

Neurology and Rheumatology

(what happened to Monday?)

*Eslam Shosha, MD FEBN
Neuroscience clinical department
Western University, ON, Canada
Eslam.shosha@lhsc.on.ca*

Disclosure

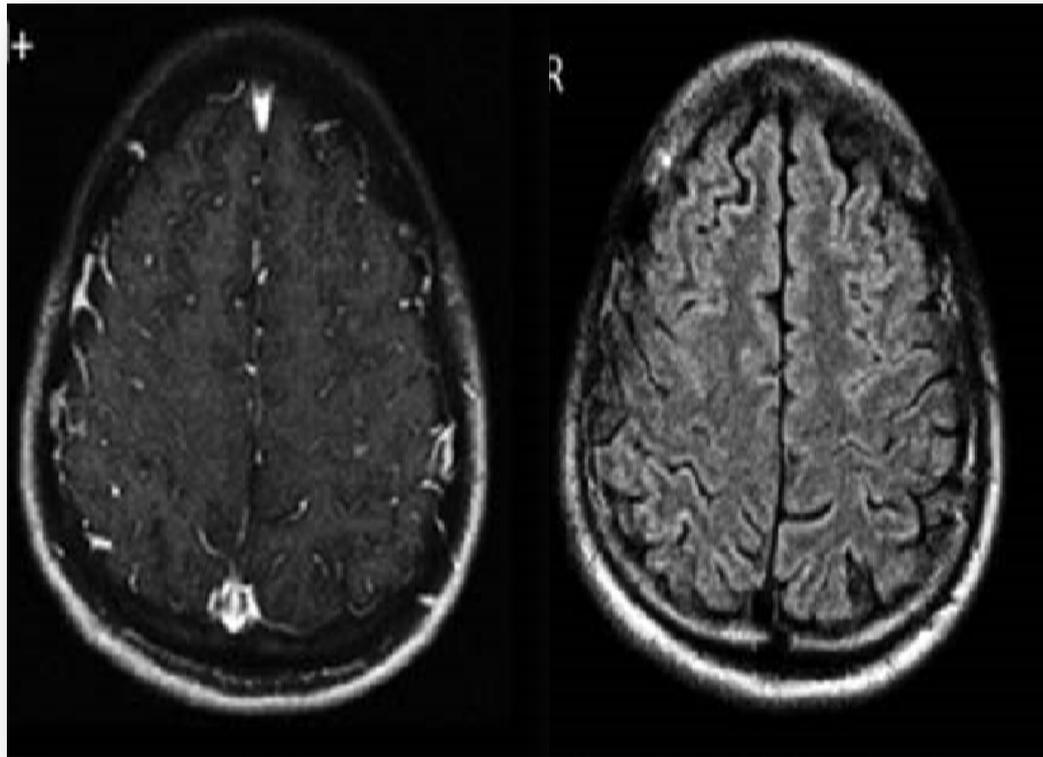
Relevant Financial Relationship(s)

None

Off-label therapy discussion

Methylprednisolone, plasma exchange, azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil, mitoxantrone, rituximab, intravenous immune globulin, cyclophosphamide, and other immunological therapies

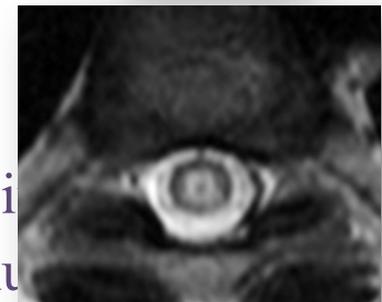
Case 1



days



tations



- CSF: 50 cells/ μ l (65% PMNL), ptn 60mg/dl, positive
- Positive pathology test MO, MOG, autoimmu

Acute parenchymal CNS involvement in Behçet's disease
(acute intra-axial neuro-Behçet disease)

5–10 days of IVMP (1000 mg/day)

Oral MP (60–80 mg/day)
+
Add azathioprine (2.5 mg/kg per day)
↓
Taper oral MP by 8 mg/week (to 32 mg/day)
↓
Continue 32 mg/day for 3 months,
then further taper down to 8 mg/day
over 3 months

