

# AUTOIMMUNE PERIPHERAL NERVE DISORDERS

## Update in the Management of GBS

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2 November 2015

# Active Conflicts of Interest

- Consultant: Annexon Biosciences, Akros Pharma, Boehringer Ingelheim, Cigna Health Management, Inc., DP Clinical, Inc., Glenmark Pharma, INSYS Therapeutics, Inc, Octapharma AG, Pharnext SAS, ProPhase LLC, Sun Pharmaceuticals, Syntimmune, UCB Pharma Inc.
- Data Safety Monitoring Board: Acorda Therapeutics, Inc., Pfizer Inc., Johnson & Johnson, ISIS Pharmaceuticals, Novartis Corp., GlaxoSmithKline, Axovant Sciences Ltd.,
- Technology Licensing: Johnson & Johnson, Seattle Genetics, Inc., Genentech Corp., AstraZeneca, Glenmark Pharma, Acetylon Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Board of Directors: GBS-CIDP Foundation International, Foundation for Peripheral Neuropathy, The Peripheral Nerve Society

# Guillain-Barré Syndrome

1859 Landry

Acute ascending paralysis

1891 Quincke

“Invention” of lumbar puncture

1916

SUR UN SYNDROME DE RADICULO-NÉVRITE AVEC HYPERALBUMINOSE DU LIQUIDE  
CÉPHALO-RACHIDIEN SANS RÉACTION CELLULAIRE. REMARQUES SUR LES  
CARACTÈRES CLINIQUES ET GRAPHIQUES DES RÉFLEXES TENDINEUX,  
par MM. GEORGES GUILLAIN, J.-A. BARBÉ et A. STROHL.



GEORGES GUILLAIN

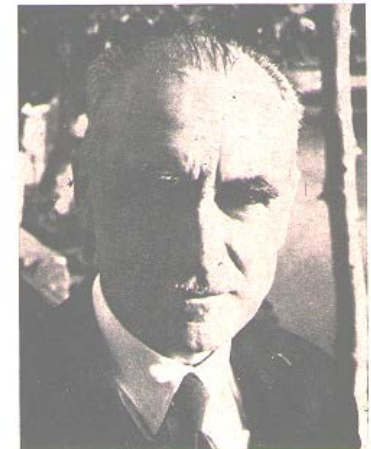
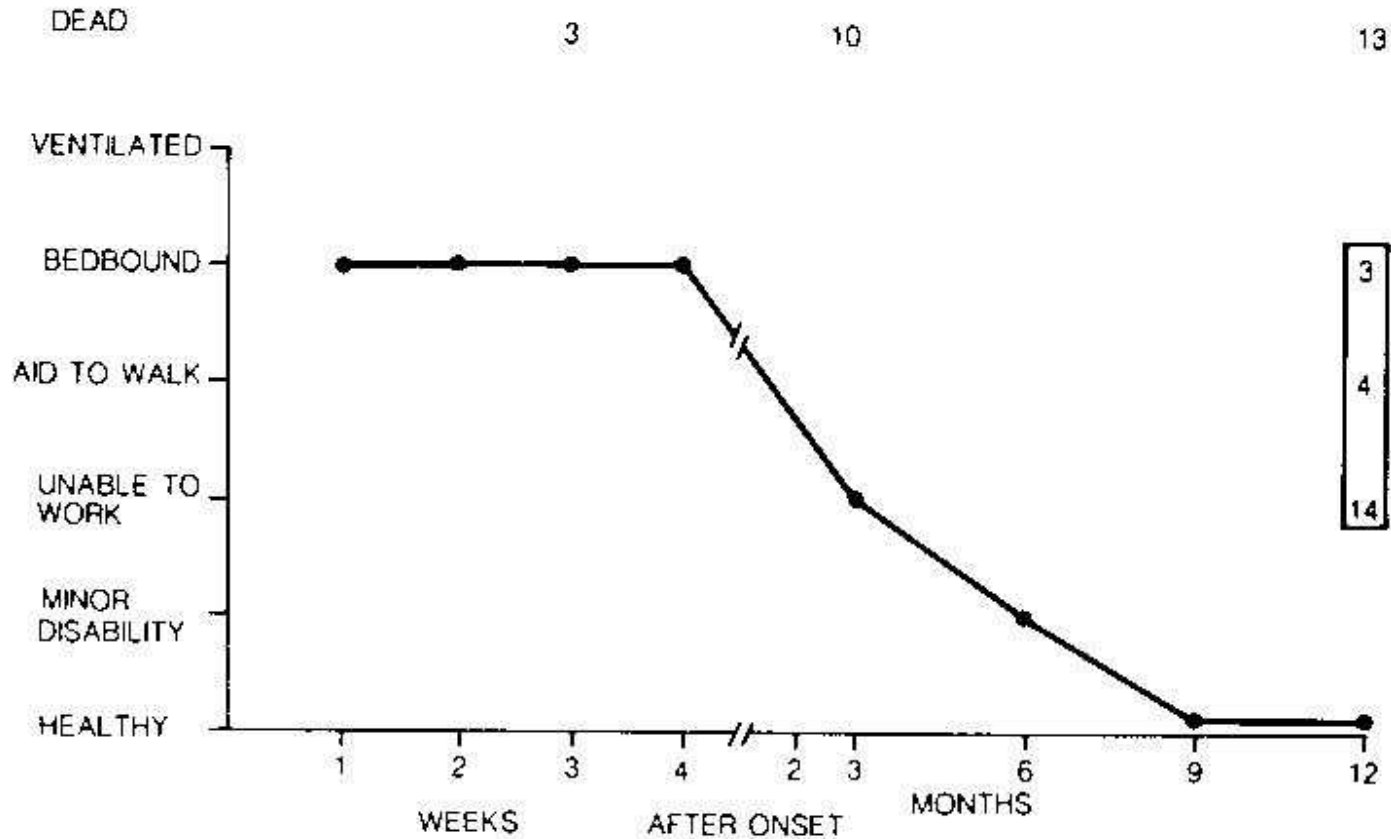


FIGURE 1. Photograph of Professor André Strohl.



# Natural History of GBS



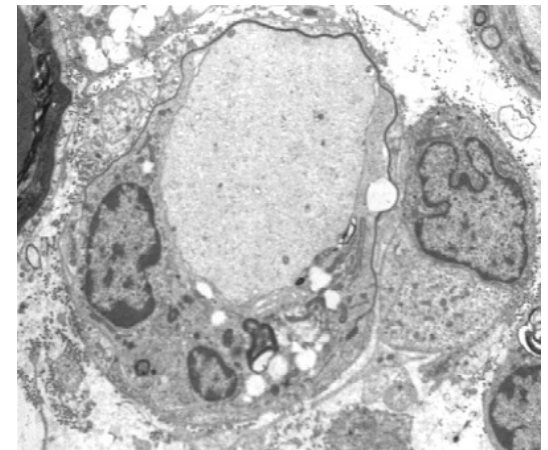
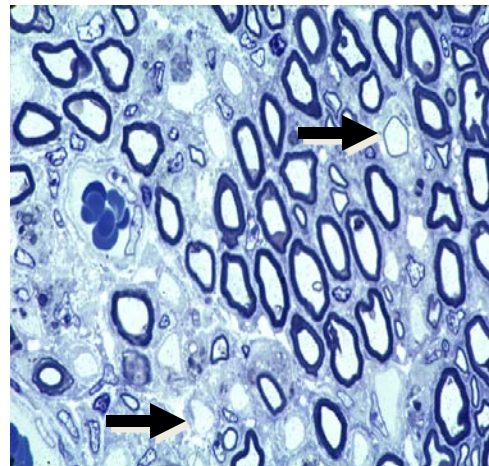
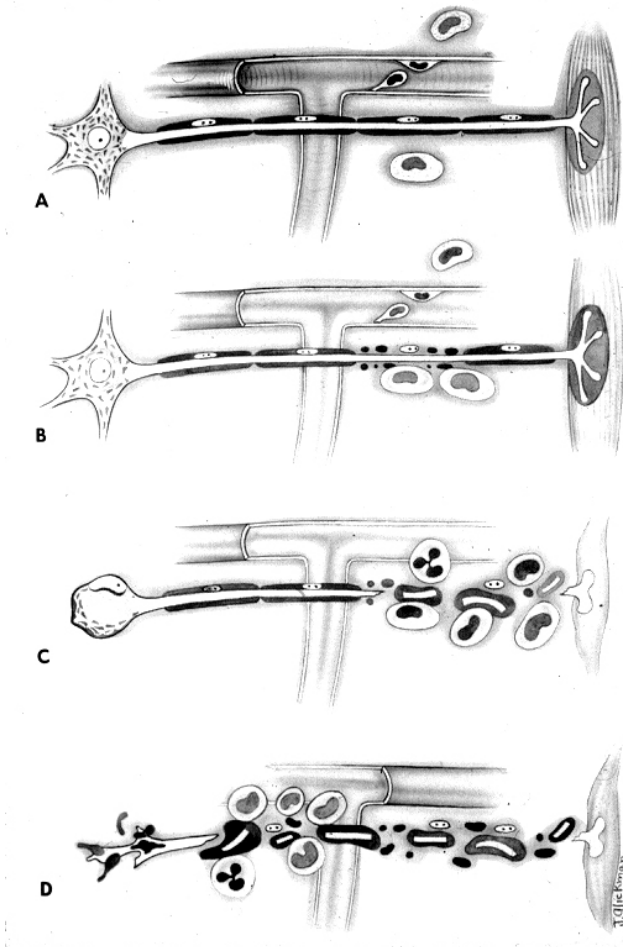
Adapted from Winer JB, Hughes RA, Osmond C. A prospective study of acute idiopathic neuropathy. I. Clinical features and their prognostic value. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1988;51:605-12.



