



Diagnostic Criteria for Neuromyelitis Optica 2014

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Disclosures

- Royalties related to patent for discovery of NMO-IgG
 - licensed to RSR Ltd; Oxford University
- Consulting contracts related to NMO clinical research (within past 5 years):
 - GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals
 - Elan Pharmaceuticals
 - Chord Pharmaceuticals
 - Chugai Pharmaceuticals
 - Novartis Pharmaceuticals
 - Alexion Pharmaceuticals
- Member DSMB
 - Biogen Idec (Chair)
 - Novartis
 - Mitsubishi (Chair)
- Member Attack Adjudication Committee:
 - MedImmune (Chair)

NMO Criteria (2006)

- Transverse myelitis and optic neuritis
- At least two of the following features:
 - 1) MRI brain negative/nondiagnostic for MS
 - 2) MRI spinal cord lesion extending over ≥ 3 vertebral segments (LETM)
 - 3) NMO-IgG seropositivity



Wingerchuk et al, Neurology, 2006

Why are current diagnostic criteria inadequate in 2014?

- Discovery of NMO-IgG
 - NMO can be recognized reliably at an earlier point
- Limited versions of NMO
 - recurrent myelitis **or** recurrent optic neuritis
- Brain lesions may occur
 - may be the presenting manifestations
 - may be highly suggestive or diagnostic
- Co-association of other autoimmune conditions:
 - Do they exclude NMO?

International Panel for NMO Diagnosis (IPND)

- Convened October, 2011
- Co-chairs:
 - Dean Wingerchuk
 - Brian Weinshenker
- Overall objective:
 - To revise NMO diagnostic criteria to reflect advances in:
 - Clinical and radiological spectrum
 - Serological testing

