



The long journey of a primary immunodeficiency

West Coast TID Meeting

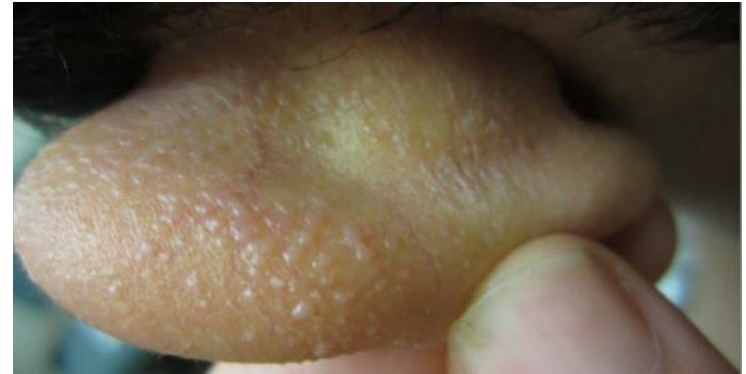
Feb 5, 2025 - Lorne Walker, MD PhD

Learning Objectives

- Recognize patterns of inborn errors of immunity (IEI) in children
- Describe variations in the genetics of IEI in unusual situation
- Consider the importance of immune reconstitution in difficult to clear infections

Background - 2011

- 5-year-old boy presenting with a diffuse rash



**Biopsy: Verruca plana
(papillomavirus)**



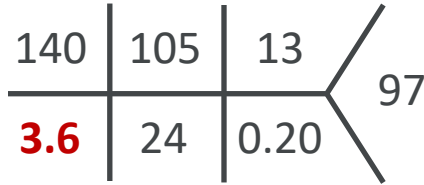
Past Medical History

- Term uncomplicated delivery in [redacted]
- Family emigrated to US in 2010 via refugee camp in [redacted]
- 1-month hospitalization due to rotavirus ([redacted])
- Celiac disease, primary sclerosing cholangitis, recurrent pancreatitis
- Unexplained anaphylaxis
- s/p splenectomy due to splenic hemangioma
- Numerous clinic/ED/UC visits for acute infections

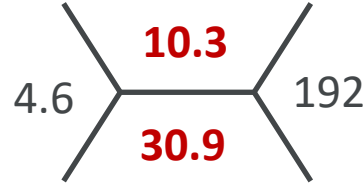
Histories

- FH
 - Parents healthy
 - Younger brother also seems to have difficulty with infections
 - No consanguinity
- Vaccinations
 - Up to date per family recollection
- SH
 - Lives with parents and brother in Portland suburbs
 - No pets, other unusual exposures
 - Family extremely avoidant of infections: no preschool, homeschool kindergarten, minimal contact outside the home

Labs (2011)



Ca: 9.1
 TP: 6.7
 Alb: 4.3
 Bili: 0.3
 ALT: 34
 AST: **36**



N59 L31 M8 E2
 ANC: 2720
 ALC: 1450

IgG: **291**

IgA: **391**

IgM: **37**

T-cells: 1275

CD4+: **398**

CD8+: 667

B-cells: 488

Naïve: **99%**

Class-switched: **0.3%**

Memory: **0.8%**

NK-cells: **3.9**

Lymphocyte mitogens: Normal

Clinical Course

- Verruca plana rash is chronic but stable
- Started IgG replacement due to low serum level
- No hospitalizations or life-threatening infections
- Continued frequent and prolonged community-acquired infections
- “Immune screening” at OSH negative

This child's immune deficit is most likely due to a defect in:

- A. Lymphocyte number
- B. T-cell function
- C. B-cell function
- D. NK-cell function
- E. Complement function