Arthur Asbury

# Pathogenesis of GBS

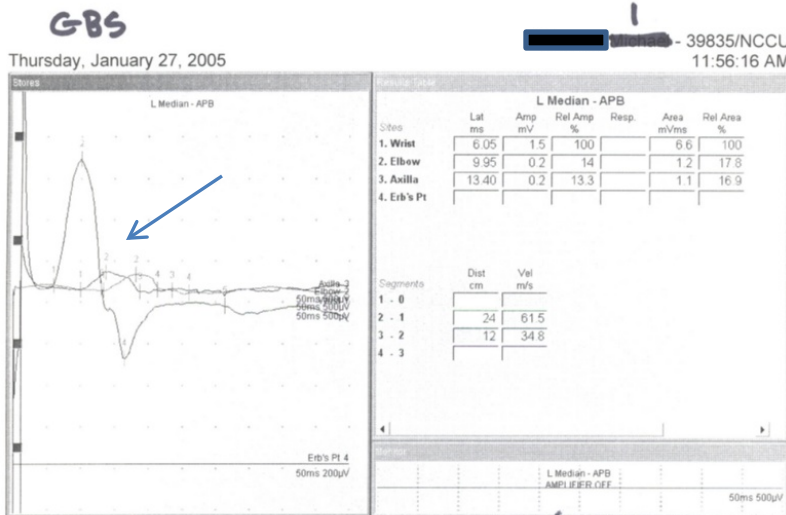
- Acute monophasic autoimmune attack on PNS myelin (demyelination with secondary axonal degeneration) usually post-infectious.



Asbury AK, Arnason BG, Adams RD. The inflammatory lesion in idiopathic polyneuritis. Its role in pathogenesis. *Medicine (Baltimore)* 1969;48:173-215.

Courtesy J Griffin

# Nerve Conduction in GBS



- Features of acquired demyelination
  - Prolonged Distal and F-wave Latency
  - Reduced Conduction Velocity
  - Partial Motor Conduction Block
  - Abnormal Temporal Dispersion

Sites	Lat ms	Amp mV	Rel Amp %	Resp.	Area mVms	Rel Area %	Dur ms	Rel Dur %
1. Wrist	6.05	1.5	100		6.6	100	7.05	100
2. Elbow	9.95	0.2	14		1.2	17.8	8.85	126
3. Axilla	13.40	0.2	13.3		1.1	16.9	10.10	143
4. Erb's Pt								

Segments	Dist cm	Vel m/s
1 - 0		
2 - 1	24	61.5
3 - 2	12	34.8
4 - 3		



*Brain* (1986), **109**, 1115-1126

# AN ACUTE AXONAL FORM OF GUILLAIN-BARRÉ POLYNEUROPATHY

by T. E. FEASBY,<sup>1</sup> J. J. GILBERT,<sup>1,2</sup> W. F. BROWN,<sup>1</sup> C. F. BOLTON,<sup>1</sup>  
A. F. HAHN,<sup>1,2</sup> W. F. KOOPMAN<sup>1</sup> *and* D. W. ZOCHODNE<sup>1</sup>



# GBS in China

- Mostly in children
- Mainly in summer
- Mainly rural children
- Clinically identical aside from normal sensation

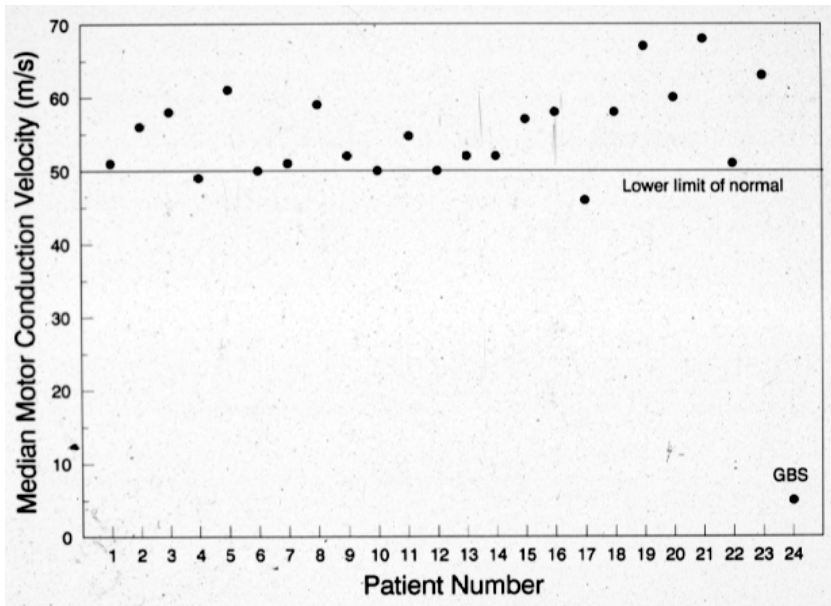


Hands of AK Asbury 1990





# Nerve conduction in GBS in China



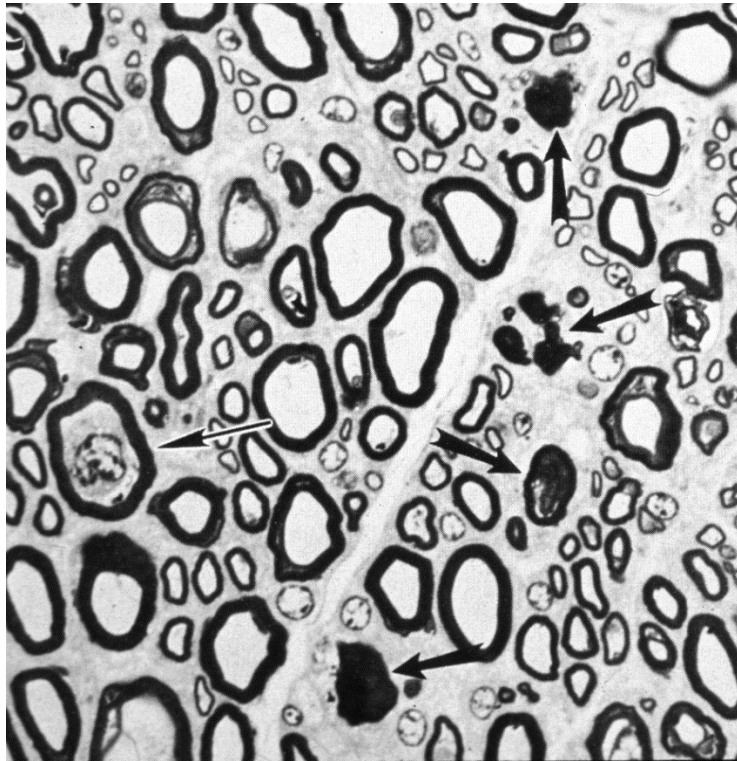
- No features of demyelination
- Normal SAP
- Low amplitude CMAPs
- EMG denervation
- Predicts pathology



