

**MECHANISMS OF HUMAN DISEASE
AND
PHARMACOLOGY & THERAPEUTICS**

CASE-BASED SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

**SESSION XIII
MHD I**

November 13, 2014

STUDENT COPY

Case 1

CHIEF COMPLAINT: “I am very tired and now my chest hurts.”

HISTORY: The patient is 29 year-old woman who has noticed left sided chest pain for the past few weeks. Prior to the onset of her chest pain, she had increasing fatigue but she attributed it to the planning and “stress” of her wedding last month. Not only was her hair falling out at the time but she also was told she might have syphilis after her premarital blood test. During her honeymoon 2 weeks ago in St Martin she began to notice sharp stabbing pains over her left chest that were much worse when she was sitting or taking a deep breath. Now she is so tired in the early morning that she has missed several days at work.

PAST MEDICAL HISTORY: The patient has been in good health until recently.

REVIEW OF SYSTEMS: Her period is 10 days late and she is worried that she could be pregnant even though she has taken her oral contraceptive correctly. She had a very tender calf muscle for 2 days after returning from her honeymoon. Review of systems is otherwise negative.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

VS: HR 90 and regular, BP 122/85, R 20, T 37.9 C orally.

Head: Approximately 8-10 strands of hair can be pulled out with gentle tug; also suggestion of temporal balding

Mouth: shallow gingival ulcer with non-purulent base

Lymphoid: multiple enlarged, non- tender cervical, axillary and femoral nodes.

Neck: supple with full range of motion.

Lungs: both lungs are resonant by percussion; auscultation reveals normal breath sounds over the right base but diminished breath sounds over the left base.

CV: percussion of the heart reveals no abnormalities. S1 and S2 are normal. There is a faint late diastolic and early systolic scratch sound at the LLSB.

Abd: soft and non-tender with no evidence of liver or spleen enlargement.

Ext: examination of the fingers reveals normal color and temperature with no evidence of gangrenous changes. No synovitis is present and there is full range of movement in all joints.

Skin: Deeply tanned with a faint erythematous maculopapular rash over the cheeks, bridge of the nose and upper chest and arms.

Neuro: normal

INITIAL LABORATORY ASSESSMENT:**CBC w/Diff**

WBC	3.0	[4.0-10.0] k/ul
RBC	2.44	[3.60-5.50] m/ul
Hgb	8.0	[12.0-16.0] gm/dl
Hct	24.1	[34.0-51.0] %

MCV	83	[85-95] fl
MCH	28	[28.0-32.0] pg
MCHC	32.1	[32.0-36.0] gm/dl
RDW	15.3	[11.0-15.0] %
Plt Count	75	[150-400] k/uI
Manual Diff		
Gran	85	[45-70] %
Lymph	9	[20-45] %
Mono	5	[0-10] %
Eo	1	[0-7] %
Baso	0	[0-2] %

Complete Metabolic Panel

Glucose	72	[70 - 100]	mg/dl
Blood Urea Nitrogen	12	[7 - 22]	mg/dl
Creatinine	2.1	[0.7 - 1.4]	mg/dl
Calcium	8.0	[8.5 - 10.5]	mg/dl
Sodium	136	[136 - 146]	mmol/L
Potassium	4.0	[3.5 - 5.3]	mmol/L
Chloride	104	[98 - 108]	mmol/L
Carbon Dioxide	24	[20 - 32]	mmol/L
Albumin	3.0	[3.6 - 5.0]	gm/dl
Protein, Total	9.5	[6.2 - 8.0]	gm/dl
Alkaline Phosphatase	33	[25 - 215]	IU/L
AST	35	[5 - 40]	IU/L
Bilirubin, Total	0.6	[0.2 - 1.4]	mg/dl

Prothrombin Time

Prothrombin Time	12.1	[11.8-13.2] sec
INR Ratio	1.0	

APTT

APTT	68	[22.9-34.3] sec
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UA w/Micro

Color	yellow	[YELLOW]
pH	5.5	[4.5-8.0]
Spec Gravity	1.010	[1.003-1.035]
Protein	2+	[NEG]
Blood	SML	[NEG]
Glucose	NEG	[NEG]
Ketones	NEG	[NEG]
Bilirubin	NEG	[NEG]
Urobilinogen	0.2	[0.2-1.0] eu/dl
NITRATE	NEG	[NEG]
LEUKOCYTES	NEG	[NEG]
RBC	5-10	[0-2] /hpf
WBC	0-2	[0-5] /hpf

Case 2

History of Present Illness

A 43-year old man presents to the emergency department with abdominal pain which started several hours prior. He describes the pain as excruciating and sudden in onset. It originated in the right lower quadrant and radiated to his right groin and flank. It decreases slightly when he is lying down but is otherwise unaffected by position. He reports nausea and one episode of nonbloody, nonbilious emesis shortly after the onset of the pain.