Weekly IVMP (1000 mg) for 4 weeks
+
32 mg/day oral MP between pulses
+
Add azathioprine (2.5 mg/kg per day)
↓
Monthly IVMP (1000 mg)
for up to 6 months
+
Taper oral MP over 3 months to 8 mg/day

No progression,
No recurrences.
↓
Azathioprine (years)

Patient cannot tolerate
azathioprine
↓
Mycophenolate mofetil

New attack or Worsening
↓
Start IVMP pulses +
stop azathioprine
+
Infliximab
or
Interferon alfa

Case 2

- 32 y/o married
- Severe headache, and seizure
- Previous miscarriage (1)
- No OCP
- Work up
 - Normal coagulation work up
 - Platelet count 110
 - Negative antibodies
 - ANA, dsDNA, LA, β 2-GPI, a CL, PL



APS

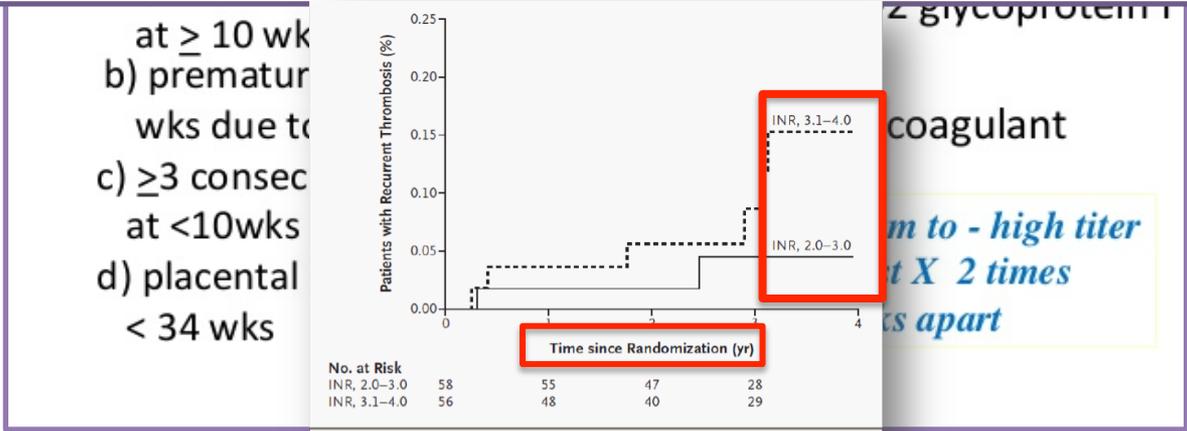
Asymptomatic carrier	Unclear, no therapy or aspirin
APS and venous event	Anticoagulation with INR 2-3
APS with arterial event	Area of controversy; INR 2-3 with aspirin versus higher INR target (such as 2.5-3.5)
Arterial event with low-titre antiphospholipid antibodies	Usual treatment

Stroke

BS
celitis

Epilepsy

Headache

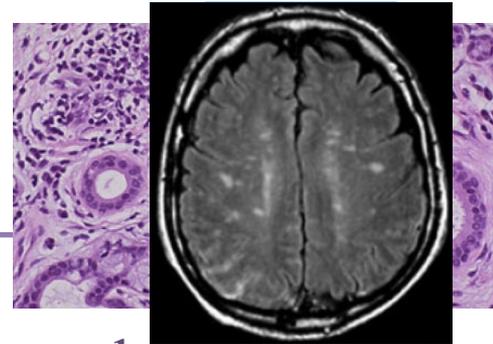


- a) at ≥ 10 wks
- b) premature wks due to
- c) ≥ 3 consec at < 10 wks
- d) placental < 34 wks

2 glycoprotein
coagulant
m to - high titer
t X 2 times
s apart

Figure 1. Time to First Recurrent Thrombosis for All Patients Enrolled in the Study.
INR denotes international randomized ratio. Patients assigned to high-intensity warfarin therapy had a target INR of 3.1 to 4.0; those assigned to moderate-intensity therapy, a target INR of 2.0 to 3.0.