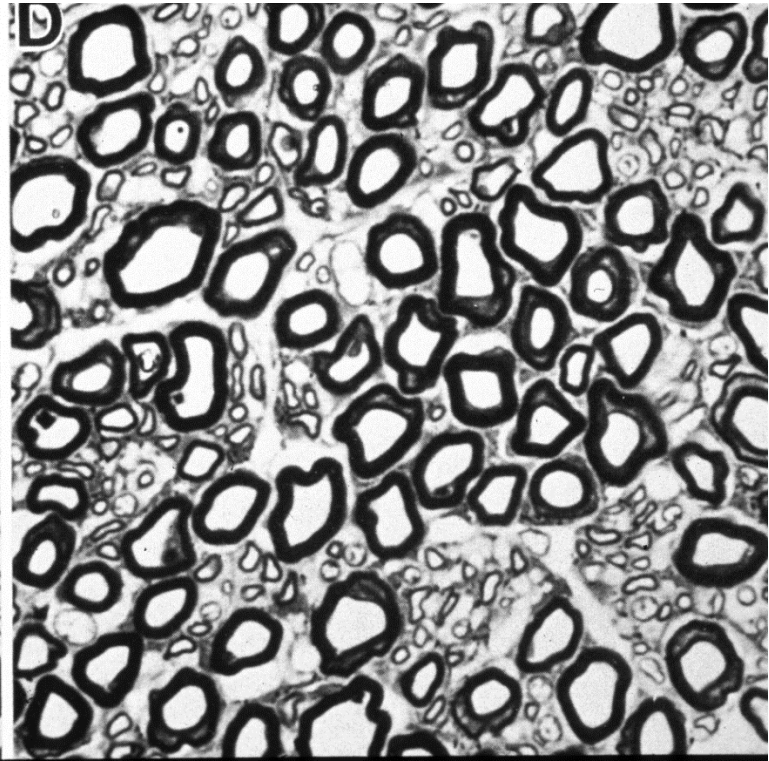
McKhann GM et al. Clinical and electrophysiological aspects of acute paralytic disease of children and young adults in northern China. *Lancet*, 1991;338:593-597.

# Pathology from China

**Motor Root**

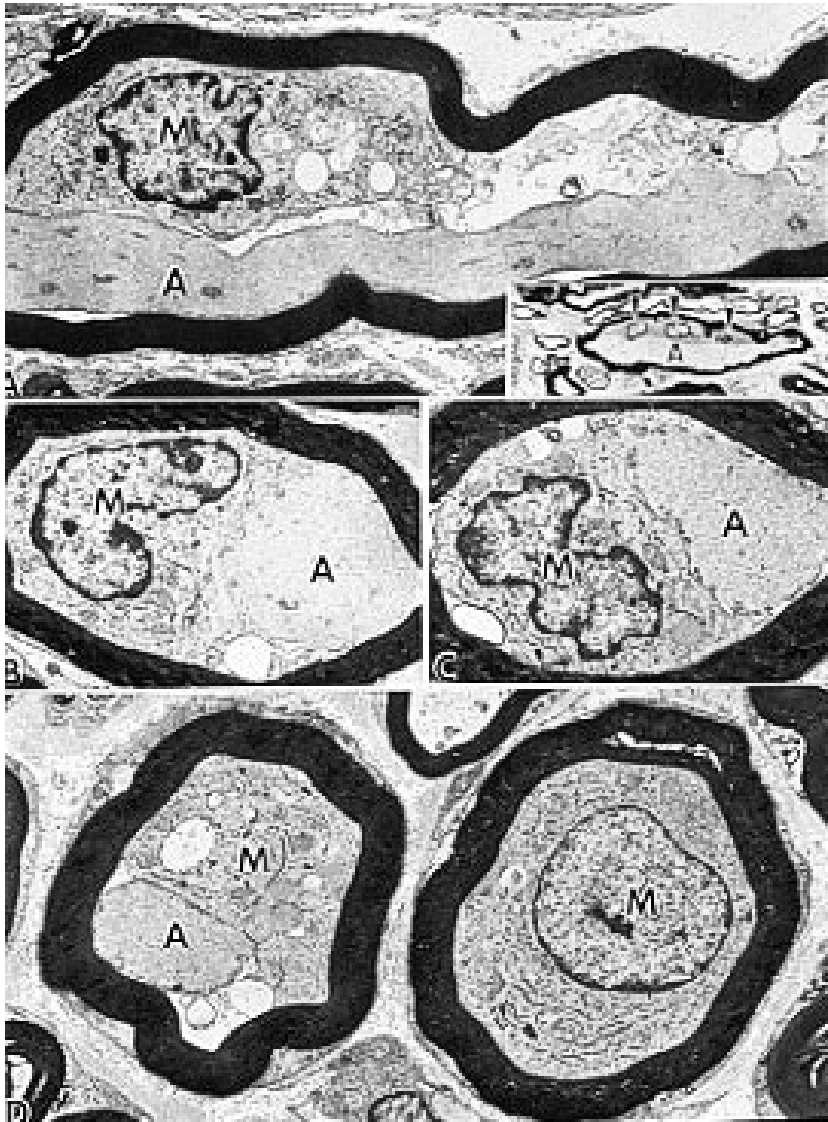


**Sensory Root**



Griffin JW et al. Pathology of the motor-sensory axonal Guillain-Barre syndrome. *Ann Neurol* 1996; 39:17-28.