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Combined immunodeficiency

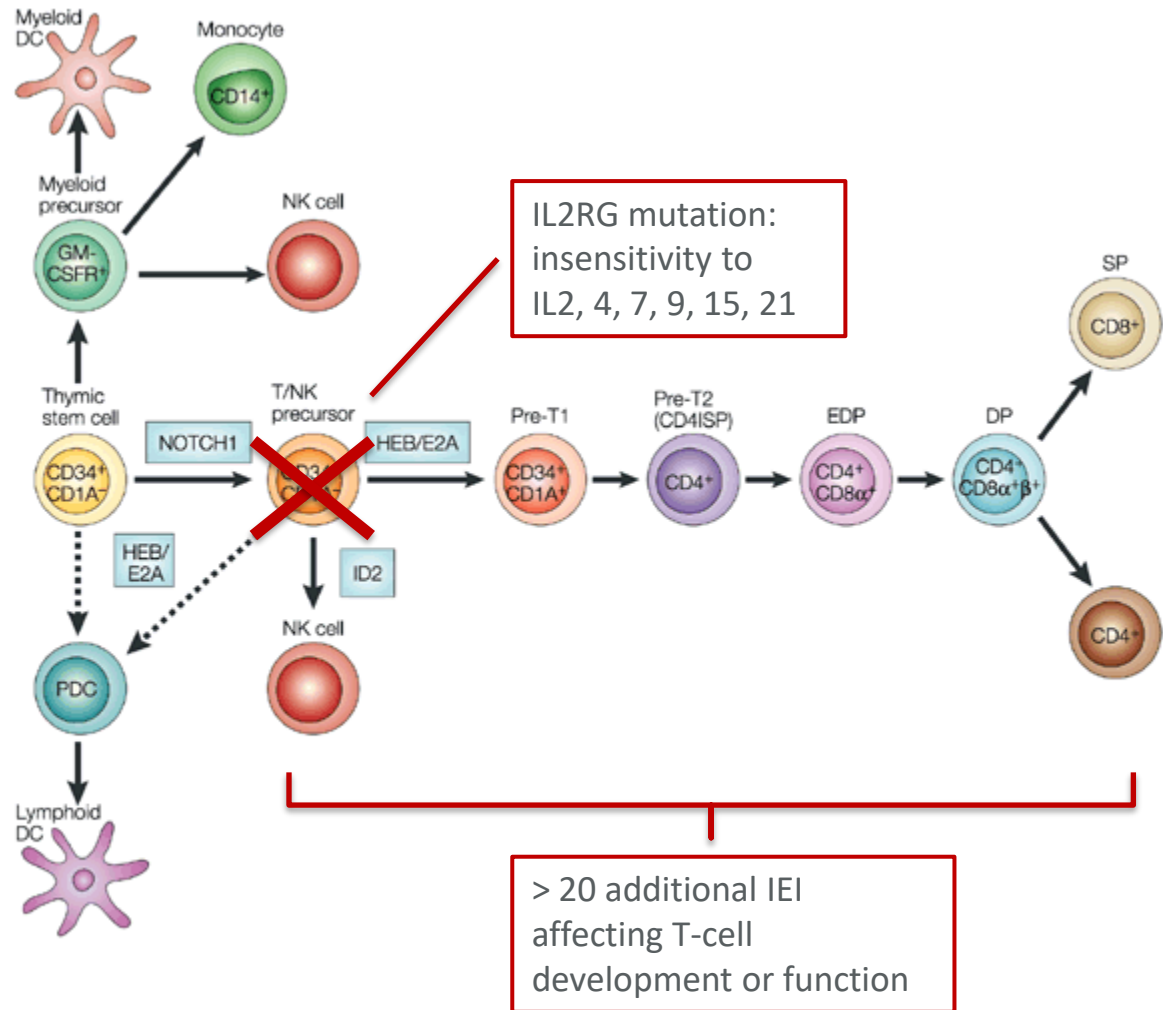
- poor control of papilloma viruses (T-cell, NK)
- Autoimmunity
- poor tumor surveillance (CD8+ T-cell)
- prolonged rotavirus diarrhea (antibody deficiency)