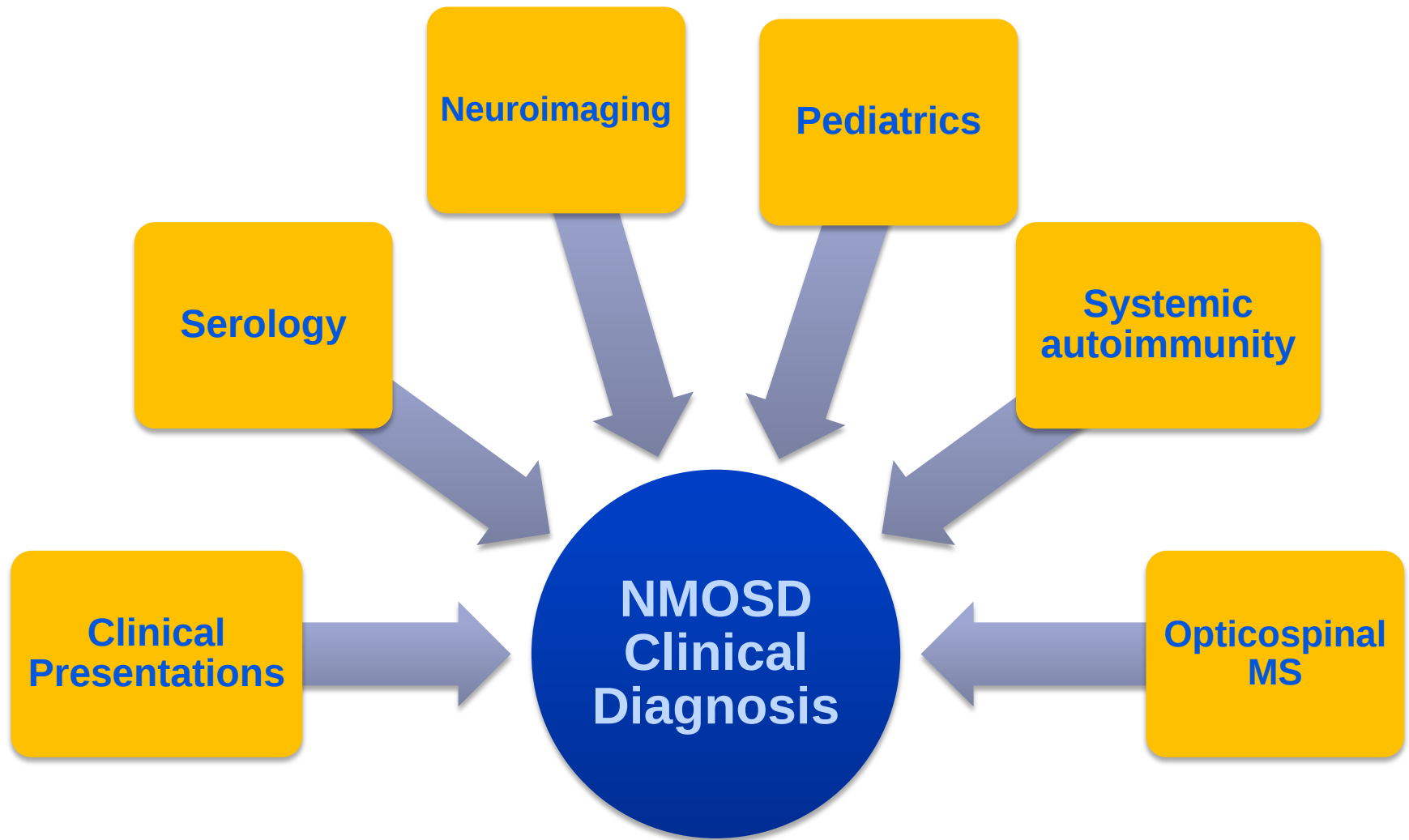
Initial IPND Consensus Principles

- Clinical diagnosis
 - AQP4 antibodies
 - *Not sufficient*
 - False positives
 - Population-based study of MS-like illness: clinical NMO 0.2%; CBA+ 0.3%; ELISA+ 0.7% (*Pittock et al. 2014 JAMA Neurol.doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2014.1581*)
 - *Not required*
 - Differences between seronegative and seropositive poorly defined
- Use best available evidence and panel consensus

Methods

- 18 members from 9 countries
- 6 Working Groups
 - Specific charges relevant to NMO diagnosis

IPND Methods



IPND Methods

- Systematic literature review by each WG
 - Expert librarian assistance (K Wellik, Mayo Clinic)
 - Medline, EMBASE
 - 1950-2012
 - Quarterly updates to January, 2014

IPND Methods

- Stage 1
 - Roster of clinical/MRI syndromes diagnosed as NMO, NMOSD, or associated with AQP4-IgG
 - Evaluate re: inclusion and specificity
- Stage 2
 - Electronic surveys