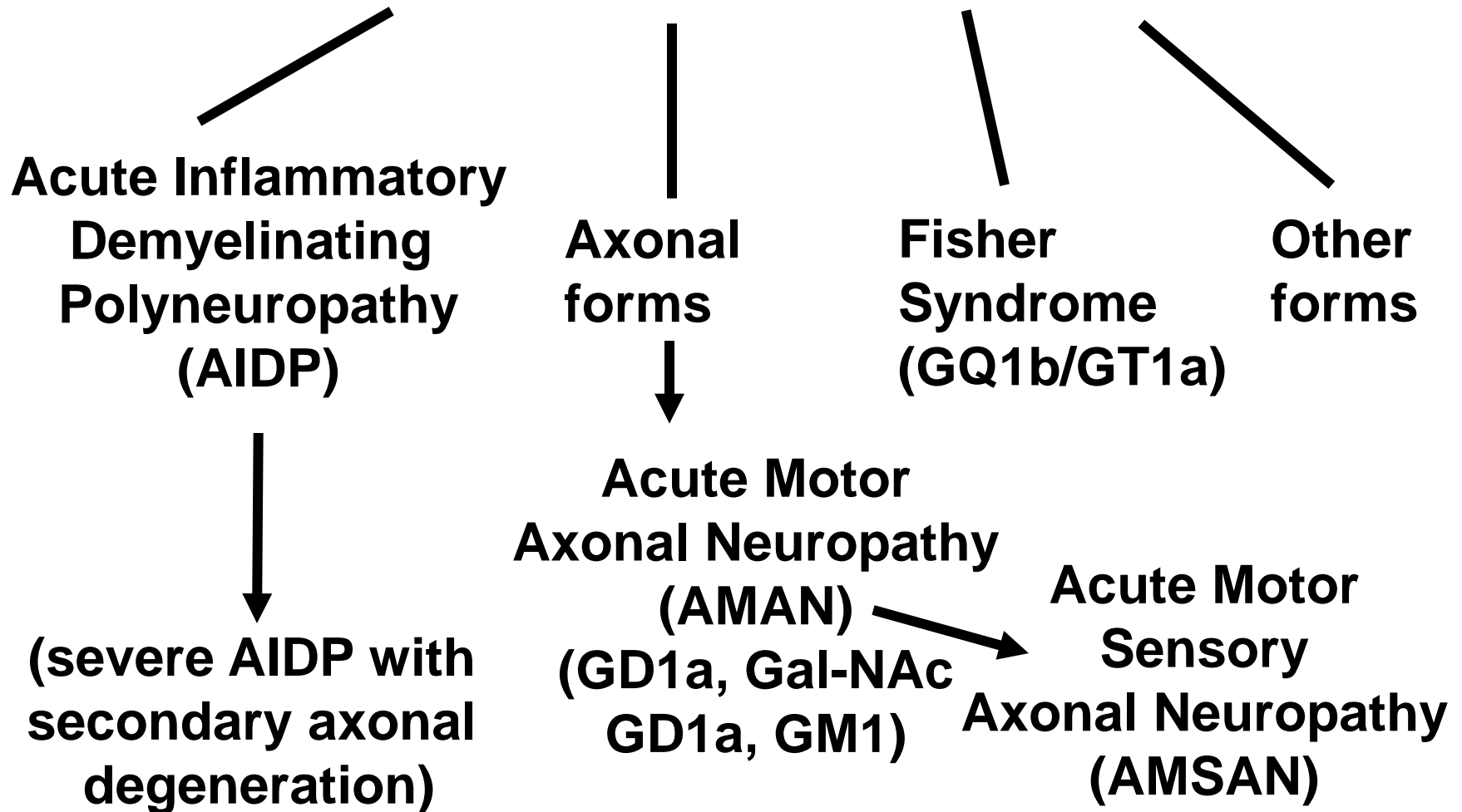
# Acute Motor Axonal Neuropathy



Macrophages dissect into the peri-axonal space of the internodes.

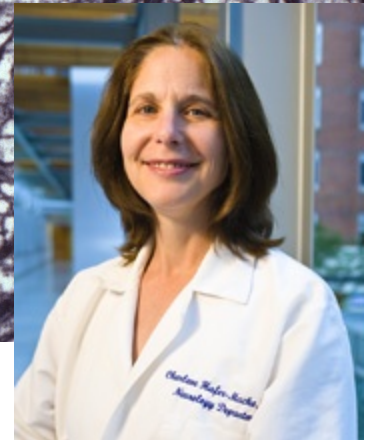
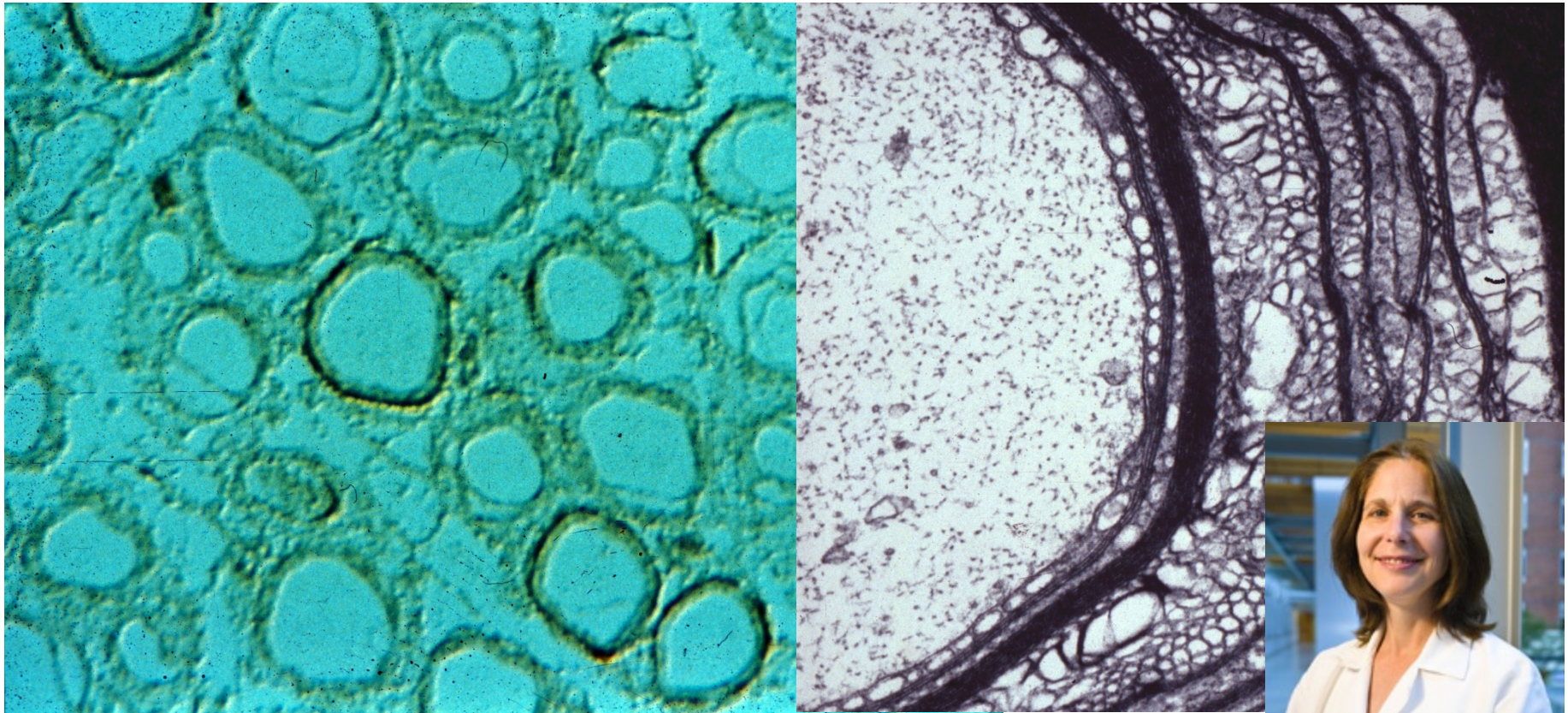
Griffin JW et al. Pathology of the motor-sensory axonal Guillain-Barre syndrome. *Ann Neurol* 1996;39:17-28.

# Guillain-Barre syndromes





# AIDP: Fibers with complement activation (C3d binding) undergo vesicular demyelination



Hafer-Macko C et al. Immune attack on the Schwann cell surface in acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy. *Ann Neurol* 39:625-635, 1996.

# Proposed Pathogenesis of AIDP

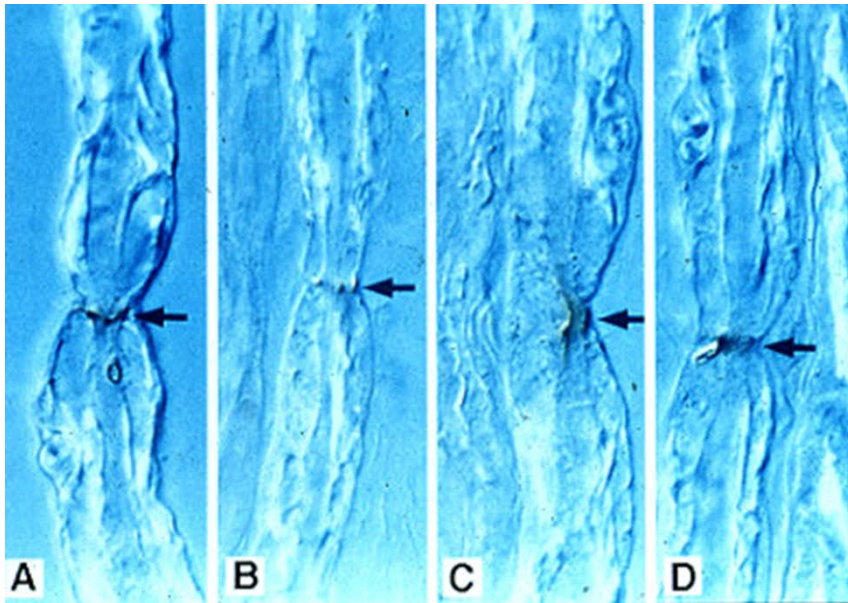
- Infection with a specific agent (may be *C. jejuni*).
- Formation of cross-reacting anti-myelin or anti-ganglioside antibodies.
- Binding of these antibodies to epitopes on the Schwann cell plasmalemma.
- Complement activation and macrophage recruitment.
- Demyelination and conduction failure.
- In severe cases, secondary distal Wallerian-like degeneration.



