

Rome WFN, October 3 – 7, 2021



TEACHING COURSE NCC - FUNDAMENTALS OF NEUROCRITICAL CARE

SEVERE INFECTIONS OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

Overview / learning objectives

Erich Schmutzhard

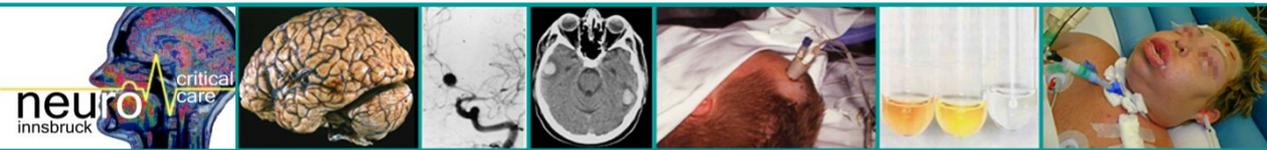
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No conflict of interest with respect to the topic of this lecture





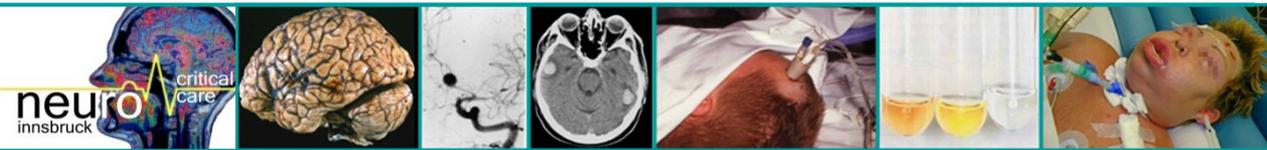
ACUTE CNS INFECTIONS

EXACT HISTORY AND KNOWLEDGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY IS THE KEY TO OPTIMAL MANAGEMENT

FASTEST POSSIBLE EMPIRIC ADEQUATE ANTIMICROBIAL CHEMOTHERAPY IS ESSENTIAL, EVEN MORE IN TIMES OF RAPIDLY EVOLVING MULTI-DRUG RESISTENCE

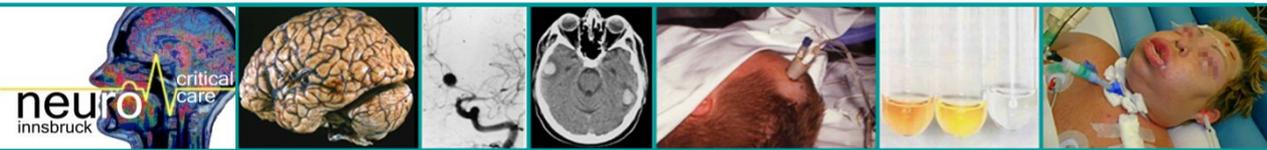
ADJUNCTIVE TH.-STRATEGIES, IN PARTICULAR THE FULL RANGE OF NEUROCRITICAL CARE INCL. INVASIVE (NEURO-) MONITORING, ARE OFTEN A KEY TO SUCCESS





ACUTE CNS INFECTIONS – A CHALLENGE IN (NEURO-)CRITICAL CARE

- CHANGING EPIDEMIOLOGY**
- FROM RARE OR SINGULAR CASES TO PANDEMIC**
- NEW / FIRST DESCRIPTION OF CNS INVASIVE PATHOGENS**
- IMPORTED, EMERGING AND RE-EMERGING PATHOGENS**
- ZOOBOTIC SPILLOVERS**
- FIRST EVER DIAGNOSES IN NEUROLOGY, ACUTE AND LONGTERM**
- SECONDARY CNS AND PNS AFFECTATION IN SYSTEMIC INFECTIONS, e.g. SEPSIS ENCEPHALOPATHY, CIP/CIM**
- CHANGING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE PATTERNS**
- GLOBALISATION OF PATHOGENS**
- GLOBALISATION OF VECTORS**
- NEW DESCRIPTION OF POST-/PARAINFECTIONOUS CNS AND PNS SYNDROMES**
- NEWLY DESCRIBED AUTOIMMUNE ENCEPHALITIDES TRIGGERED BY CNS-INVASIVE PATHOGENS, e.g. HSV-I-Virus**
- INVASIVE (NEURO-)CRITICAL CARE → INVASIVE INFECTIONS**
- NEW WAYS OF TRANSMISSION**
- MORE AND HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE HOSTS (e.g IMMUNO-COMPROMISED HOSTS)**



ACUTE CNS INFECTIONS – A CHALLENGE IN (NEURO-)CRITICAL CARE

-CHANGING EPIDEMIOLOGY

-FROM RARE OR SINGULAR CASES TO PANDEMIC

-NEW / F

-IMPORT

-ZONOT

-FIRST E

-SECOND

-S

-CHANGI

-GLOBAL

-GLOBAL

-NEW DE

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-NEWLY I

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-INVASIV

-NEW WA

-MORE AND MORE SUSCEPTIBLE HOSTS (e.g. immunosuppressed hosts)

History: multi-dimensional!

