

# Pleuroparenchymal fibroelastosis in UIP CT pattern: our experience

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## Case report 1 04/2017

Woman

Admission

Risk factors

Form

Non smoker

Slight

### Blood exams

- Autoimmunity screening: negative
- CA 15.3= 48.4 U/ml
- CA 19.9=176.8 U/ml
- NSE= 20.8 ng/ml
- Vitamin D =7.3 ng/ml

Caucasian

### Comorbidities:

Nodular tireopathy, GE reflux

Symptoms

Exertional

dry cough

Physical

No Raynaud's

clubbing

Bi-basal

### Fiberoptic bronchoscopy (BAL)

- Total cells  $\times 10^5/\text{ml}$
- Neutrophils 53% (1-2%)
- Eosinophils 7% (0-0.5%)
- Macrophages 35% (75-85)
- Lymphocytes 5% (8-12)
- CD4/CD8: 0.8 (0.8-2)

months and

total

## Blood gases analysis at rest in ambient air

pO<sub>2</sub> 8

pCO<sub>2</sub>

PH 7.

HCO<sub>3</sub>

Spirometry

FVC 1

FEV<sub>1</sub>

IT 96.

TLC 1.88 L (60% pred)

### Echocardiography

- EF 60%
- TAPSE 2.8 cm
- Estimated systolic PAP 35 mmHg

CO diff

DLC

DLC

### Nocturnal cardio-respiratory testing

- positive
- AHI 9.2/h
- ODI 11.1/h
- t90 0%

6MV

Test

Initi

Dist

(red)

(red)

apnoea

# E.C.

HRCT 2017



# Management

Criobiopsy was not indicated as thorax HRCT was diagnostic of UIP definite

Lung transplantation (LT) not indicated due to low bio-umoral conditions + family reasons

**MDD: Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis with associated CT findings highly suggestive of PPFE**

Bridge therapy with an anti-fibrotic drug and respiratory rehabilitation on hold better bio-umoral conditions for LT

Infection prevention (vaccination)

Nutritional status assessment and correction of Vitamin D deficiency

Oxygen supplementation

GE reflux therapy

Clinical and functional monitoring every three months

Case report 2.08/2017

### Blood exams

Worried, Caucasian  
Tip  
Risk  
No  
Act  
Ator

- Autoimmunity screening: negative
- Tumoral markers screening: negative
- Vitamin D = 6.1 ng/ml

### Comorbidities:

Pre  
due

### Fiberoptic bronchoscopy (BAL)

therapy

Sym  
Chr  
Phy  
No  
Bi-b

- Total cells  $7.7 \times 10^6$ /ml
- Neutrophils 23% (1-2%)
- Eosinophils 4% (0-0.5%)
- Macrophages 71% (75-85)
- Lymphocytes 2% (8-12)
- CD4/CD8: 1.2 (0.8-2)

al clubbing

### Blood gases analysis at rest in ambient air

pO<sub>2</sub> 77 mmHg

pCO<sub>2</sub>

PH 7

HCO<sub>3</sub>

### Spirometry

FVC

FEV<sub>1</sub>

IT 92.1%

RV 0.91 L (56% pred)

TLC 2.38 L (49% pred)

### CO testing

DLC

DLC

6M

Test

dys

Init

Dist

### Echocardiography

- EF 60%
- TAPSE 2.0 cm
- Estimated systolic PAPs 20 mmHg

### Nocturnal cardio-respiratory testing

- negative
- AHI
- ODI
- t90

# F.V.

## HRCT 2017



Courtesy of Dott. G. Rea, Radiology Monaldi Hospital

# Management

Criobiopsy should be considered with thorax HRCT diagnostic of UIP possible (probable)

Indication of lung transplantation

**MDD: Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis with associated CT findings highly suggestive of PPFE**

Weight correction

Pulmonary rehabilitation

Bridge therapy with an anti-fibrotic drug

Infection prevention (vaccination)