Two weeks before presentation the patient experienced a less severe episode of similar pain but in his left lower quadrant which radiated to his left flank. The pain resolved on its own.

The patient has had no fevers or chills, no change in bowel habits- has “normal” bowel movements, no urinary symptoms, no hematuria, no chest pain

Past Medical/Surgical History

s/p tonsillectomy at age 5

Medications

None

Drug allergies

None

Social History

Tobacco – active smoker, 1ppd x 26 years

Alcohol – 1-2 beers, 2-3 times per week

Illicits – denies use of illicit drugs including cocaine, heroin, marijuana

Married, monogamous

Works as a bartender in an upscale hotel

Family History

Mother – coronary artery disease, MI at age 49

Father – HTN and atrial fibrillation

1 younger brother – alive and well

Review of Systems

General – has had generalized fatigue over the past several months, no weight loss

Otherwise ROS negative or reported in HPI

Physical Exam

Patient appears uncomfortable

Temperature 37.5°C, Pulse 92 beats/minute and regular, blood pressure 186/114 right arm; 180/110 left arm; respiratory rate 18/minute

Oxygen saturation on room air 96%

Head, neck, lung, heart exams unremarkable

Pulses equal in bilateral upper and lower extremities

Abdomen – normal on visual inspection; normal, active bowel sounds, no bruits on auscultation; soft, diffuse nonfocal tenderness on deep palpation in all quadrants, no rebound or guarding; no palpable masses or hepatosplenomegaly, no hernias

GU exam – testes nontender and symmetric

Back – bilateral costovertebral tenderness right > left

Neurologic - CN II-XII intact; the patient has weakness of right foot dorsiflexion and weakness of left wrist extensors.

Skin – no rashes or skin lesions

1. Develop a differential diagnosis for the etiologies of flank pain.

Initial Laboratory Evaluation:

CBC

WBC	14.2	[4.0-10.0] k/ul
RBC	3.80	[3.60-5.50] m/ul
Hgb	12.6	[12.0-16.0] gm/dl
Hct	37.8	[34.0-51.0] %
MCV	90	[85-95] fl
MCH	29.1	[28.0-32.0] pg
MCHC	33.7	[32.0-36.0] gm/dl
RDW	15.1	[11.0-15.0] %
Plt Count	215	[150-400] k/ul
Diff		
Gran	78	[45-70] %
Gran #	11.1	[2.0-7.0] k/mm ³
Lymph	14	[20-45] %
Lymph #	1.99	[1.0-4.0] k/mm ³
Mono	8	[0-10] %
Mono #	1.13	[0.0-1.0] k/mm ³
Eo	0	[0-7] %
Eo #	0	[0.0-0.7] k/mm ³
Baso	0	[0-2] %
Baso #	0.0	[0.0-0.2] k/mm ³

Basic Metabolic Panel

Glucose	97	[70 - 100]	mg/dl
Blood Urea Nitrogen	8	[7 - 22]	mg/dl
Creatinine	1.7	[0.7 - 1.4]	mg/dl
Calcium	9.3	[8.5 - 10.5]	mg/dl
Sodium	134	[136 - 146]	mmol/L
Potassium	3.7	[3.5 - 5.3]	mmol/L
Chloride	106	[98 - 108]	mmol/L
Carbon Dioxide	21	[20 - 32]	mmol/L

LIVER FUNCTION PANEL

Albumin	3.8	[3.6-5.0]	gm/dl
Bilirubin, Total	1.3	[0.2-1.4]	mg/dl
Bilirubin, Direct	0.3	[0.0-0.3]	mg/dl
Alkaline Phosphatase	98	[30-110]	iu/l
AST (SGOT)	25	[5-40]	iu/l
ALT (SGPT)	28	[7-35]	iu/l
Protein, Total	6.9	[6.5-8.3]	gm/dl

UA w/Micro

Color	YELLOW	[YELLOW]
pH	6.0	[4.5-8.0]
Spec Gravity	1.043	[1.003-1.035]
Protein	1+	[NEG]
Blood	NEG	[NEG]
Glucose	NEG	[NEG]
Ketones	NEG	[NEG]
Bilirubin	NEG	[NEG]
Urobilinogen	0.2	[0.2-1.0] eu/dl
NITRATE	NEG	[NEG]
LEUKOCYTES	NEG	[NEG]
RBC	0-2	[0-2] /hpf
WBC	0-2	[0-5] /hpf

Amylase 64 [25-125] iu/l

Lipase 17 [7-58] iu/l

Prothrombin Time

Prothrombin Time 12.1 [11.8-13.2] sec
INR Ratio 1.1

APTT 22.0 [21.6-33.2] sec

2. Interpret the laboratory findings. Correlate with the clinical findings. Do these findings support the differential diagnosis you developed?

Additional questions #3-11 will be provided during the small group session. Students are asked to consider further diagnoses and additional diagnostic tests in preparation for the discussion. (it would be a good idea to review the vasculitides)