

DEFINITION:

- A chronic inflammatory condition caused by an autoimmune disease. An autoimmune disease occurs when the body's tissues are attacked by its own immune system. Patients with lupus have unusual antibodies in their blood that are targeted against their own body tissues

ETIOLOGY:

- Genetic, hormonal, and environmental influence play a role in disease pathogenesis.
- Multiple genes have been associated with SLE.
- Early age at menarche
- OCP
- Post menopausal hormones
- Klinefelter syndrome (47XXY) 14 fold higher chance
- Smoking
- EBV
- Interferone alpha exposure

SYMPTOMS AND SIGNS:

□ CONSTITUTIONAL:

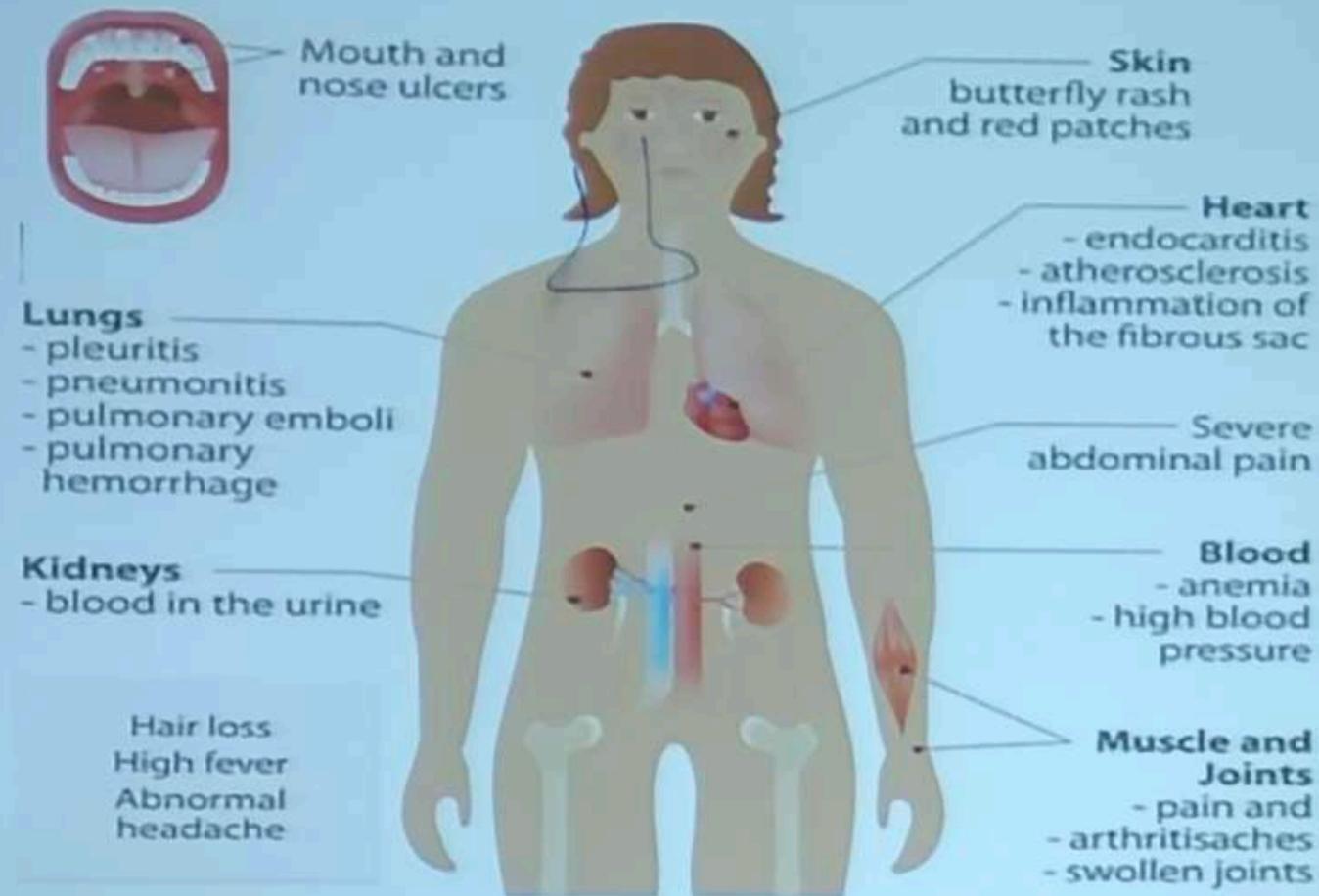
fever

fatigue

weight changes

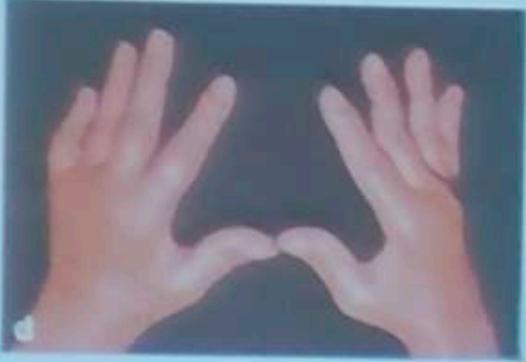


Systemic lupus erythematosus



MUCOCUTANEOUS CHANGES:

- Photosensitivity: skin rash as a result of unusual reaction to sunlight.
- Patchy or diffuse alopecia
- Nasal or oral ulcers typically painless
- Classic malar or butterfly rash: sharply demarcated erythema on cheeks and bridge of nose sparing nasolabial folds
- Maculopapular erythematous lesion involving any area in photosensitive distribution.
- Discoid lupus lesions which are erythematous plaques with adherent scale on scalp, face, neck lead to skin scarring and scarring
- Lesions



LYMPHADENOPATHY:

- Common feature of SLE
- Can be localized or diffuse
- Biopsy reveal reactive hyperplasia

MUSCULOSKELTAL:

- Arthralgias ad arthritis in 95%
- Frequently involve wrists and small joints of hands
- Bony erosions rarely occur in SLE

LUPUS NEPHRITIS:

The clinical presentation of lupus nephritis is highly variable ranging from asymptomatic hematuria, proteinuria to frank nephrotic syndrome.