Case 3



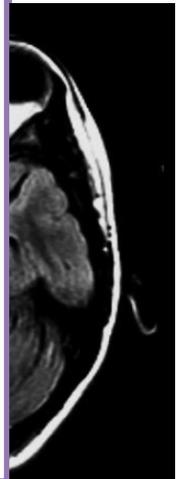
- 57 y/o M, teacher
- Disabling fatigue and Memory difficulties x 6 months
- Paraesthesia and pain in distal extremities, evolved to hands, lips and tongue x1 week
- No weakness

- Normal HbA1C, vit B12, vit B6, anti-dsDNA, ANA, ANCA, ESR, CRP, ACE, Hep B and C, MRI spine , CT chest, paraneoplastic
- Normal NCS and EMG
- Responded to steroid, maintained on azathioprine

Sjögren syndrome (SS)

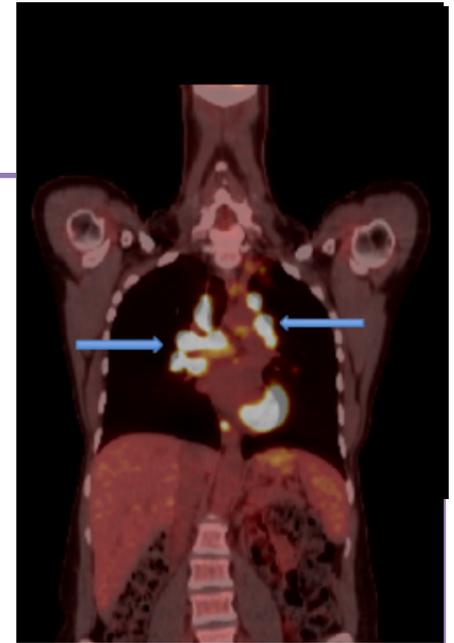
- Poo
 - A
 - A
- Sch
- Lip
- Corticosteroids: 30-40% response rate
- IVIG: 30-40% response
- Rituximab
- Infliximab
- Symptomatic treatment

Positive se



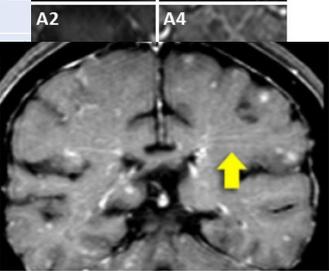
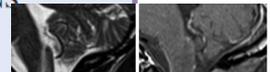
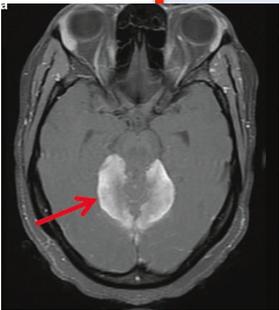
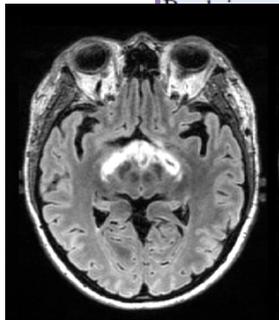
Case 4

- 45 y/o M, healthy, non-smoker
- Decrease vision right eye 6 days, headache
- Unremarkable
 - # Respiratory , Constitutional symptoms #APS, Weight loss
 - # OGU, Skin lesions # Dryness, joint pain
- Improvement x 5 days of 1 gm IVMP
- Worsening on 4th day, post last dose, 60mg and tapering
- Work up
 - ESR, CRP (++++)
 - Anti-AQP4, MOG, dsDNA, ANA, ANCA, ACE, MRI spine , paraneoplastic (N)
 - CSF: 59 cells/ul (lymph), ptn 62 mg/dl, glucose 2.6 mmol/l (serum 6), OC (2 bands)
 - Trans-bronchial biopsy: Non-caseating granulomas