1. Signs and Symptoms

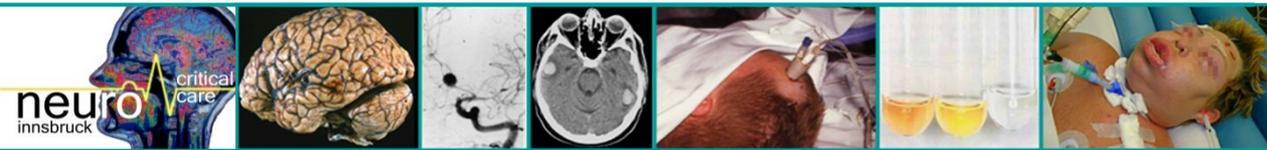
when and how did they start

type of neurological **and** systemic signs and symptoms

in which sequence and intensity, for how long

contact with similar patients

pre-morbidity, immunestatus, vaccinations



ACUTE CNS INFECTIONS – A CHALLENGE IN (NEURO-)CRITICAL CARE

-CHANGING EPIDEMIOLOGY

-FROM RARE OR SINGULAR CASES TO PANDEMICS

-NEW / FRESH

-IMPORTED

-ZOOZOONOTIC

-FIRST EVER

-SECONDARY

-CHANGING

-GLOBAL

-GLOBAL

-NEW DEBILITATING

-NEWLY IDENTIFIED

-INVASIVE

-NEW WAYS

-MORE AND MORE SUSCEPTIBLE HOSTS (e.g. millions of immunocompromised hosts)

History: multi-dimensional!

2. Exposure

vectors, environment, endemicity of pathogens, epidemic, pandemic

geographical history

incidences of pathogens

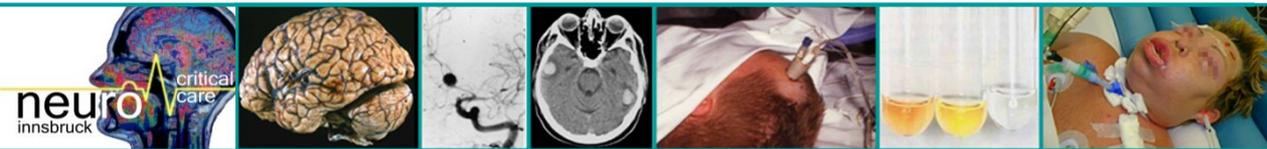
travel history, where, how, when

prophylactic measures

sexual activities

seasonality of pathogens

medical tourism



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-CHANGING

-GLOBAL

-GLOBAL

-NEW DISEASES

-NEWLY IDENTIFIED

-INVASIVE

-NEW WAYS

-MORE AND MORE SUSCEPTIBLE HOSTS (e.g. immune-compromised hosts)

History: multi-dimensional!

3. Immune-Status of the patient

Immuno-competence

Immuno-modulation

Immuno-compromise

Immuno-suppression

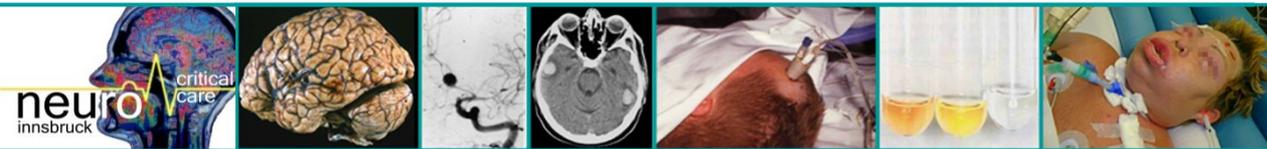
HIV

malnutrition

drug dependence, alcohol dependence

post transplantation, incl. origin and safety of the donated organ

(transmission by donated organ, e.g. Rabies, Borna, TBE viruses)



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-FIRST E

-SECOND

-CHANGI

-GLOBAL

-GLOBAL

-NEW DE

-NEWLY

-INVASIV

-NEW WA

-MORE A

While your colleague takes the appropriate, correct, targeted and exhaustive history:

Clinical, i.e. neurological, incl. GCS, and systemic, examination
Rapid decision

1. specific antimicrobial chemotherapy, indicated? and which?
2. which further investigations and in which sequence?

→ Laboratory

→ Microbiological specimens (e.g. blood culture)

→ Molecular-biological examinations of which specimen

→ Imaging, EEG

→ Spinal tap, routine CSF

→ CSF: micro- and molecularbiological exams, lactate,

→ Fundoscopy

3. Emergency measures, cardiopulm., neuro-stabilisation, (N)ICU

4. No probatory steroids, no prophylactic anticonvulsants

(OSTS)

Then: Emergency admission to Neuro-Critical Care Unit

ICP: intracranial pressure

CPP: cerebral perfusion pressure

cEEG: continuous EEG

DC: decompressive craniectomy

TTM: targeted temperature management

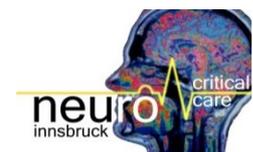
REVIEW



Invasive neuromonitoring and neurological intensive care unit management in life-threatening central nervous system infections

Verena Rass, Mario Kofler*, Ronny Beer, and Raimund Helbok*

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KEY POINTS

- Besides effective measures to control increased ICP, which is common in comatose patients with neuroinfectious diseases, a CPP-targeted protocol to prevent cerebral hypoperfusion relates to improved outcomes.
- Brain tissue oxygen monitoring may be especially valuable in neuroinfectious diseases prone to ischemic complications (e.g., pneumococcal meningitis) to follow a $P_{bt}O_2$ based treatment concept.
- Metabolic distress should be considered as a marker of secondary brain injury; neuroglucopenia has been associated with poor outcome and is amendable to treatment, arguing against tight glycemic control in patients with neuroinfectious diseases from a brain-metabolic perspective.
- cEEG is an important neuromonitoring tool in the management of patients with CNS infections, particularly in those with decreased levels of consciousness, to detect and treat subclinical and nonconvulsive seizures.
- Available evidence demonstrates reduced mortality in patients with life-threatening CNS infections in whom DC is performed when refractory intracranial hypertension occurs, although data on the effect of DC on the long-term neurological outcome remains controversial.
- Despite limited data assessing benefits of outcome and mortality, TTM can be considered as a second-line intervention on a case-by-case basis when faced with a potentially fatal situation, such as refractory intracranial hypertension.