Re-presentation - 2021

- 14 y/o adolescent preparing for HSCT
- Continued IgG supplementation
- Bronchiectasis, chronic verruciform rash
- Genome sequencing: IL2RG mutation (common gamma chain)
 - Known mutation causing **X-linked Severe Combined Immunodeficiency**

SCID

- IEI affecting T-cell function
- Unable to stimulate B-cells
- May also affect NK cells



SCID - Presentation

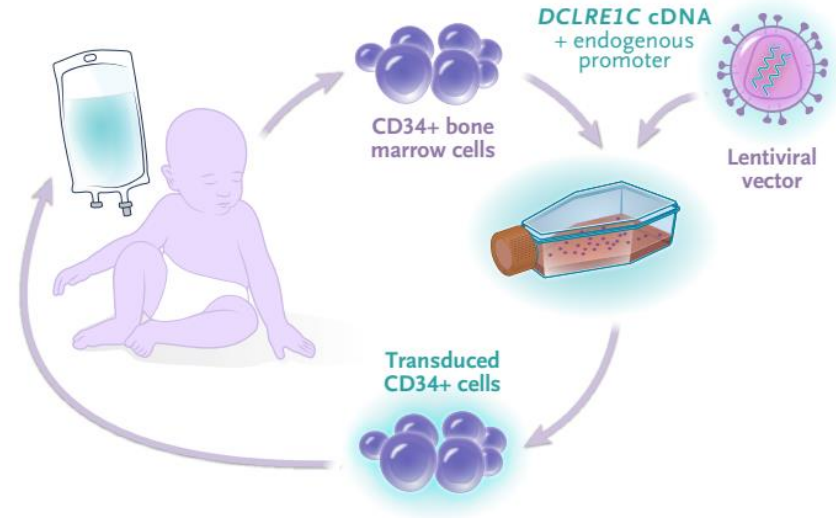


<https://www.npr.org/2018/10/13/657080482/opinion-the-doctor-and-the-boy-in-the-bubble>

- Presents with failure to thrive and severe recurrent infections
- Untreated infants typically die in the first year due to infection

SCID - Treatment

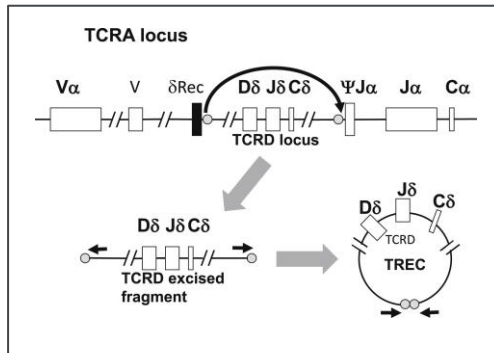
- Traditional treatment: HSCT
- Enzyme replacement: PEG-ADA
- Gene therapy
 - Artemis: 2022
 - ADA: 2016
 - IL2RG: **1999**



Cowan MJ et al. PMID: 36546626

SCID - Screening

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Wisconsin	Massachusetts	California	Delaware	Colorado	Minnesota	Guam	Arkansas	Alaska	Arizona	Nevada
	New York	Michigan	Connecticut	Ohio	Illinois	Hawaii	Georgia	Kansas	Alabama	
			Florida	Pennsylvania	Iowa	Montana	Idaho	Missouri	Indiana	
			Mississippi	Utah	Maine	New Hampshire	Kentucky	North Carolina	Louisiana	
			Navajo Nation			Nebraska	Oklahoma	Maryland		
			Texas			New Jersey	Puerto Rico	North Dakota		
			Wyoming			New Mexico	South Carolina	Tennessee		
						Oregon	South Dakota	Vermont		
						Rhode Island	Virginia			
						Washington				
						Washington, D.C.				
						West Virginia				



Currier R, et al. PMID: 33551023

Why has this adolescent survived to age 14?:

