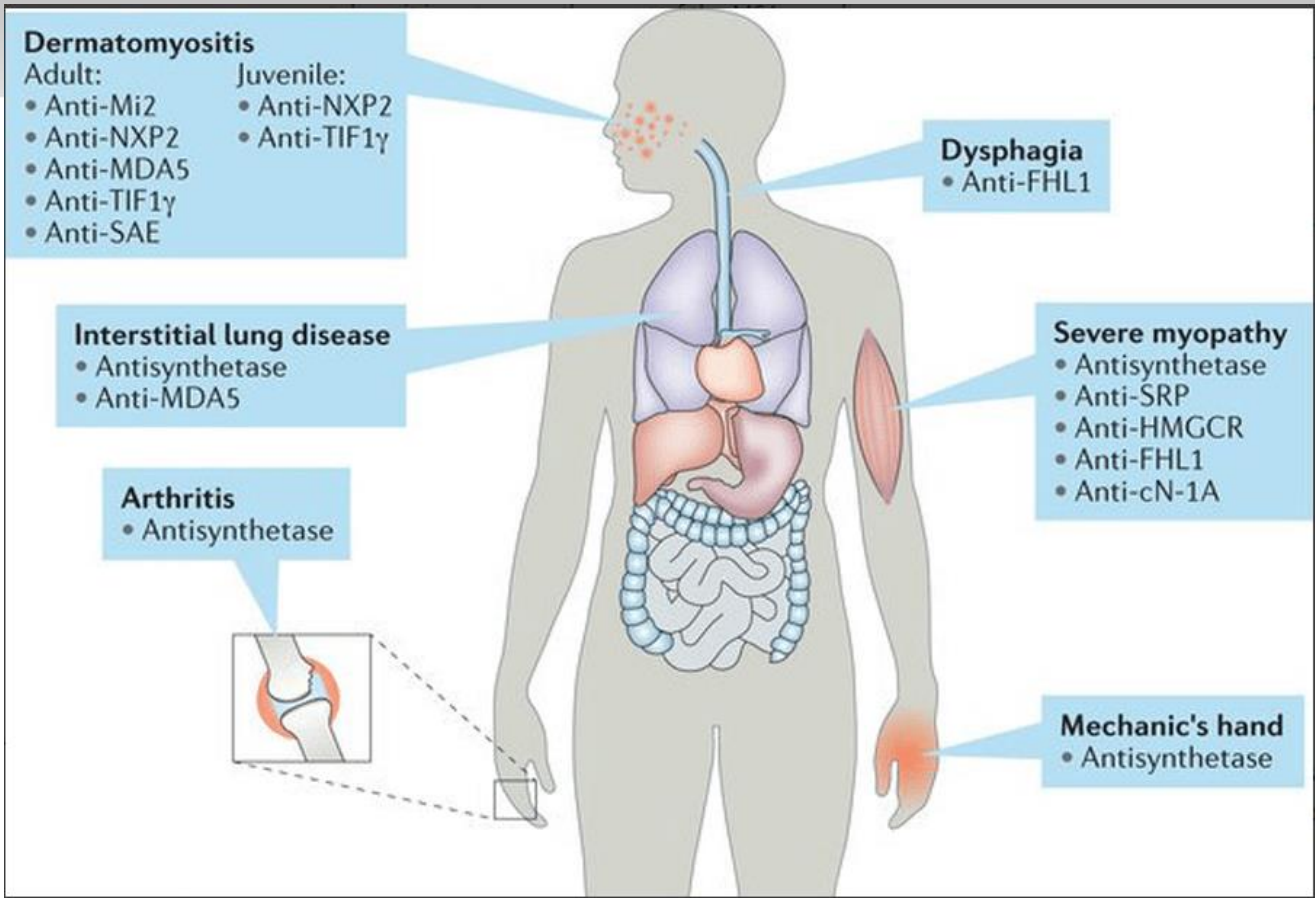
OM: Overlap myositis

ASS: Anti-synthetase syndrome

## Overview of auto-antibodies and their associated clinical features

	Auto-antibody	Frequency	Typical clinical features
ASS	Anti-tRNA: Jo-1, PL-7, PL-12, HA (YRS/Tyr), OJ, KS, ZO, EJ	anti-tRNA: 30% in myositis Jo-1: 15-20% in myositis PL-7 and PL-12: each 3-4% All others <2%.	Higher rate of ILD and mortality in PL-7/PL-12 than Jo-1
	Anti-SS-A/Ro52/Ro60 SS-B/La	SS-A: up to 19% in myositis, 25% in OM, SS-B: 7% in myositis, 12% in OM Ro52 often together with anti-synthetase, e.g. 56-72% of Jo-1.	Association with Sjögren's syndr., SLE and systemic sclerosis. Ro52 more common in myositis than Ro60; both occur in CTD. Ro52 and Jo-1-double positive: high rate of malignancies, poorer prognosis.
OM	U-snRNP	up to 10% of myositis	Associated with CTD, SLE and systemic sclerosis. Often good prognosis.
	PM/Scl	~8-10% of myositis	Associated with systemic sclerosis. Often severe disease course and insufficient treatment response.
	Ku	up to 20-30% in OM	Associated with systemic sclerosis, SLE and CTD. High rate of ILD, which does not respond well to glucocorticosteroids.
	Mi-2	5-10% in DM	Classical DM
	MDA5	15-30% in DM	Often amyopathic DM, often ILD.
DM	TIF-1 $\alpha$ / $\beta$ / $\gamma$	~20% in DM	Malignancy common (75%). Most common in JDM—without tumor.
	NXP-2	10-15% in DM	Malignancy frequent (37.5%). Second most common antibody in JDM—without malignancy, but often calcinosis.