 - Case vignettes
 - Clinical, MRI, lab, AQP4-IgG data
 - Diagnosis: definite, possible, or not NMOSD
- Stage 3
 - Data integration and refinement of draft criteria

Results:

Nomenclature

- NMOSD: unified term
- Stratified by serostatus
 - NMOSD with AQP4-IgG
 - NMOSD without AQP4-IgG (or testing unavailable)
- Allows for future revisions
 - e.g. discovery and validation of other antibodies associated with NMOSD clinical phenotype

Revised Diagnostic Criteria: NMOSD with AQP4-IgG

Requirements

- At least 1 **core clinical characteristic**
- Positive test for AQP4-IgG
- No better explanation
 - Clinical and MRI red flags

Core Clinical Characteristics

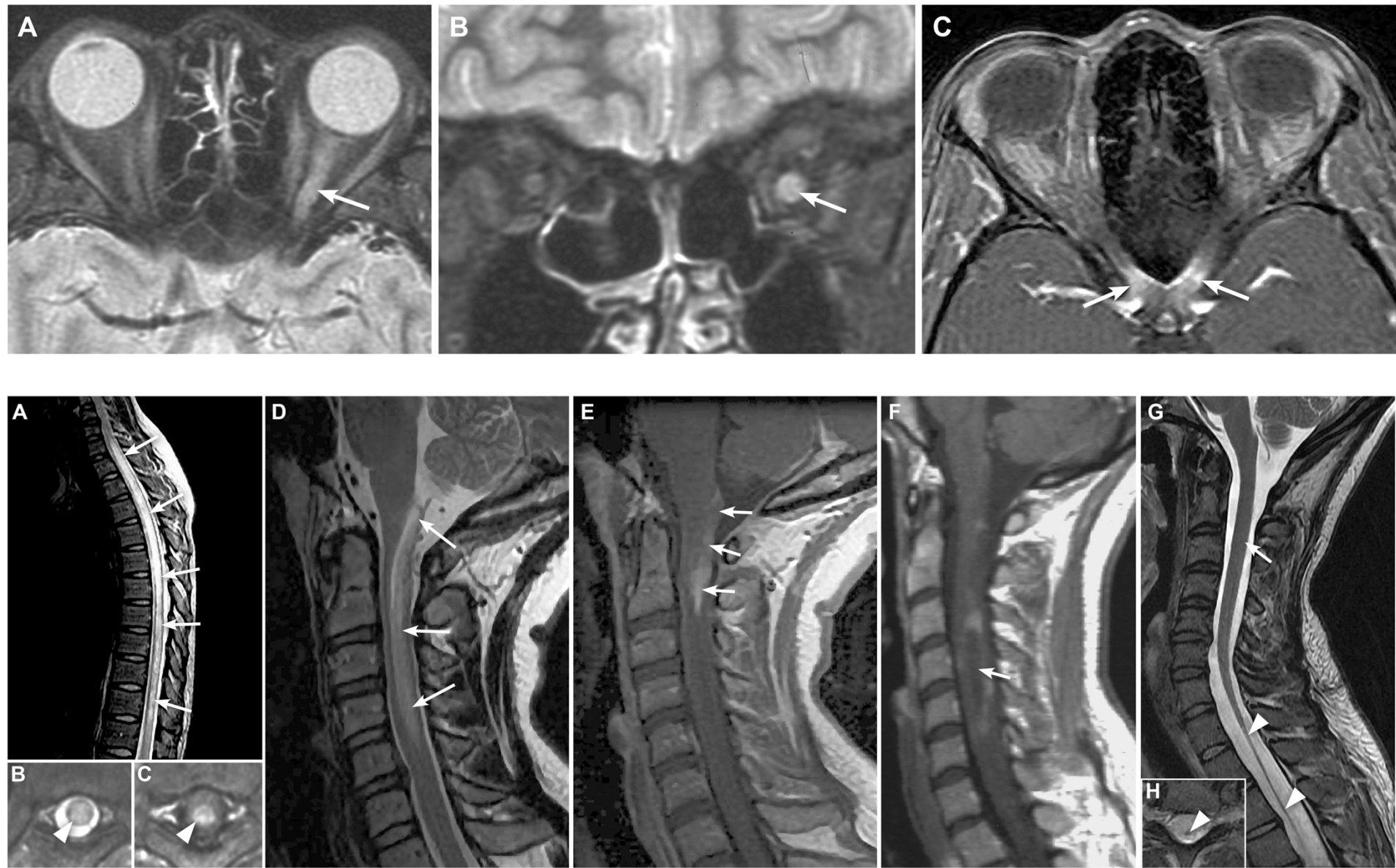
- Optic neuritis
- Acute myelitis
- **Area postrema syndrome:**
 - **nausea/vomiting/hiccups**
- Other brain stem syndrome
- Symptomatic narcolepsy or acute diencephalic syndrome with MRI lesion(s)
- Symptomatic cerebral syndrome with MRI lesion(s)