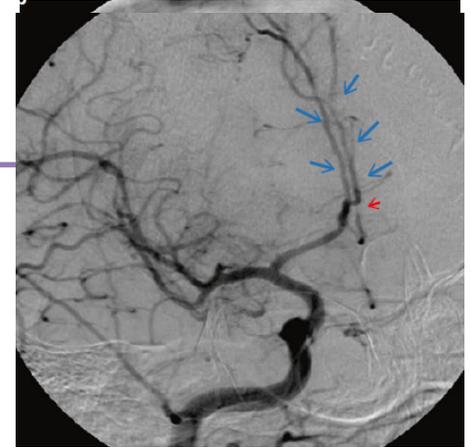


Sarcoidosis “The great imitator”

Agent	Dosage	Side effects	Comments
Glucocorticoids			
Hydrocortisone	0.25–1 mg/kg/day PO	Numerous including: psychosis, osteoporosis, Cushing syndrome, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, gastric ulcers, glaucoma, cataracts	For mild-to-moderate NS
Methylprednisolone (“pulse”)	1000 mg/day 3–5 days		For severe NS
Immunosuppressing adjuncts			
Azathioprine	Up to 2 mg/kg PO daily	Anemia, neutropenia, hepatitis	
Cyclosporine	2.5 mg/kg/BID PO	Hypertension, renal dysfunction	
Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole	50–200 mg/day PO 500 mg q 2–3 weeks IV	Cytopenias, hemorrhagic cystitis, infection	
Methotrexate	10–25 mg weekly PO or SQ	Cytopenias, hepatitis, pneumonitis, mucositis	Give with at least folic acid PO daily
Hydroxychloroquine	1–1.5 g PO BID	Anemia, hepatitis, colitis	
Chloroquine	Up to 5 mg/kg PO daily (typically 300–400 mg)	Retinopathy, myopathy, cardiomyopathy	Side effects are rare; avoid with immunosuppressive therapy Relatively contraindicated in renal failure, test for TB and hepatitis before treatment
Anti-TNF- α (TNF inhibitor)			
Infliximab	3–7 mg/kg IV at week 0, 2, 6 then 3–7 mg/kg IV q4–8 weeks	Infection, infusion reaction, antidrug antibodies, malignancy, demyelination, hepatitis, drug-induced lupus	
Adalimumab	40 mg SQ q2wk	Injection reaction, malignancy, demyelination, hepatitis, drug-induced lupus	



Case 5



- 53 y/o healthy M
- Acute left hemiparesis
- ? TIA (right sided numbness for 2 days)
- No fever, OGU, asthma, skin lesions
- Normal HbA1c, LP, echo, holter, coagulation profile, ESR, CRP, hep B and C, HIV, treponemal, creatinine, autoimmune serology
- CSF: cells 14 ul/L (lymph), ptn 60mg/dl, glu 3.2mmol, negative virus PCR, negative bacterial and fungal c/s, no OCB, IgG index (+ +)
- Patient refused biopsy
- Improved with IVMP, started CYC & steroid for 6 months, MMF.

Vasculitis

Distribution
vascul

Primary angiitis of the central nervous system

essel

1. Clinical
rema
2. Find
tures
3. No e
tion
could

- Headache 60%
- Altered cognition 50%
- Ischemic stroke 44%
- Visual symptom (any kind) 42%
- TIA 28%
- Seizure 15%
- Intracranial haemorrhage 8%