	SAE	2-8% in DM	Often amyopathic and with ILD.
NM	SRP	5% in myositis	Often severe with muscle atrophy, ILD and dysphagia. Often basic immunosuppressive treatment regimen not sufficient.
	HMGCR	5-8% in myositis	High frequency of malignancy.
IBM	cN1A	~30% in IBM	Sjögren or SLE positive by 20-30%, even without muscle symptoms. In IBM: more severe disease course, dysphagia and higher mortality.

Adapted from: Schmidt, J. (2018). Current classification and management of inflammatory myopathies. *Journal of Neuromuscular Diseases*, 5(2), 109–129. <https://doi.org/10.3233/jnd-180308>

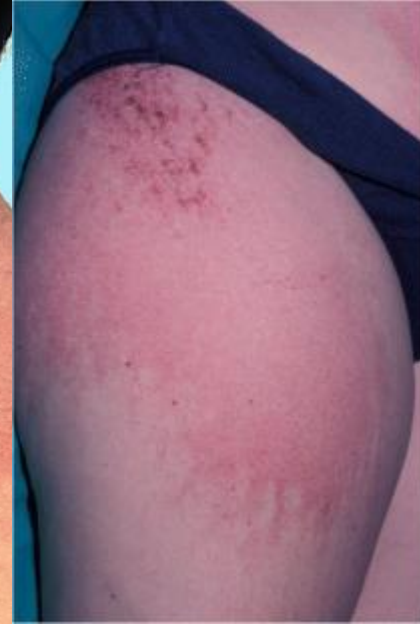


# Dermatomyositis and Amyopathic DM

- **Rash** is typically the first clinical manifestation
- **Muscle disease** follows or coexistent with the rash. Proximal muscle weakness
  - 70% having elevated muscle enzymes
  - 20% to 30% having normal CPK (amyopathic DM)
- **MSAs** found in 50% to 70% and identify clinical subsets.
  - Anti-Mi2
  - Anti-SAE
  - Anti-TIF 1 gamma
  - Anti-NXP2
  - Anti MDA5
- **Muscle pathology:** perimysial/perivascular inflammation with (50%) or without (50%) perifascicular atrophy.
- **EMG:** motor unit action potential with small amplitudes, short durations, and early recruitment

# DM ADM Skin manifestations

- Heliotrope rash/ eye lid edema
- Gottron's papules
- V-sign rash
- Shawl-sign rash
- Holster-sign rash
- Nailfold abnormalities
- Psoriasiform lesions (scalp)