Revised Diagnostic Criteria:

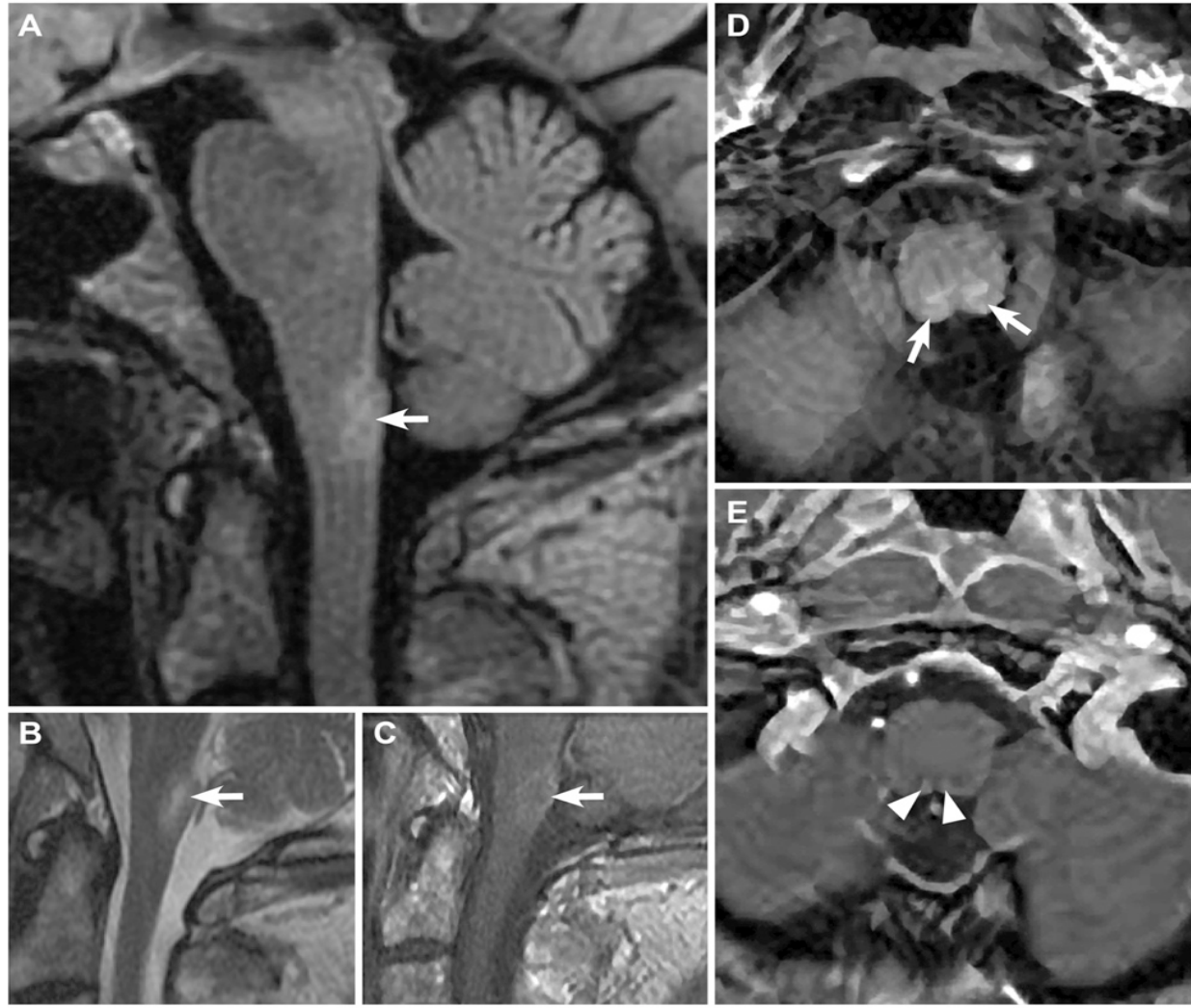
NMOSD without AQP4-Ig (or unavailable)