Renal biopsy shows six categories of lupus nephritis based on light microscopy and electron micrographic findings

- Class 1—minimal mesangial
- Class 2—mesangial proliferation
- Class 3—focal nephritis
- Class 4—diffuse nephritis
- Class 5—membranous
- Class 6—advanced sclerosing

CARDIOVASCULAR:

- Involve pericardium, valves, myocardium, and coronary arteries.
- Raynauds phenomenon in 30% patients
- characterized by vasospasm of the digital arteries and arterioles after exposure to cold temperature and stress.

GASTROINTESTINAL:

- Peritonitis
 - Pancreatitis
 - Mesenteric vasculitis
 - Intestinal pseudobstruction
 - Lupus hepatitis
- 
- A hand-drawn diagram in black ink, located to the right of the list items. It depicts a U-shaped structure, possibly representing a stomach or a loop of the small intestine, with a vertical line extending downwards from its center.

NEUROPSYCHIATRIC:

- 1) Central nervous system symptoms occurs most frequently than peripheral nervous system events
- 2) Central nervous system manifestations include:

- Aseptic meningitis
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Demyelinating syndrome
- Headache
- Movement disorder
- Myelopathy
- Seizures
- Acute confusional state
- Anxiety disorders
- Cognitive dysfunction
- and disorder

INVESTIGATIONS:

Hematology:

- | normochromic normocytic anaemia
- | haemolytic anaemia (in less than 15% - note that
- | positive Coomb's test occurs in 65% of cases)
- | leucopaenia - especially lymphocytopenia
- | thrombocytopenia

ESR

- ☐ usually raised
- ☐ not always reliable but changes may correlate well with disease activity

CRP

- ☐ usually do not increase unless there is arthritis or serositis
- ☐ consider infection if increased (1)