# Clinical subsets of DM defined by MSA antibodies

**Table 1: Myositis-specific antibodies associated with DM**

	Prevalence (%)	DM	Other clinical features	Anti-synthetase syndrome	Cancer	Prognosis	Treatment response
Anti-Mi 2	10	DM rash	Mild myositis	No ILD	No cancer risk	Good prognosis	Excellent treatment response
Anti-SAE	1	DM rash--severe Periungual lesions	Dysphagia	Mild ILD	No cancer risk	Good prognosis	Excellent response to treatment
Anti-TIF 1 gamma	10--15	Aggressive skin lesions		Low prevalence of ILD	High association with cancer in adults	Poor prognosis	Poor response due to underlying malignancy
Anti - NXP2	1--5	Adult and juvenile DM Calcinosis cutis	Muscle contracture, atrophy	Joint contractures Arthritis ILD	High association with cancer	Poor prognosis	Poor response to treatment due to underlying malignancy
Anti - MDA5/CADM 140	15-20	Severe necrotizing skin rash with vasculopathy Tender papules over palms	Amyopathic	Anti-synthetase syndrome with rapidly progressive ILD	Risk of cancer	Poor prognosis	High morbidity and mortality due to rapidly progressive ILD

Adapted from: Khadilkar, S. V., & Dhamne, M. C. (2020). What is new in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies: Mechanisms and therapies. *Annals of Indian Academy of Neurology*. [https://doi.org/10.4103/aian.aian\\_400\\_19](https://doi.org/10.4103/aian.aian_400_19)

# Anti-Synthetase Syndrome

Myositis

ILD

Arthritis

Raynaud's

Fever

Mechanics  
Hands

- ✓ Presentation variable- based on MSA/MAA
- ✓ Various autoantibodies to aminoacyl transfer RNA (tRNA) synthetase
  - ✓ (Jo1) (PL-7),(PL-12), (EJ), (OJ)
- ✓ Helps differentiate from DM
- ✓ High risk ILD but lower risk of cancer
- ✓ Might present only with ILD

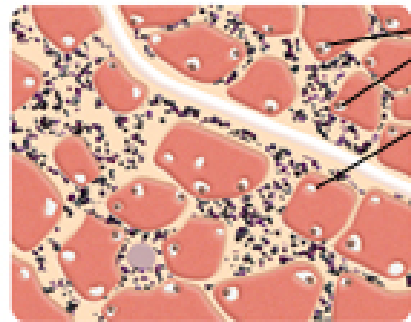
# Immune Regulated Necrotizing Myopathy (IMNM)

<b>Anti-SRP</b>	<b>Anti- HMGCR</b>
Neck weakness, dysphagia, resp insufficiency	Sensitive and specific
Incomplete response to steroids	Prior statin exposed patients (risk factor)
Seasonal pattern - Autumn	Progressive weakness and dysphagia
Biopsy- endomysial fibrosis, little inflammation.	Needs aggressive treatment

# Inclusion Body Myositis (IBM)

Biopsy- distinctive intranuclear and cytoplasmic filamentous inclusion and vacuoles.

## Inclusion-Body Myositis (IBM)



*inclusion bodies*

*vacuoles*

*IBM is characterized by muscle fibers that contain empty, bubble-like spaces (vacuoles) and clumps of cellular material (inclusion bodies). Inflammatory cells can be seen between the fibers.*

# IBM

- Commonest cause of IIM in patient > 50 yo.
- Asymmetric muscle weakness
  - Quadriceps, forearm flexors and ankle dorsiflexors
  - Difficulty swallowing in up to 60%
- Unresponsive and slowly progressive
- No extra-muscular features
- MSA: cN1A