- At least 2 core clinical characteristics all satisfying:
 - 1 of ON, myelitis, or area postrema syndrome
 - Dissemination in space
 - Isolated recurrent ON or recurrent TM do not qualify
 - Additional MRI requirements
 - AP syndrome: dorsal medulla lesion
 - Myelitis: LETM
 - ON: normal brain MRI **OR** >1/2 ON **OR** chiasm lesion
 - Negative test(s) for AQP4-IgG using best available assay, or testing unavailable
- No better explanation for the clinical syndrome

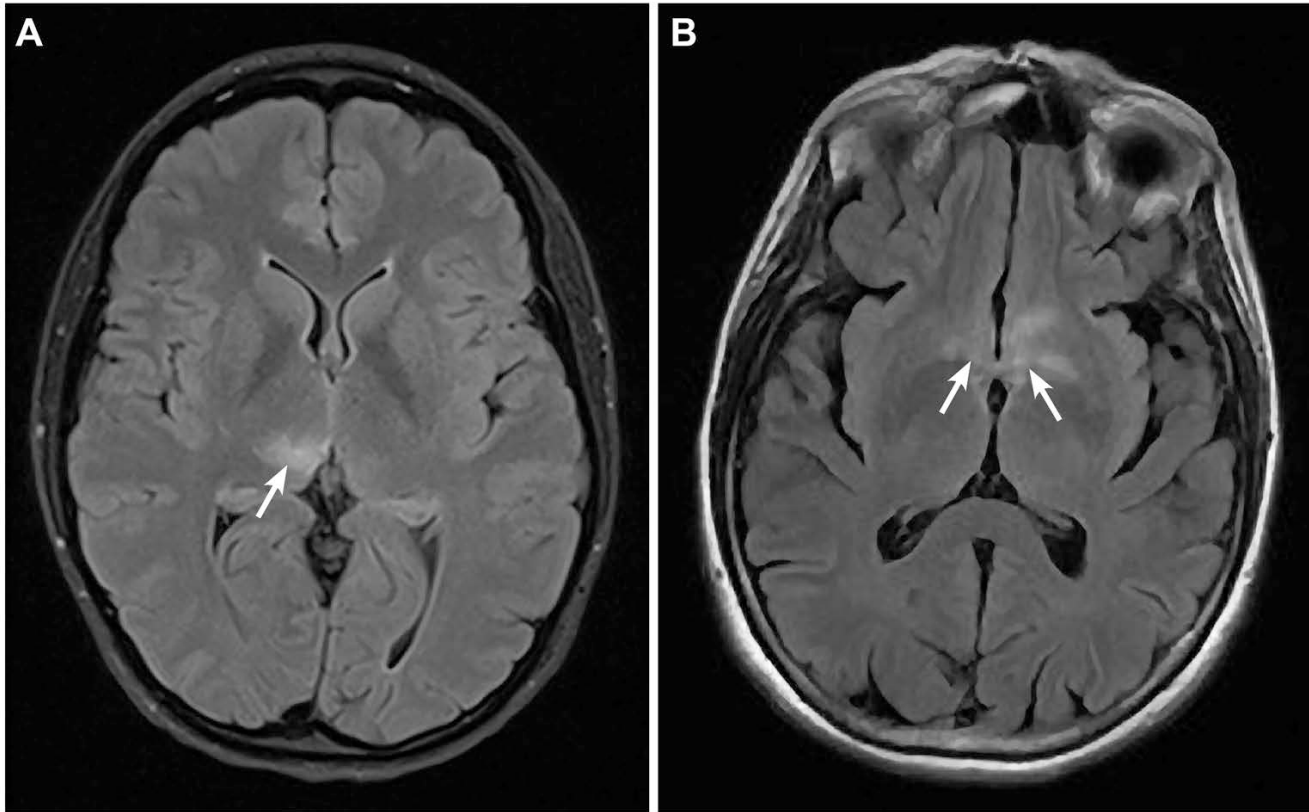
ON and Spinal Cord MRI Lesions



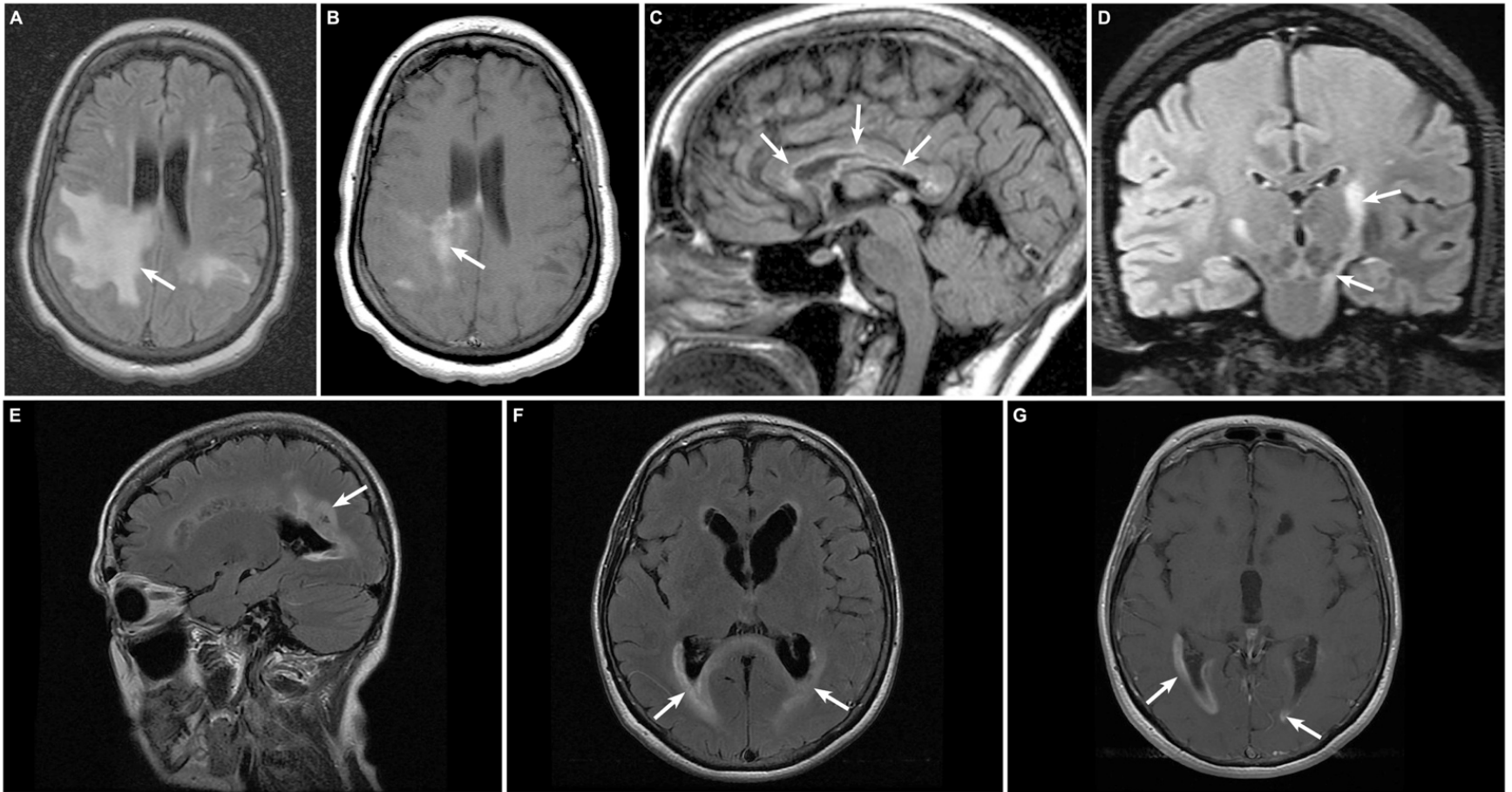
Area Postrema/Dorsal Medulla MRI Lesions



Diencephalic MRI Lesions



Cerebral MRI Lesions



Red Flags: Clinical and Laboratory

- Clinical course/lab more typical of MS or other pathology
 - Progressive course
 - Rapid nadir (infarction)
 - Continual worsening more than 4 weeks from onset
 - Partial TM without LETM
 - CSF oligoclonal bands
- Comorbidity, established or suspected, that mimics NMOSD
 - Sarcoidosis
 - Cancer (lymphoma or CRMP-5 associated ON/myelopathy)
 - Infection with potential neurologic involvement (e.g., HIV, syphilis)

Red Flags: Radiology

Brain

- “MS-typical” lesions
 - “Dawson’s fingers”
 - adjacent to lateral ventricle temporal lobe
 - Juxtacortical lesion(s)
 - Cortical lesion(s)
- Suspicious of other pathology
 - Lesion(s) with persistent (>3 months) gadolinium enhancement