Reduced serum complement concentrations -

- ☐ usually, firstly of C4, then C3, C1q and total haemolytic complement activity (CH50)
- ☐ thought to result from complement consumption by immune complexes

□ 6. Serositis a) Pleuritis-OR b) Pericarditis

□ 7. Renal disorder a) Persistent proteinuria greater than 0.5 grams per day or greater than 3+ if quantitation not performed OR b) Cellular casts-- may be red cell, hemoglobin, granular, tubular, or mixed

10. Immunologic disorder

11. An abnormal titer of antinuclear antibody

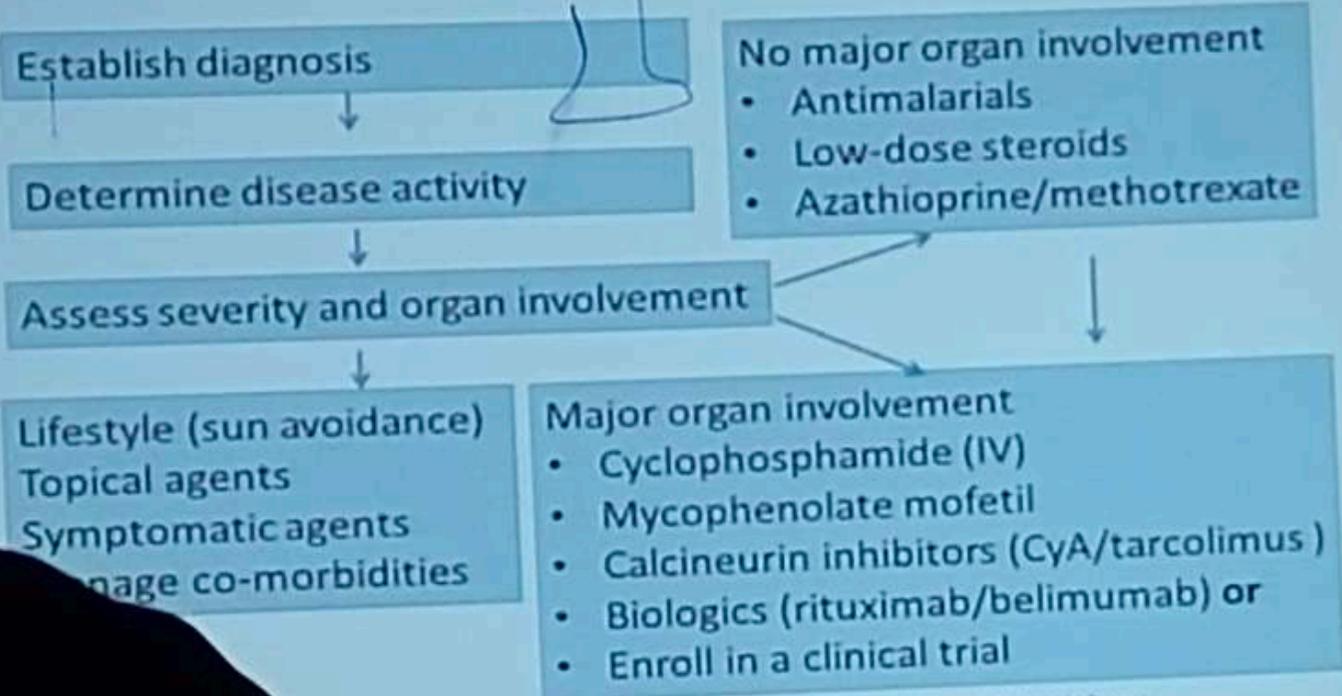
4 out of 11 favours diagnosis of SLE

SKIN PROTECTION:

- Sun protection is a cornerstone of management of cutaneous lupus.
- Sun screen with SPF-30
- Topical glucocorticoids (hydrocortisone, triamcinolone, beta methasone, clobetasol)
- Topical tacrolimus and pimecrolimus is second line treatment.