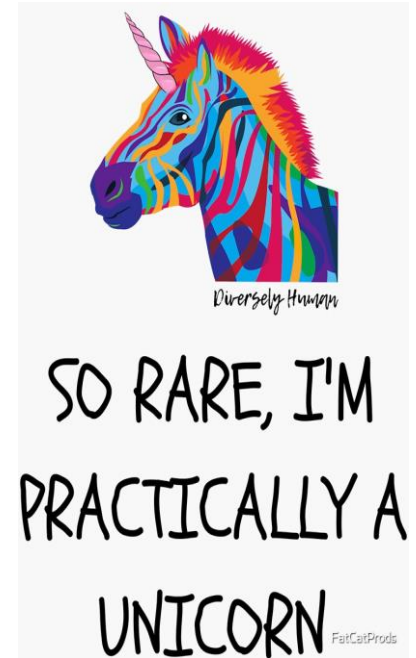
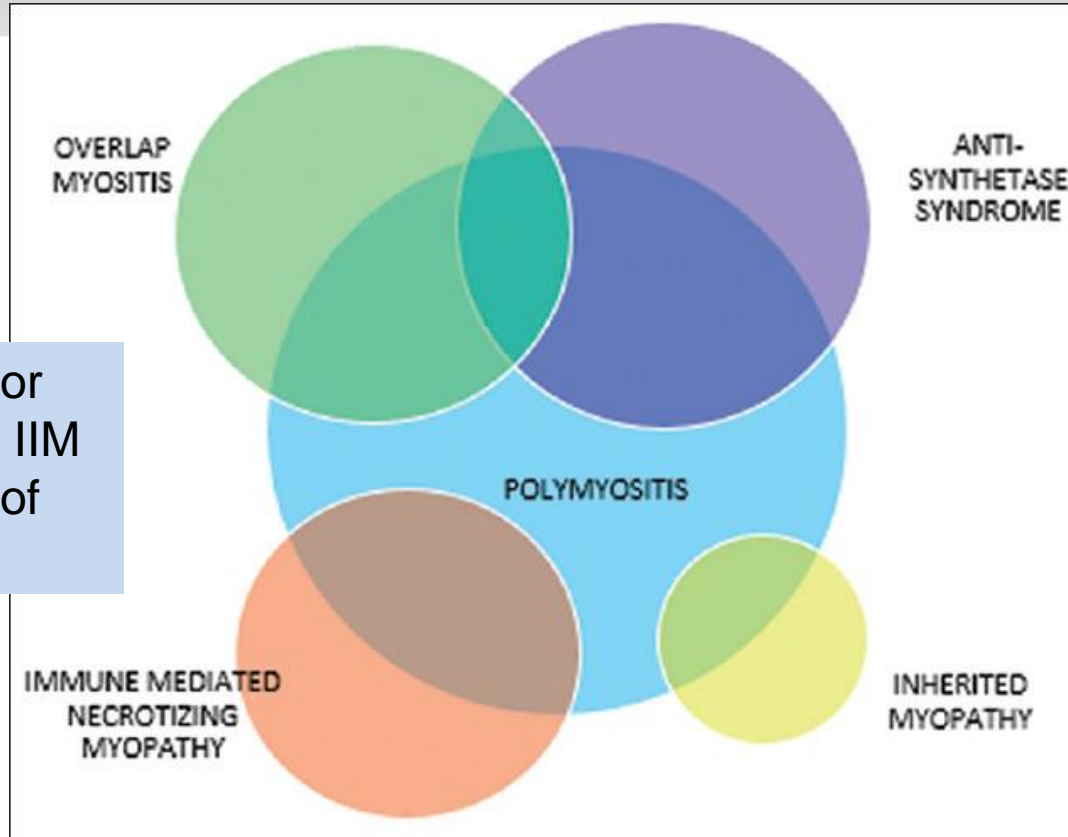
# Overlap Myositis

Co-occurrence of inflammatory myopathy AND CTD

- Myositis associated antibodies (MAA)
- SSA/SSB are the commonest (>30%)
- OM has a higher risk for ILD, arthritis and cancer
- 5-17% of scleroderma patients have myositis

# PM is RARE

- Accounts for only 8% of IIM
- Diagnosis of exclusion



# Treatment is difficult

- IIM is heterogenous and lacks disease activity markers.
- Use Immunosuppressants + Corticosteroids
- IVIG/Rituximab - some response seen especially in DM
- Plasma exchange has NOT been proven effective.
- Calcineurin inhibitors, tacrolimus and cyclosporine
  - Inhibit T-cell mediated immunity