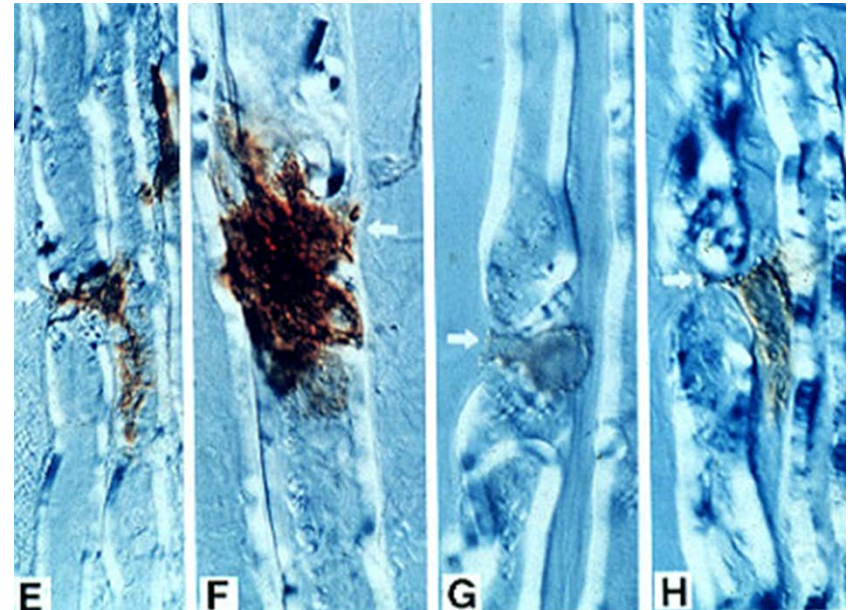
# Nodes in AMAN



## Complement



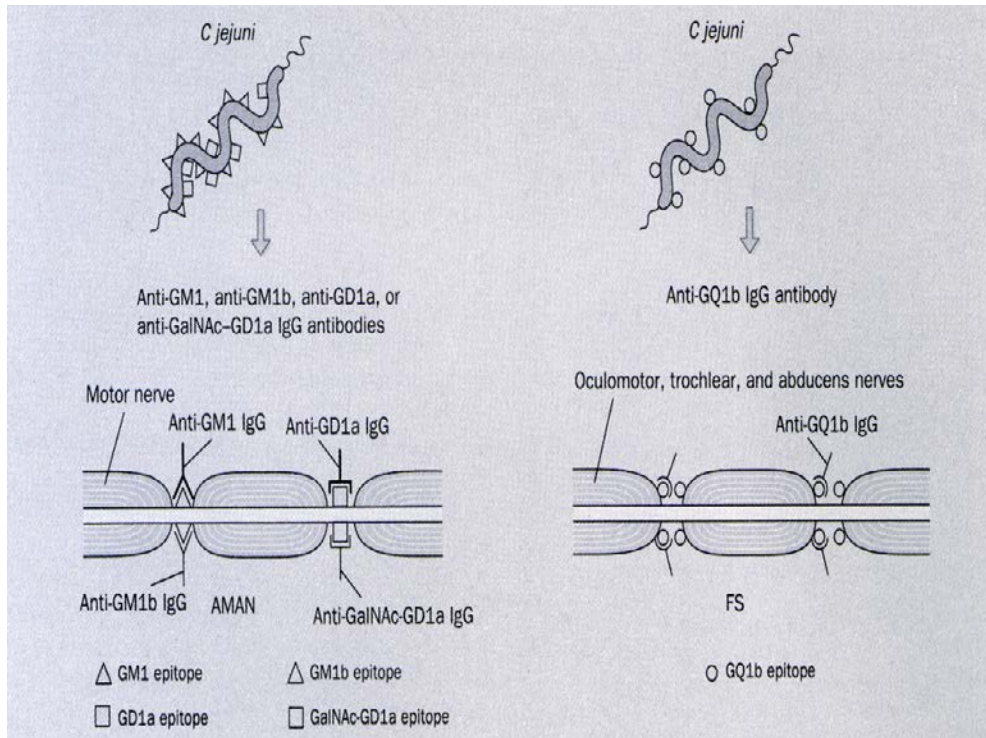
## Macrophages



Hafer-Macko C et al. Acute motor axonal neuropathy: an antibody-mediated attack on axolemma. *Ann Neurol* 1996;40:635-644.