Overview of management of SLE



Treatment of Lupus Nephritis base on biopsy Class

Clasas	Treatment
I	Non specific
II	for 1-3 months 20-40
III	Prednisolone 1mg/kg/d for 1 month then taper depending on the clinical response to 5-10 mg for 2-2.5 years or Pulses for 3 days in severely ill add immunosuppressive when indicated, adjust immunosuppressive with cbc
IV	
V	Prednisone for 1-3 months followed by low dose for 1-2 years Azathioprin, chlorambucil, cyclophosphamide or MMF may decrease proteinuria
VI	Prepare for hemo which is better than peritoneal Arrange for renal Tx, treat extra-renal lupus

SEROLOGY:AUTOANTIBODIES

ANA: - seen in 98% of patients

the specificity is low since ANAs are found in many other conditions such as scleroderma, polymyositis, dermatomyositis, rheumatoid arthritis

anti-double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) - highly specific for SLE, only present in around 70% of patients

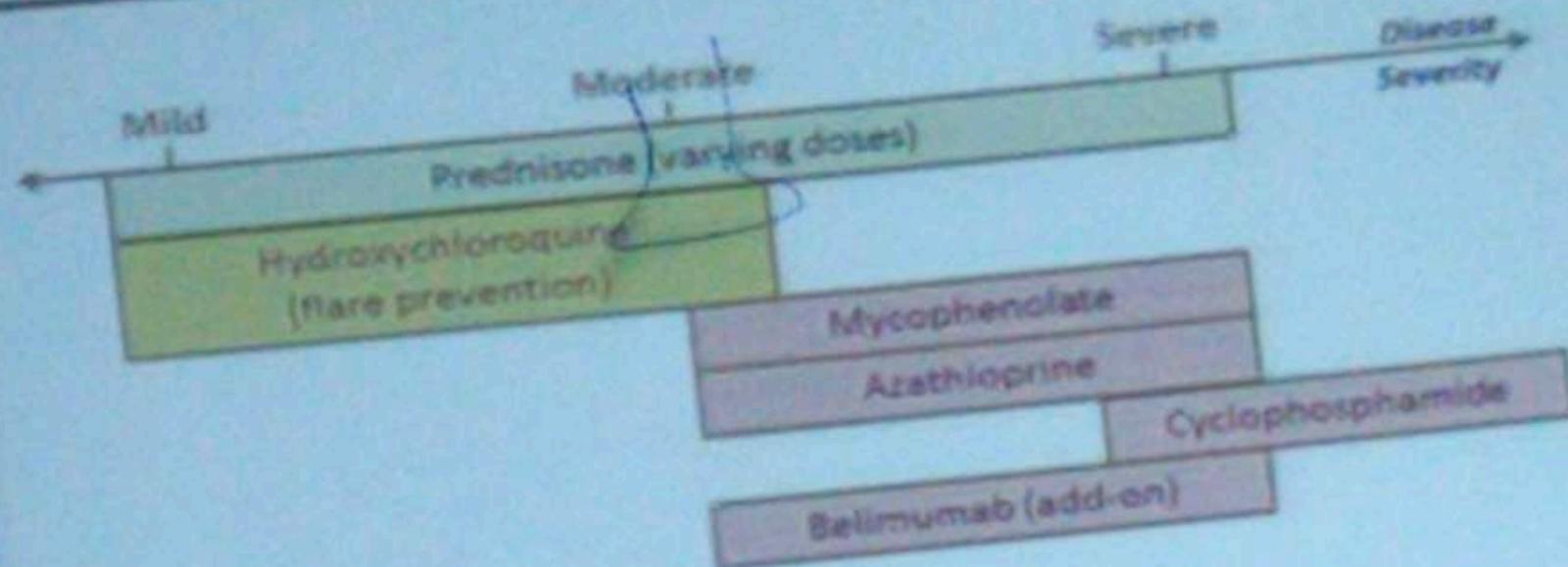
other autoantibodies include - anti-Smith, anti-ribosomal P and anti-proliferating cell nuclear antigen (PCNA)

TREATMENT:

SLE Treatment



knowmedge



Hydroxychloroquine use requires annual ophthalmology visits due to risk of retinopathy