which
fe-
ondi-
tures

Large

- Tak
- Gia

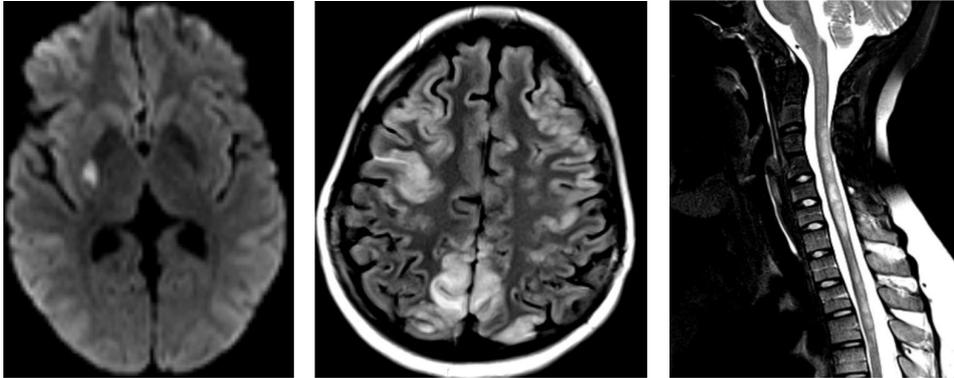
Takayasu arteritis

Hypocomplementemic urticarial vasculitis

Behçet disease

Case 6

- 23 y/o F diagnosed with SLE, 6 weeks ago
- Maintained on 50 mg prednisone
- Brought to ER
 - Insomnia for last 4 days
 - Agitation
 - Hearing of talking voices for 3 days
- CSF analysis normal, normal MRI brain, no infections,
- Antibodies dsDNA, APL, NMDA positive, ESR 13
- Treated with 1gm IVMP
- patient become very agitated with inappropriate laughing
- Stopped steroid, maintained on resperidone and haloperidol PRN
- Recovered within 2 weeks



Diagnosis requires *either* of the following:

- A. 4 of 17 criteria below present at any point in time, with at least 1 clinical and 1 immunologic criteria fulfilled
OR
- B. Biopsy-proven lupus nephritis AND positive ANA or anti-dsDNA antibodies



Clinical criteria	Immunologic criteria
Acute cutaneous lupus: lupus malar rash (non-discoid), bullous lupus, toxic epidermal necrolysis variant of SLE, maculopapular lupus rash, photosensitive lupus rash (in absence of dermatomyositis) or subacute cutaneous lupus	ANA above laboratory reference range
Chronic cutaneous lupus: classic discoid rash either localized or generalized, hypertrophic (verrucous) lupus, lupus panniculitis (profundus), mucosal lupus, lupus erythematosus tumidus, chilblain lupus, discoid lupus/lichen planus overlap	Anti-dsDNA above reference range, except ELISA (2x above reference range)
Oral ulcers: palate, buccal, tongue, or nasal (absence of other causes)	Anti-Sm
Nonscarring alopecia (absence of other causes)	Antiphospholipid antibody defined as lupus anticoagulant, false-positive RPR, medium or high titer anticardiolipin, anti-β (beta)2 glycoprotein I (IgA, IgG, or IgM)
Synovitis: 2+ joints with swelling or effusion OR tenderness in 2+ joints and >30 minutes morning stiffness	Low complement C3, C4, CH50
Serositis: >1 day of typical pleurisy or pleural effusions or pleural rub. >1 day of typical pericardial pain or pericardial effusion, or rub, or electrocardiogram evidence (absence of other causes)	Direct Coombs in the absence of hemolytic anemia
Renal: Proteinuria of >500 mg/24 h or equivalent urine protein/creatinine, or red blood cell casts	
Neurologic: seizures, psychosis, mononeuritis multiplex, myelitis, peripheral or cranial neuropathy, acute confusional state (absence of other known causes)	
Hemolytic anemia: At least one occurrence of leucopenia <4000/mm ³ , or lymphopenia <1000/mm ³ in the absence of other known causes Thrombocytopenia <100,000/mm ³ at least once in the absence of other known causes	

Neuropsychiatric SLE (*NPSLE*)

- ANA: present in 95% but not specific
- Anti-dsDNA: can correlate with disease activity
- At least another >100 antibodies described
 - Anti-phospholipid antibodies
 - Anti-NMDAR NR2 subunit
 - Anti-Ribosomal
 - Anti-Aquaporin 4
 - Anti-MOG