Binding of IgG to internodal axolemma in AMAN

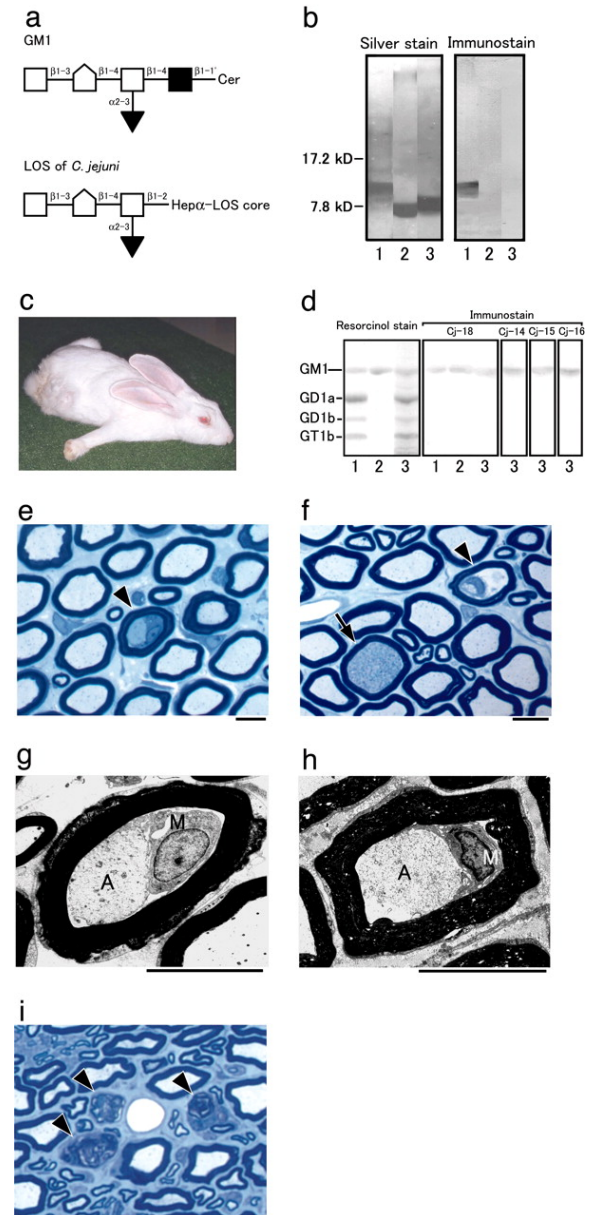




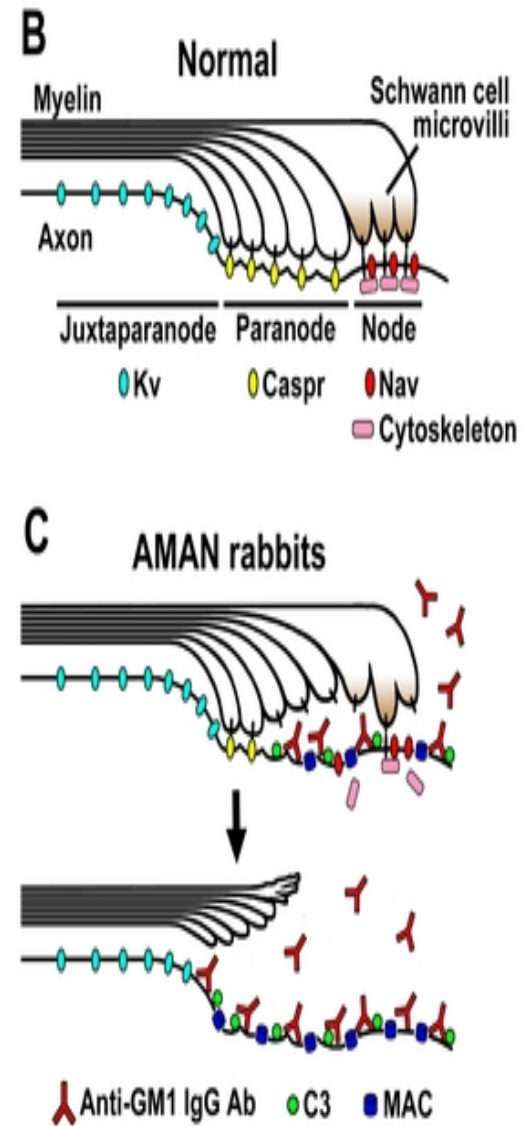
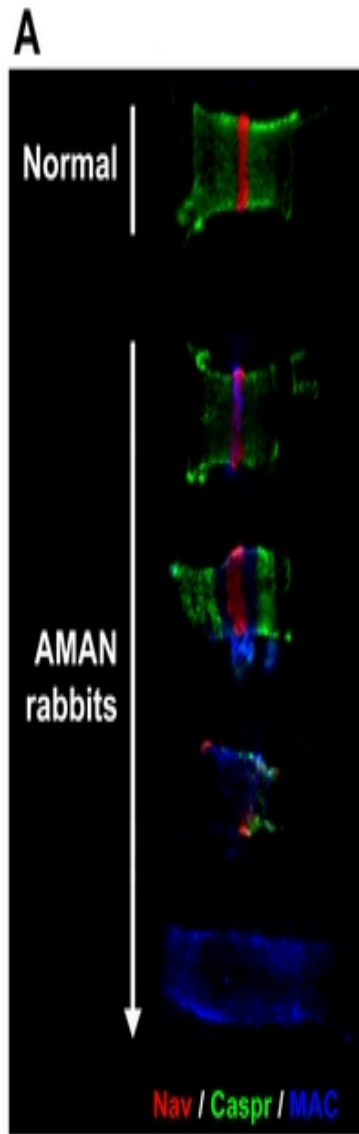
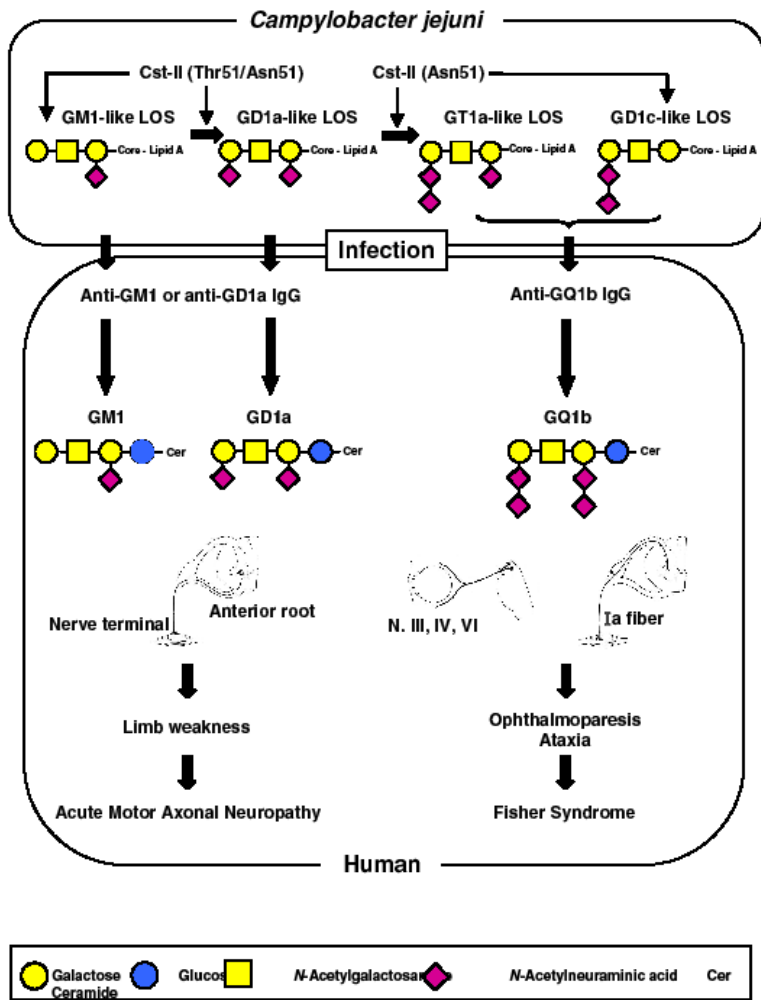
Yuki, Lancet Inf Dis 2001;1:29-37.

Yuki N et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 2004;101:11404-11409

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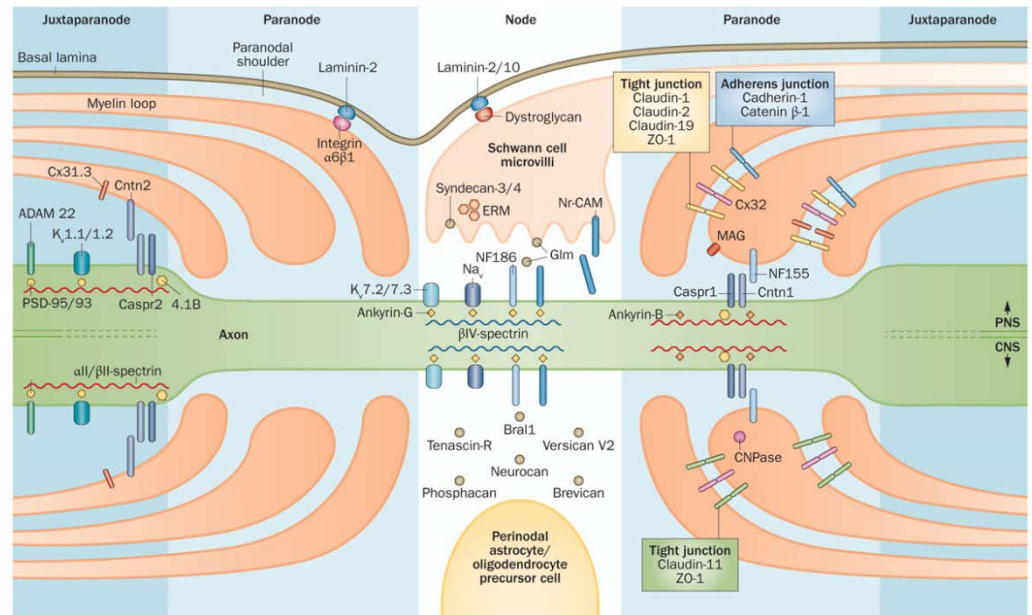
Yuki N and Kuwabara S. Axonal Guillain-Barré syndrome: carbohydrate mimicry and pathophysiology. *J Peripher Nerv Syst.* 2007;12:238-49.

# Proposed Pathogenesis of AMAN

- Enteric infection with a specific *C. jejuni* (usually Penner 0:19).
- Ganglioside-like epitopes in the LPS stimulate synthesis of complement fixing IgG anti-ganglioside (**GD1a**, GM1, GalNacGD1a, or GM1b) antibodies.
- Binding of these antibodies to Nav channels on the axolemma cause conduction failure and weakness.
- Recruitment of monocytes which help destroy the axon focally.
- Distal Wallerian degeneration follows.

# New Concepts

- The Node
- Conduction Failure
- Recovery



Nature Reviews | Neurology

# Treatment of GBS

PE = IVIg = PE then IVIg

Supportive Care

Support Group Care (GBS-CIDP FI)

What to do after first treatment “fails”?