## Clinical Vignette- 52 yo F (2012)

- Increasing proximal weakness in shoulders and thighs- difficulty getting up from a low chair
- Rash on hands- peeling and red
- Denies SOB
- PCP provided prednisone 40mg daily- improved weakness- referral made to rheumatology



# 52 yo F (2012)

## (+) Objective findings

- Elevated LFT, +ANA, elevated aldolase, elevated CK
- Bilateral lung crackles
- Decreased power in proximal muscles
- Erythematous scaly rash on the palms of the hands with fissuring skin

## Rheum Dx ASS:

- Ordered EKG, PFT, CT C/A/P, asked PCP to do age appropriate CA screening
- Labs: Aldose (no MSA available), safety testing for DMARD
- Given Prednisone 60mg daily- consider mtx

# 52 yo F (2012)

1st visit back: Dramatic response to prednisone: In strength and skin

Labs :

Repeat ANA IFA (-)

ESR nl

Aldolase 45,

AST 140 ALT 111

CPK 6272

Jo-1 positive (6.4)

CT Chest - ILD

CT abd/pelvis -nl

PFT-mod restrictive

DEXA- normal

Echo- neg for PAH

Opted not to biopsy

Pred 60mg daily

Mtx 20mg weekly

Refer to pulm

## 52 yo F (2012)

- Added Imuran- BUT not tolerated
- Refractory- heliotrope rash and LLE increased weakness
  - D/C mtx start MMF titrate up to 3 grams daily
- MMF at 3 g daily unable to taper prednisone <20mg daily.
  - weakness and chronic cough
- Start Rituxan 2015
- Response! Tapered Prednisone and MMF
- Rituxan (RA protocol) q 6 months -no relapse

## Clinical Vignette- 29 yo M (2015)

- ED tech-presenting with S/T MCP, elbows and feet.
- Rash on extensor surfaces of mcp and pips.  
Rough skin on elbows and soles of feet
- Previously diagnosed with PSA
- Rash remained through mtx, TNFi, IL-17
- Joints improved- skin never improved

## 29 yo M (2015)

- Why wont the skin respond?
- Frequent flares and fatigue
- Drew Jo-1 and CK and sent to dermatology
- Dermatology treated as psoriasis
- CK normal JO-1 +
- Denied weakness and SOB

## 29 yo M (2015)

- Somewhat stable on Mtx and IL-17
- Screening PFT resulting in a decreased DCLO
- CT + for ILD despite normal CXR and lung sounds
- = Amyopathic DM
- D/C IL-17 maintain on mtx referred to pulm.
- FU next month

## 65 yo F (2018)

- Referred due to: joint pain/swelling +RF/-CCP, + ANA (+SCL- 70, + anticentromere)
  - MCP synovitis and ulnar deviation
- She was seen by pulmonology possible ILD
  - PFT: supported asthma only
- Echo in 2013 was satisfactory
- Previously treated for sero- RA for years
  - joints improved

## 65yo F

- New to me: rash on face and hands despite TNFi
- Tried and failed multiple DMARDs- intolerance. \*Felt best on IL-6 but reacted
- Complicated by anxiety
- Sent to dermatology - persistent rash
  - psoriasiform acanthosis, slight spongiosis and cytotoxic effect. Psoriasiform-cytotoxic presentation of dermatomyositis.

## 65 yo F

- Started IIM work up
- Patient develop Breast Cancer
- + PM-SCL-100
- Dx Changed to Overlap Myositis
- Maintained on Rituxamab
- Prognosis guarded.