Case 7

- 26 y/o F

- L

- N

- D

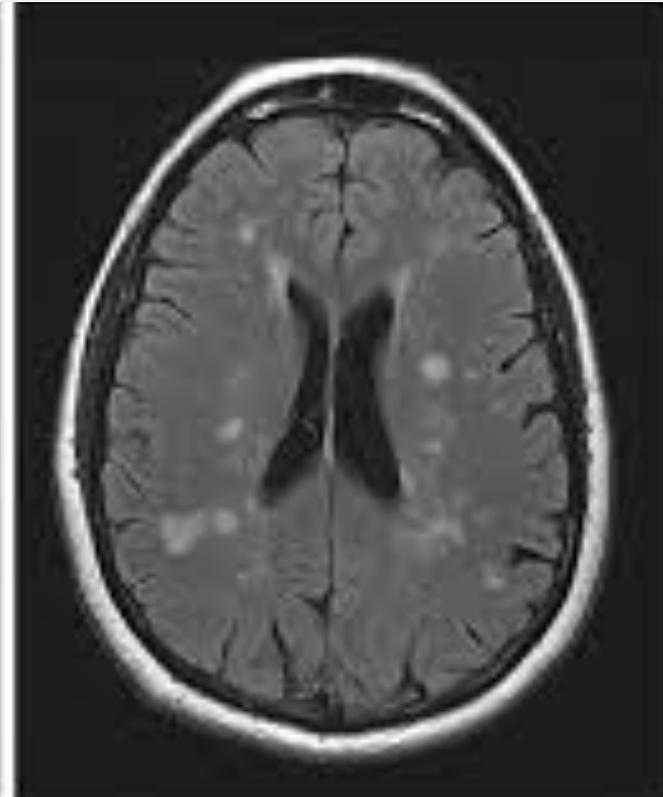
- H

- U

- N

- C

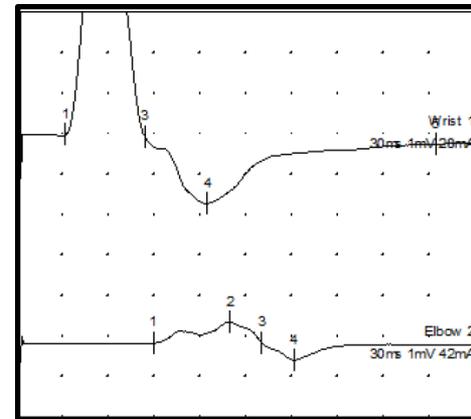
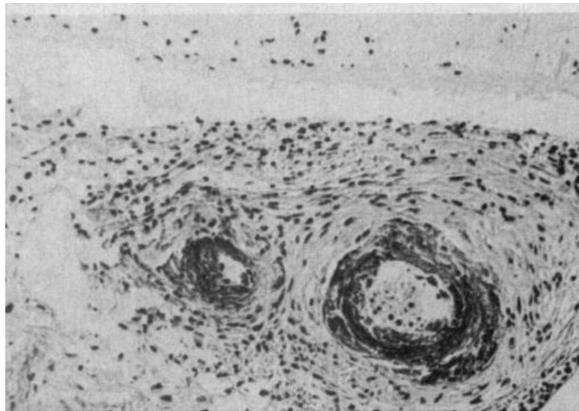
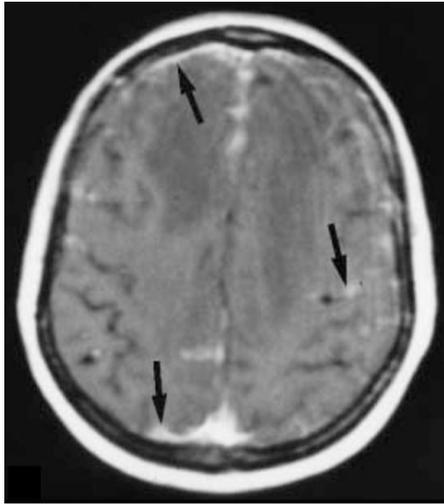
- Positive ANA (1:160), positive anti-Ro