Spinal Cord

- MS-typical
 - Short cord lesion(s)
 - Predominantly (>70%) peripheral cord on axial T2
 - Asymptomatic cord lesion(s)
 - Diffuse, indistinct T2 signal change (longstanding or progressive MS)
- Suspicious of other pathology
 - Persistent (>3 months) gadolinium enhancement
 - “Tractopathy” (e.g., paraneoplastic disorder)

Pediatric NMOSD

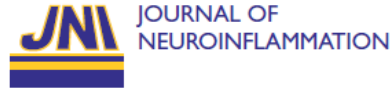
- Same criteria as adult NMOSD
- Cautions:
 - LETM in pediatric MS
- Greater incidence of cerebral presentations

Opticospinal MS

- Historically important
- Confusing terminology
 - a form of MS versus NMO versus something unique?
- Similarly defined in Asia, patients have the same disease
- “Superseded” terminology

NMO: *Heterogeneous?*

Jarius et al. *Journal of Neuroinflammation* 2012, 9:14
<http://www.jneuroinflammation.com/content/9/1/14>



RESEARCH

Open Access

Contrasting disease patterns in seropositive and seronegative neuromyelitis optica: A multicentre study of 175 patients

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Seropositive versus seronegative: More likely to be/have:

- **Woman**
- **Systemic autoimmune disease**
- **Unilateral ON**
- **ON *OR* myelitis**
- **Relapses**

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Distinction between MOG antibody-positive and AQP4 antibody-positive NMO spectrum disorders

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Table 2 Comparison of clinical features between patients with NMOSD with MOG antibodies, AQP4 antibodies, and seronegative patients

Characteristics	MOG Abs+ (n = 16)	AQP4 Abs+ (n = 139)	Seronegative (n = 60)	p Value
Phenotype, n (%)				
NMO	1/16 (6.3)	85/139 (61.1)	15/60 (25.0)	
NMOSD-LETM	5/16 (31.2)	43/139 (30.9)	30/60 (50.0)	<0.0001
NMOSD-ON	10/16 (62.5)	11/139 (8.0)	15/60 (25.0)	
Female, n (%)	6/16 (37.5)	122/139 (87.8)	40/60 (66.7)	<0.0001
Age, y, median (range)				
At first attack	37.5 (3-70)	37 (4-78)	32.5 (10-69)	0.0915
At sampling	42 (6-70)	49 (15-82)	38 (12-69)	0.0004
Follow-up, y, median (range)	2 (1-19)	7 (0-45)	3 (0-32)	0.0002
Patients with a single attack, n (%)	8 (50.0)	23 (16.6)	18 (30.0)	0.0031
Simultaneous ON + myelitis attacks (any time), n (%)	1 (6.25)	32 (23.0)	6 (10.0)	0.0406
No. of attacks, median (range)	1.5 (1-3)	4 (1-33)	2.5 (1-18)	<0.0001
EDSS, median (range)	1.5 (0-8)	5.8 (1-8.5)	4 (0-7)	<0.0001

NMO:

Beginnings of Classification of Heterogeneity?

- Seropositive NMO
- Seronegative NMO
 - False negative serologic assay
 - MS mimicking NMO
 - Other disorders that mimic NMO:
 - Sarcoidosis
 - Paraneoplastic
 - “True seronegative NMO”
 - Younger patients
 - Monophasic course
 - Less severe clinical manifestations
 - MOG antibodies?

Summary

- **NMOSD** is the unified term for NMO/NMOSD
- **AQP4-IgG Seropositive:**
 - Requires at least 1 of the 6 core clinical characteristics
- **AQP4-IgG Seronegative or Unavailable:**
 - At least 2 core clinical characteristics
 - 1 must be ON, acute myelitis or area postrema syndrome
 - MRI support
 - Dissemination in space

Implications to Clinical Trials

- “New disease”?
 - Estimate 2X number of cases
 - facilitates enrolment and enhances study feasibility
 - Historical data on prognosis/outcome:
 - unreliable?
- Heterogeneity in prognosis, behavior between
 - seropositive and seronegative