# IVIg pharmacokinetics and outcome in GBS

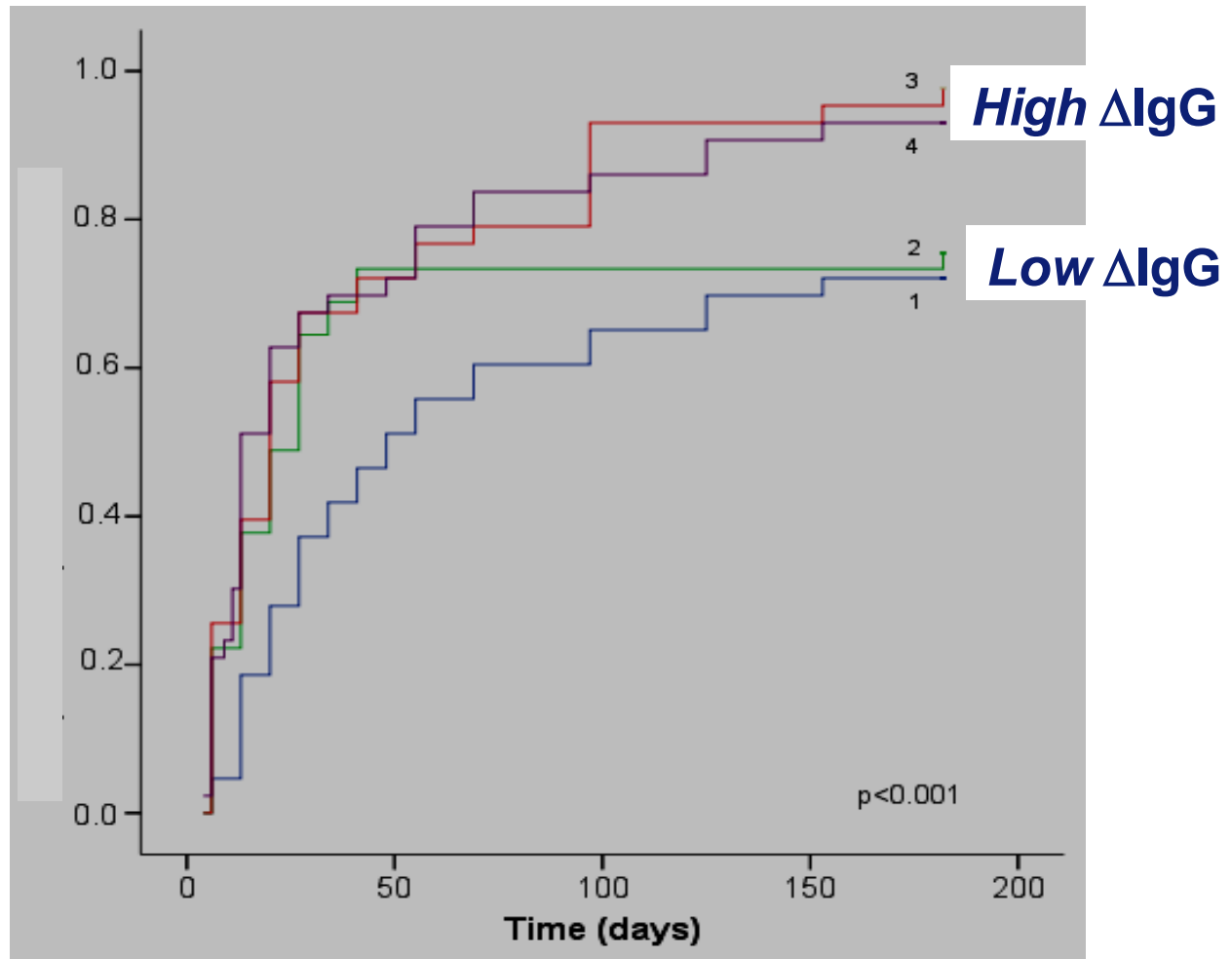
Kuitwaard K et al. Ann Neurol 2009;66:597-603.

## Serum $\Delta$ IgG after IVIg in 174 GBS patients in relation to recovery

Proportion of patients who walk unaided



From P van Doorn



**Low  $\Delta$ IgG** is associated with slower recovery

All GBS Patients in IGOS (B Jacobs, lead)



Only those treated with IVIg 2 gram/kg (in 2-5 days)

prognosis at day 7 after start IVIg

Good prognosis  
(mEGOS 0-5)

NO Second  
IVIg course

Good prognosis  
(mEGOS 0-5)

Second IVIg  
course

Poor prognosis  
(mEGOS 6-12)

NO Second  
IVIg course

Poor prognosis  
(mEGOS 6-12)

Second IVIg  
course

Primary endpoint: 4 weeks, follow-up 8, 12, 26 weeks



From P van Doorn

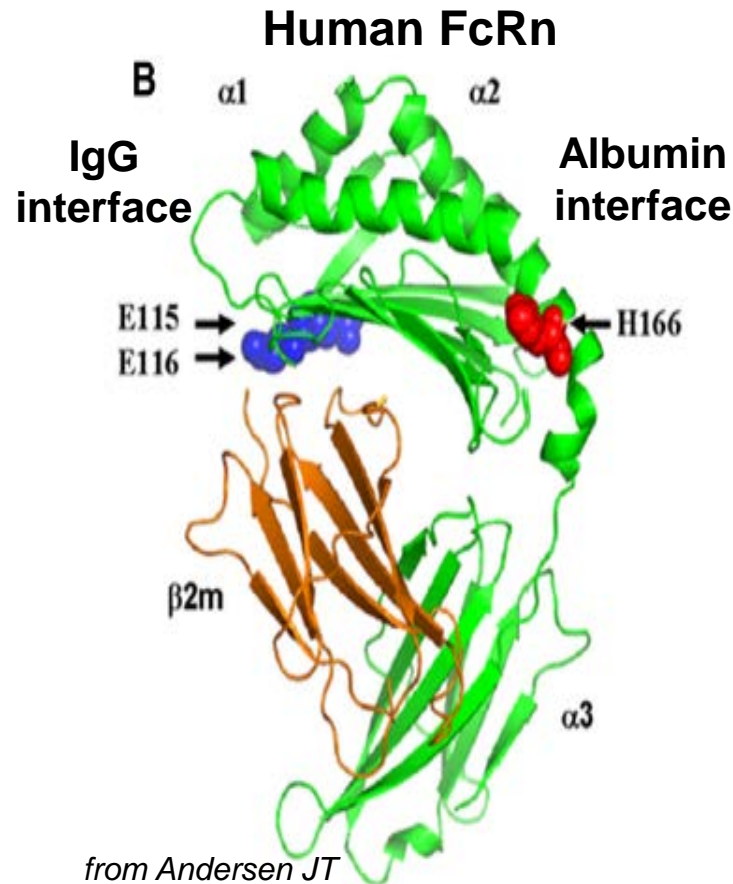
# Active and Upcoming

- Complement in GBS
  - Ongoing trial of eculizumab, a terminal complement inhibitor (Willison, Glasgow - PI)
  - Other complement drugs under consideration
- IgG-mimetics
  - Building on the Ravich observations
- Neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn)
- Monoclonal antibodies

# What is FcRn? It binds two ligands at non-overlapping sites: IgG and albumin

## IgG

- Binds pH5, not pH7<sup>1</sup>
- 2:1 ratio<sup>2</sup>
- KDa = 25 nM<sup>3</sup>
- t<sub>1/2</sub> = 21 days<sup>4</sup>



from Andersen JT  
J Biol chem 2010

## Albumin

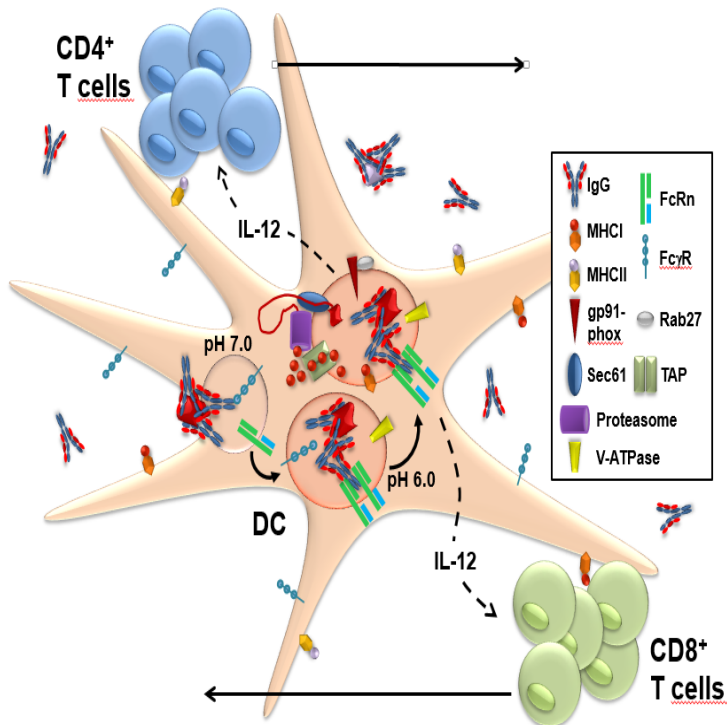
- Binds pH5, not pH7<sup>5</sup>
- 1:1 ratio<sup>5</sup>
- KDa = 4.5 $\mu$ M<sup>3,5</sup>
- t<sub>1/2</sub> = 20 days<sup>6</sup>