# Abstract- OP0161 (EULAR)

TREATMENT PATTERNS OF IDIOPATHIC INFLAMMATORY  
MYOPATHIES: RESULTS FROM AN INTERNATIONAL  
COHORT OF OVER 1,400 PATIENTS

-Aoude M, Gupta L, Hmamouchi I, *et al*

# OP0161

- Objective- Evaluate frequency and patterns of treatments used for IIM based on type, world region and organ involvement
- Took data from CoVAD self reporting survey
- 1418 patients – most common subset DM

# The most used treatments for IIM

- 1) Immunosuppressants 49%
  - Methotrexate, MMF, Azathioprine, Cyclosporine  
Tacrolimus Leflunomide Sulfasalazine  
Cyclophosphamide
- 2) Corticosteroids 40.8%
- 3) Antimalarials 13.8%
- 4) IVIG 9.4%
- 5) Biologics 4.3%



# Abstract ACR 2021

**Predictors of Rapidly Progressive Interstitial Lung Disease and Mortality in Patients with Autoantibodies Against Melanoma Differentiation-Associated Protein 5 Dermatomyositis**

So, Jacqueline

# MDA5 and RP-ILD

---

Anti-melanoma differentiation-associated protein 5 (MDA5) positive dermatomyositis (DM) is associated with rapidly progressive interstitial lung disease (RP-ILD) and high mortality.

---

Objective: Identify predictors for mortality and RP-ILD. Hong Kong

# 101 patients from Hong Kong Myositis Registry



- 86% had ILD and 42% RP-ILD
- 38 patients died over 21 months
  - 31% within 3 months of Diagnosis

# Predictors of mortality

- RP-ILD, smoking, ferritin level  $>2800\text{pmol/L}$ , and fever at diagnosis were independent predictors of mortality.
- Early rituximab use was associated with better survival

# Predictors of RP-ILD

- Based on:
  - Neutrophil to Lymphocyte Ratio  $>7.5$
  - Age  $>50$  years old
  - LDH  $>300$  IU/L

# References

- Aoude M, Gupta L, Hmamouchi I, *et al.* OP0161 Treatment patterns of idiopathic inflammatory myopathies: Results from an international cohort of over 1,400 patients *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases* 2022;**81**:105-106.
- Kastrati, K., Nakhost Lotfi, N., Tawfik, M., Gelpi, E., Hoeffberger, R., Kiener, H., Aletaha, D., Bonelli, M., & Radner, H. (2022). POS0911 diagnostic value and clinical relevance of muscle biopsy in patients with suspected myositis. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, 81(Suppl 1). <https://doi.org/10.1136/annrheumdis-2022-eular.4161>
- Khadilkar, S. V., & Dhamne, M. C. (2020). What is new in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies: Mechanisms and therapies. *Annals of Indian Academy of Neurology*. [https://doi.org/10.4103/aian.aian\\_400\\_19](https://doi.org/10.4103/aian.aian_400_19)
- Liebowitz, J. (2021, December 14). *From strength to strength: Idiopathic inflammatory myopathy diagnosis & management*. The Rheumatologist. Retrieved June 30, 2022, from <https://www.the-rheumatologist.org/article/from-strength-to-strength-idiopathic-inflammatory-myopathy-diagnosis-management/?singlepage=1&theme=print-friendly>
- Lundberg, I. E., & Tjärnlund, A. (2017). Response to: '2017 EULAR/ACR classification criteria for adult and juvenile idiopathic inflammatory myopathies and their major subgroups: Little emphasis on autoantibodies, why?' by malaviya. *Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases*, 77(11). <https://doi.org/10.1136/annrheumdis-2017-212709>
- Martino, S. D. (2019, January 20). *Inflammatory myositis*. Rheumatology Advisor. Retrieved June 30, 2022, from <https://www.rheumatologyadvisor.com/home/decision-support-in-medicine/rheumatology/inflammatory-myositis/>
- McLeish, E., Slater, N., Sooda, A., Wilson, A., Coudert, J. D., Lloyd, T. E., & Needham, M. (2022). Inclusion body myositis: The interplay between ageing, muscle degeneration and autoimmunity. *Best Practice & Research Clinical Rheumatology*, 101761. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.berh.2022.101761>
- Schmidt, J. (2018). Current classification and management of inflammatory myopathies. *Journal of Neuromuscular Diseases*, 5(2), 109–129. <https://doi.org/10.3233/jnd-180308>
- West, S. G., & Kolfenbach, J. (2020). *Rheumatology secrets*. Elsevier.