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 - Jun-ichi Kira, MD

IPND Members

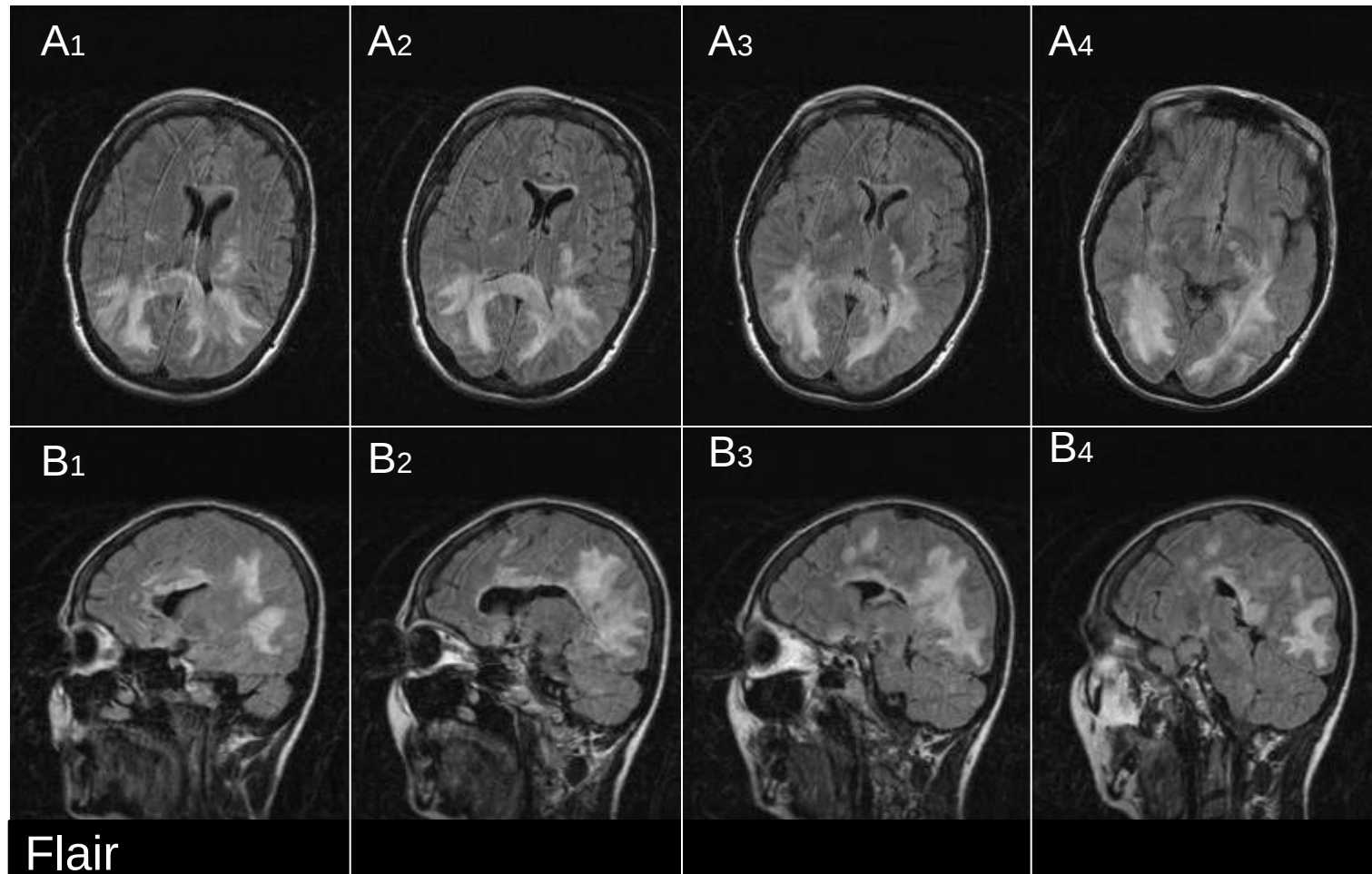
- Brenda Banwell, MD
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- Brian Weinshenker, MD
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Systemic Autoimmune Disease