# FcRn Is Widely Expressed in Adult Life

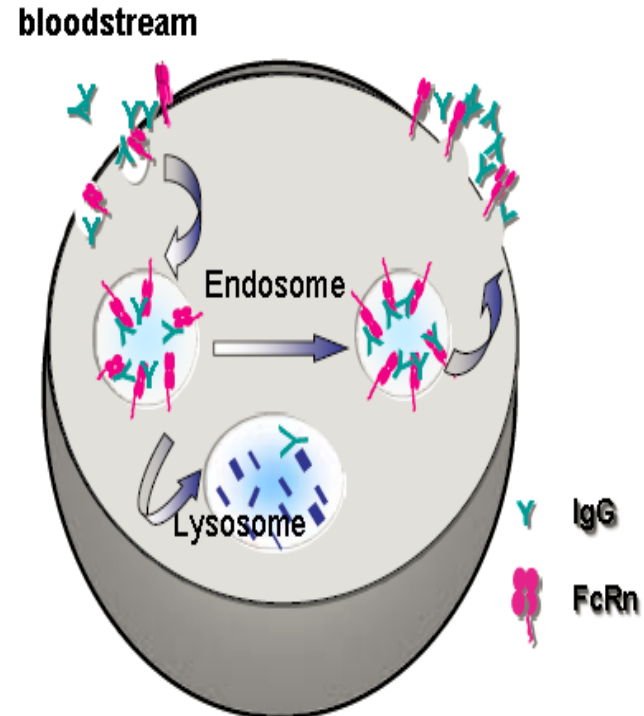
- Expression in numerous cell types
  - Parenchymal: hepatocytes, polarized epithelial cells, endothelial cells<sup>1</sup> (protect and transport IgG and albumin)
  - Hematopoietic: macrophages, dendritic cells (DC), neutrophils, B cells<sup>1,2</sup> (protect monomeric IgG and degrade multimeric immune complexes (IC)-IgG for antigen presentation)
  - Expression in a wide range of tissues
  - Lung, intestines, kidney, GU tract, brain, liver<sup>1</sup>
- Developmentally regulated<sup>1</sup>
  - High levels neonatal rodent intestinal epithelium
  - Placenta of humans

# FcRn has complementary roles in IgG biology by maintaining IgG levels and MHC Class I & II presentation: *Driving IgG mediated autoimmune disease*

FcRn within dendritic cells enables the presentation of IgG-complexed antigens to CD4<sup>+</sup> & CD8 T cells and production of innate cytokines (e.g. TNF, IL-12)



FcRn binds IgG and protects it from degradation by trafficking away from the lysosome and responsible for the long serum IgG half-life



Adapted from Blumberg, *J Immunol* 2015

SYNTIMMUNE

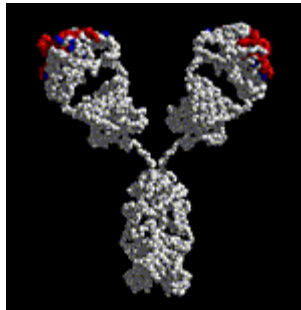
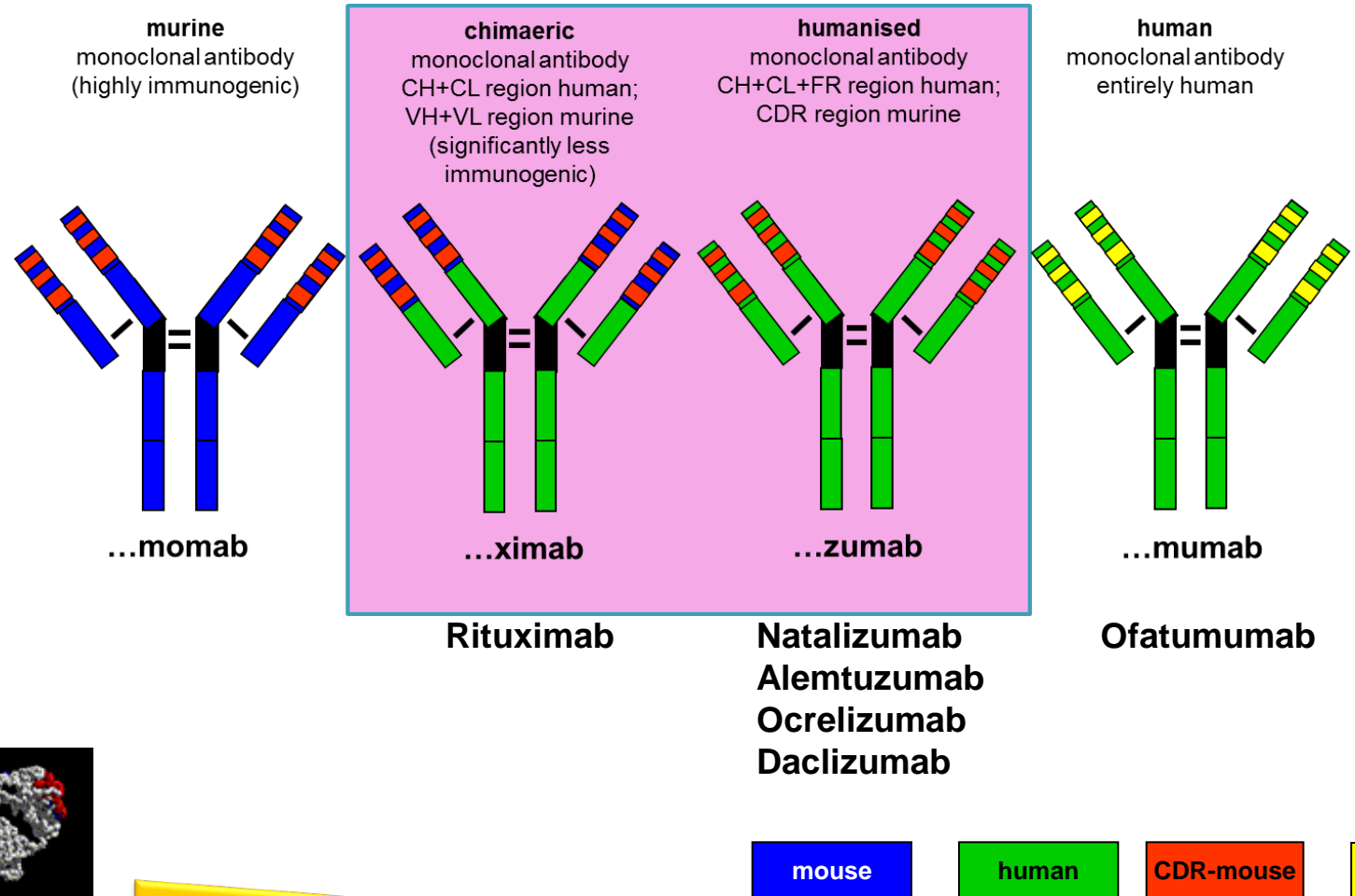
Brambell, *Nature* 1964; Junghans, *PNAS* 1996;  
 or Ghetie, *EJI* 1996; Roopenian, *Jl* 2003; Akilesh, *J Immunol* 2007;  
 Qiao, *PNAS* 2008; Liu *J Immunol* 2007; Ward *PNAS* 2008



# Specific blockade of FcRn-IgG interaction in IgG-mediated autoimmune diseases will focus on the disease pathophysiology

- Promotes the degradation of pathogenic IgG antibodies (humoral immunity)
- Inhibits T cell activation stimulated by immune-associated antigen presentation (adaptive immunity)
- Blocks the production of cytokines including IL-12,  $\text{INF}\gamma$ ,  $\text{TNF}\alpha$  (inflammation)

# Therapeutic recombinant antibodies



# PNS



PERIPHERAL NERVE SOCIETY



6th International  
Conference  
on CMT  
and Other Inherited  
Neuropathies  
8-10 September 2016

Inflammatory  
Neuropathy  
Consortium  
21-5 June 2016



University of Glasgow  
Scotland



2017 PNS  
MEETING  
SITGES- BARCELONA  
Saturday July 8<sup>TH</sup> – Wed July 12<sup>TH</sup>