- A. Infection avoidance (social isolation)
- B. Immunoglobulin supplementation
- C. Incomplete penetrance
- D. Incorrect diagnosis (not SCID)
- E. Probabilistic effect (very good luck)

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Mosaicism

- Somatic cells harbor differing genotypes, causing a mixed phenotype

Mosaic SCID

- Somatic mosaicism:
somatic cells with more than
one genetic line
 - Somatic mutation
 - Meiosis errors
 - Mobile genetic elements
- Sequencing revealed WT
and mutant sequences



<https://www.wisdompanel.com/en-us/blog/the-genetics-of-chimerism-and-mosaicism-in-dogs-and>

Mosaic X-SCID

- Patients with mosaic X-SCID can have intermediate phenotypes

Germline mutation	Type of reversion	Revertant cell	Clinical impact	Reference
c.343T>C	Back mutation	CD4 ⁺ T, CD8 ⁺ T	Patient presented with a mild phenotype, but subsequently underwent HSCT because of recurrent infections	(7)
IVS1+5G>A	Second-site mutation	T (only skin infiltrated)	Omenn syndrome	(9)
c.466T>C	Back mutation	$\alpha\beta$ T, $\gamma\delta$ T	Mild phenotype	(10)
c.284-15A>G	Multiple reversions	CD4 ⁺ T, CD8 ⁺ T	Mild phenotype	(11)
c.655T>A	Back mutation	CD4 ⁺ T, CD8 ⁺ T, $\gamma\delta$ T	Mild phenotype	(5)
c.260T>C	Back mutation	CD4 ⁺ T, CD8 ⁺ T, B	Mild phenotype	(12)
c.172C>A	Back mutation	CD8 ⁺ T, NK	Patient died of graft failure and fungal infection after HSCT	(13)

X-SCID, X-linked severe combined immunodeficiency; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; NK, natural killer.

Re-re-presentation - 2024

- Discussed gene therapy with NIH
 - Ultimately deemed unlikely to succeed
- Now ready to proceed with HSCT
- Clinically similar to 2021 evaluation
- Pre-HSCT BAL done
 - Fungal culture: *Aspergillus brasiliensis*
 - Pre-induction initiation of voriconazole

HSCT

- Conditioning and infusion well-tolerated
 - MUD PBSC 8/8 match
- Post-HSCT infections
 - Prolonged cryptosporidium diarrhea
 - EBV viremia
 - BKV viremia
 - Stenotrophomonas bacteremia
- Recalcitrant GVHD treated with: steroids, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, rituximab, eculizumab, infliximab, anakinra, ruxolitinib

Enterococcus meningitis

- Episode of enterococcal bacteremia ~45 days post HSCT associated with altered mental status
- MRI and LP done -> bacterial meningitis growing E faecalis
 - Meningitic doses of ceftriaxone + ampicillin
- Repeat LP in 1 month still positive
- Meningitic symptoms relatively mild
 - Worse when immune suppression weaned