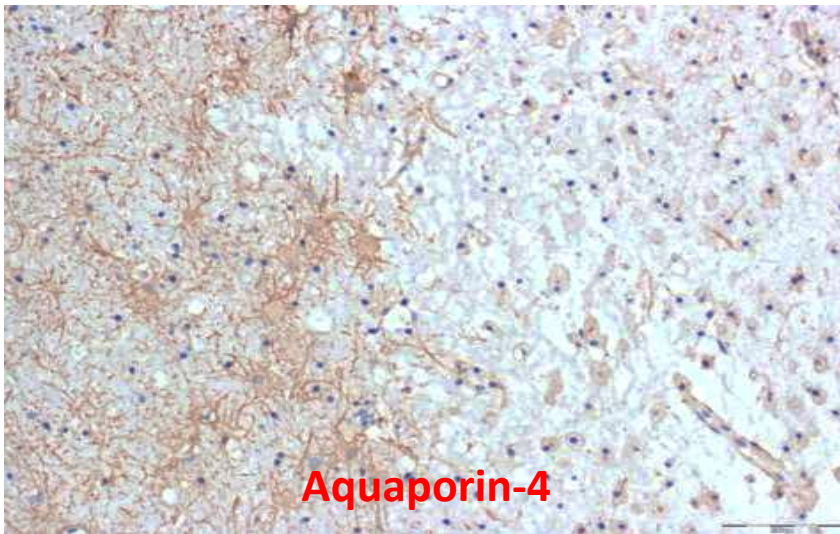
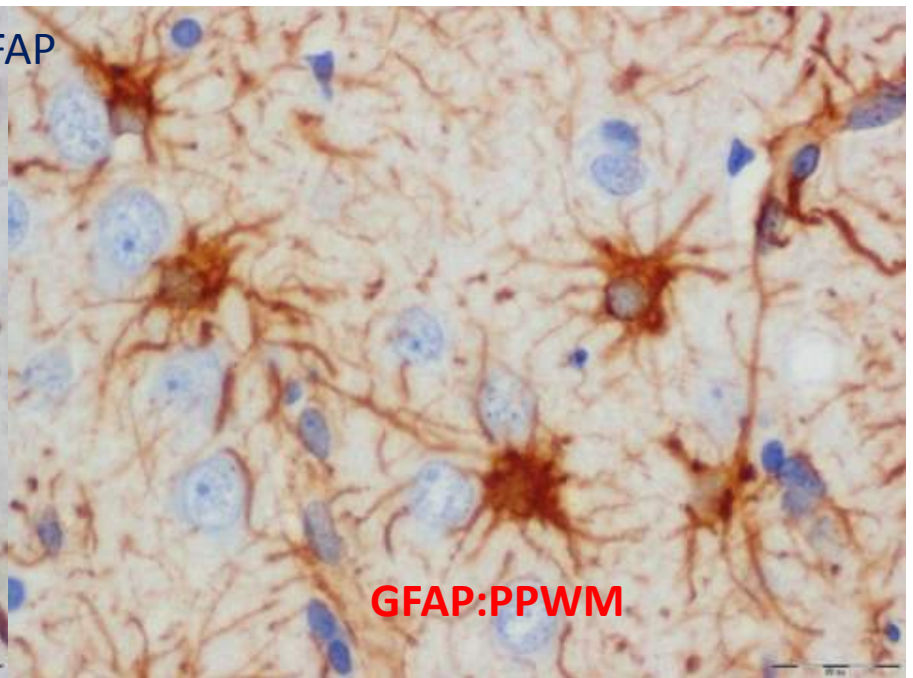
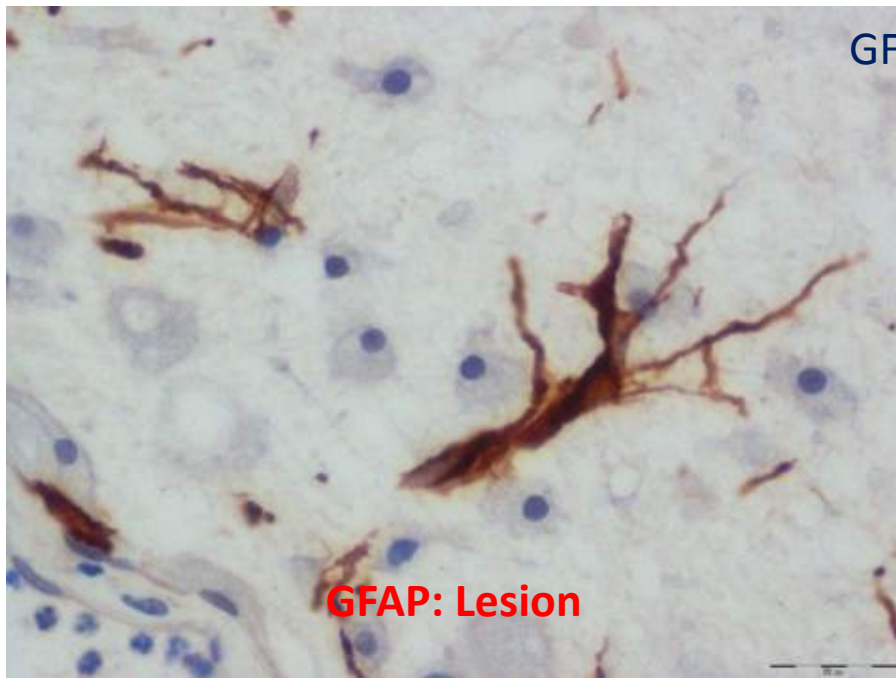
- NMO diagnosis allowable
- Concurrence with SLE, SS, MG **increases likelihood** of a diagnosis of NMO
- Association with systemic autoimmune disease more likely reflects concurrence than causation

Pathology for Diagnosis

- Not routine
- AQP4-IgG **obviates need** for biopsy in most cases
- Atypical cases:
 - Astrocytopathy and selective AQP4 loss may
 - establish diagnosis
 - exclude other pathologies



- 37 years old female
- Numerous relapses during the last years
- Despite treatment with:
Interferon- β , Mitoxantrone or natalizumab



AQP4-IgG+ Diagnosis NMO

The two faces of neuromyelitis optica

- AQP4+, relapsing, older, female predominant, autoimmune
- MOG+, monophasic, younger, equal sex ratio, “ADEM-like”

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