MS/NMO and Rheumatic disease

Autoantibodies	Anti-AQP4 + (<i>n</i> = 12)	Anti-AQP4 – (<i>n</i> = 10)
Anti-nucleosome*	4 (33.3)	3 (33.3)
Antinuclear antibodies	5 (41.7)	1 (10.0)
Anti-thyroperoxidase	4 (33.3)	1 (10.0)
Anti-thyroglobulin	2 (16.7)	3 (30.0)
Anti-SSA/Ro	1 (8.3)	1 (10.0)
TRAb	0 (0.0)	1 (10.0)
Anti-CCP	1 (8.3)	0 (0.0)
Anti-dsDNA	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Anti-SSB/La	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Anti-Sm	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Anti-RNP	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Anti-Sc170	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Rheumatoid factor	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
ANCA†	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)

Rheumatoid arthritis



References

1. NeuroRheumatology A Comprehensive Guide to Immune Mediated Disorders of the Nervous System. Tracey A, et al, 2019
2. Myelopathy in Behcet's Disease: The Bagel Sign, Uygunoglu U, et al, 2017, Ann of Neurology
3. Siva A, Saip S. The spectrum of nervous system involvement in Behcet's syndrome and its differential diagnosis. J Neurol
4. Chiewthanakul P, Sawanyawisuth K, Foocharoen C, Tiamkao S. Clinical features and predictive factors in neuropsychiatric lupus. Asian Pac J Allergy Immunol
5. Sibbitt WL Jr, Sibbitt RR, Brooks WM. Neuroimaging in neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus. Arthritis Rheum
6. Rodriguez-Garcia JL, Bertolaccini ML, Cuadrado MJ, Sanna G, Ateka-Barrutia O, Khamashta MA. Clinical manifestations of antiphospholipid syndrome (APS) with and without antiphospholipid antibodies (the so-called 'seronegative APS'). Ann Rheum
7. Levine SR, Brey RL, Tilley BC, Thompson JLP, Sacco RL, Sciacca RR, et al. Antiphospholipid antibodies and subsequent thrombo-occlusive events in patients with ischemic stroke. JAMA
8. Segal BM, Pogatchnik B, Holker E, Liu H, Sloan J, Rhodus N, et al. Primary Sjogren's syndrome: cognitive symptoms, mood, and cognitive performance. Acta Neurol Scand [Research Support, NIH, Extramural Research Support, Non-US Gov't
9. Birnbaum J. Peripheral nervous system manifestations of Sjögren's syndrome: clinical patterns, diagnostic paradigms, etiopathogenesis, and therapeutic strategies. Neurologist
10. Bathon JM, Moreland LW, DiBartolomeo AG. Inflammatory central nervous system involvement in rheumatoid arthritis. Semin Arthritis Rheum

References

11. Iannuzzi MC, Rybicki BA, Teirstein AS. Sarcoidosis. *N Engl J Med*
12. Zajicek JP, Scolding NJ, Foster O, Rovaris M, Evanson J, Moseley IF, et al. Central nervous system sarcoidosis—diagnosis and management. *QJM*
13. Rybicki BA, Iannuzzi MC. Epidemiology of sarcoidosis: recent advances and future prospects. *Semin Respir Crit Care Med*
14. Calabrese LH, Mallek JA. Primary angiitis of the central nervous system. Report of 8 new cases, review of the literature, and proposal for diagnostic criteria. *Medicine (Baltimore)*.
15. Obusez EC, Hui F, Hajj-Ali RA, Cerejo R, Calabrese LH, Hammad T, et al. High-resolution MRI vessel wall imaging: spatial and temporal patterns of reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome and central nervous system vasculitis. *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol*.
16. Salvarani C, Brown RD Jr, Christianson TJ, Huston J 3rd, Giannini C, Miller DV, et al. Adult primary central nervous system vasculitis treatment and course: analysis of one hundred sixty-three patients. *Arthritis Rheumatol*
17. Buttgereit F, Brand MD, Burmester GR. Equivalent doses and relative drug potencies for non-genomic glucocorticoid effects: a novel glucocorticoid hierarchy. *Biochem Pharmacol*