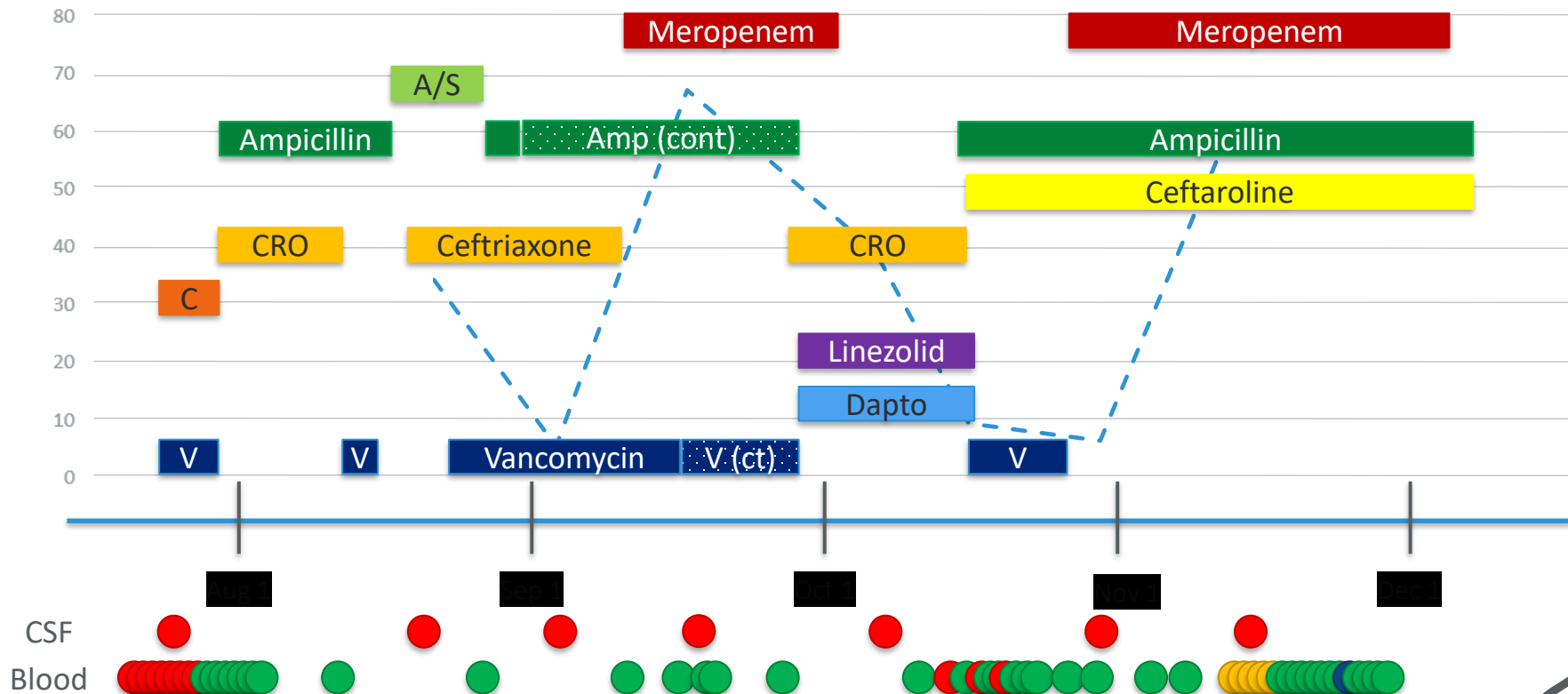
What antibiotic combination ultimately cleared his CSF?

- A. Continuous ampicillin + q12h ceftriaxone
- B. Continuous ampicillin + q6h vancomycin + q12h ceftriaxone
- C. Continuous vancomycin + continuous ampicillin + q12h ceftriaxone
- D. Ampicillin q4h + Daptomycin q24h + Linezolid q12h
- E. Ampicillin q4h + Ceftaroline q8h + Meropenem q8h
- F. None of the above

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- F. **None of the above**





Clinical course

- Symptoms and CSF parameters varied over time
 - Primarily varied depending on degree of immune suppression
- Therapeutic approach discussed with ID listservs and enterococcal experts across country
 - Combination β -lactam therapy

Clinical course

- Due to multiple infections on up to 12 anti-infectives (Ampicillin, Ceftaroline, Meropenem, Levofloxacin, Azithromycin, Nitazoxanide, TMP/SMX, Voriconazole, Cidofovir, Acyclovir, Letermovir, Acyclovir)
- Unfortunately, the patient died at day +177 from graft failure, GI hemorrhage and gut necrosis

Follow-up

- 1 month later: [REDACTED] y/o younger brother seen in T1D clinic
 - Same mosaic mutation and phenotype
 - He has elected to start in-person high school
 - Prophylaxis (valacyclovir, TMP/SMX) and infection avoidance
 - In [REDACTED] 2025 he attended his first day of in-person school (ever!)



Thank You