Nutritional status assessment and correction of Vitamin D deficiency

Oxygen supplementation

GE reflux therapy

Clinical and functional monitoring every three months

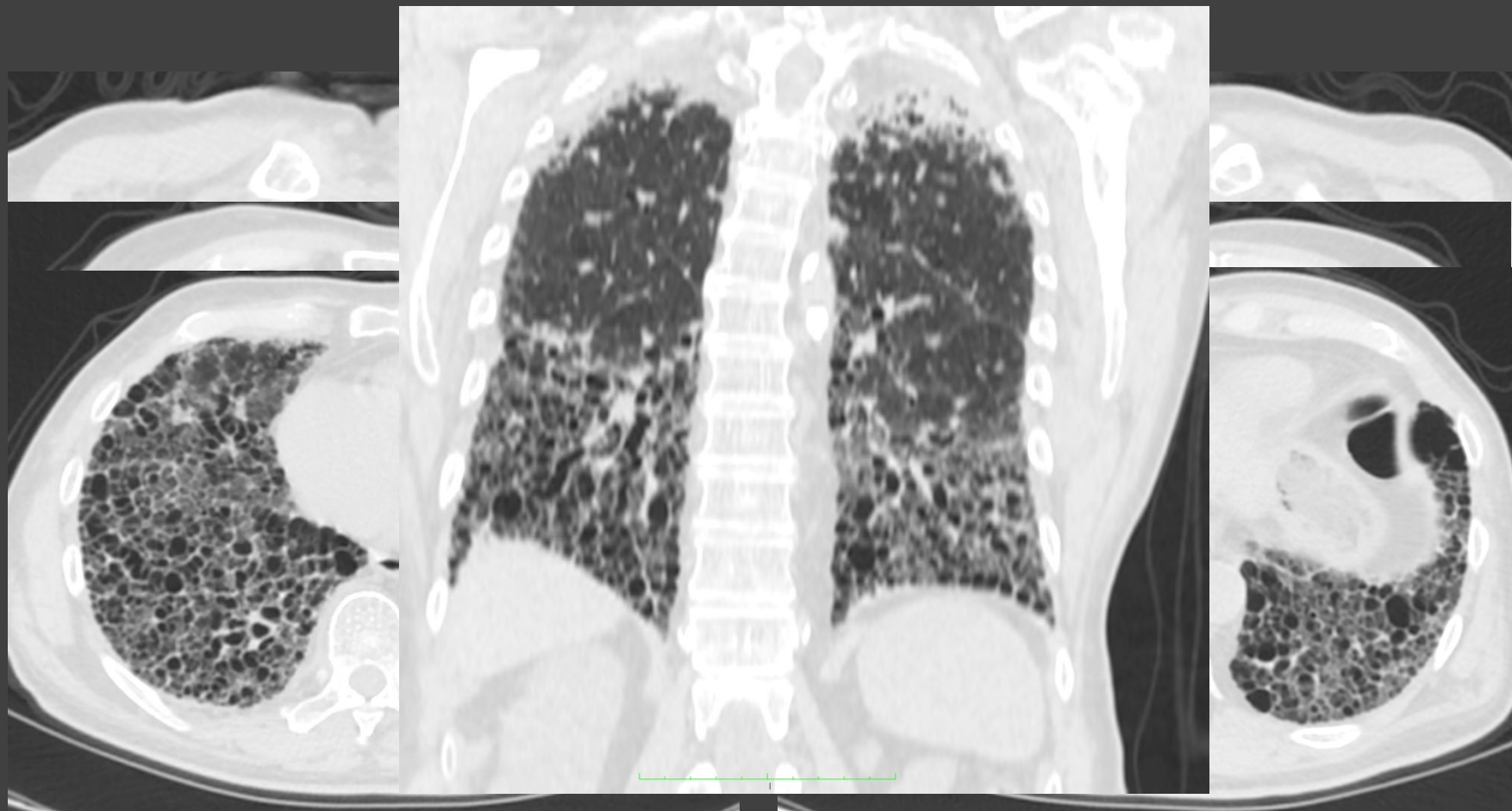
<b>Case</b>  Male, 65 yrs Postmenopausal  <b>Risk factors</b> No smoking Active 10 hrs/week 10 yrs  <b>Comorbidities</b> GERD Atrial fibrillation  <b>Symptoms</b> Exertional dyspnea and cough  <b>Physical exam</b> No Rales Bi-basal inspiratory crackles	<b>Blood exams</b>	Asian          many          months          coughing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autoimmunity screening: negative</li> <li>• Tumoral markers screening:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CA-15.3=29 U/l)</li> <li>• CA-125=94.7 U/l)</li> <li>• CA-19.9=101.5 U/l</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Vitamin D = 19.6 ng/ml</li> </ul>	
	<b>Fiberoptic bronchoscopy (BAL)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not performed</li> </ul>	

<b>Blood gases</b> pO <sub>2</sub> 60 mmHg pCO <sub>2</sub> 39 mmHg PH 7.43 HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> 26.4 mmol/L	<b>Echocardiography</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EF 55%</li> <li>• TAPSE 18 mm</li> <li>• Estimated systolic PAP within the limits</li> </ul>	Air          noea
<b>Spirometry</b> FVC 1.21 L (60% pred) FEV <sub>1</sub> 1.16 L (58% pred) IT 95.8% RV 0.68 L (26% pred) TLC 2.10 L (60% pred)	<b>Nocturnal cardio-respiratory testing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• negative</li> <li>• AHI 1.9/h</li> <li>• ODI 6.8/h</li> <li>• T90 16%</li> </ul>	
<b>CO diffusing capacity</b> DLCO <sub>sb</sub> 4.1 L/min DLCO <sub>VA</sub> 2.0 L/min	<b>6MWT</b> Test stopped due to fatigue Initial O <sub>2</sub> Sat 97%, initial O <sub>2</sub> pulse oximetry Distance walked 99 m (35.8% pred)	



HRCT 2018

R.G.



# Management

Thorax HRCT was diagnostic of UIP definite  
Criobiopsy and lung transplantation were not indicated

**MDD: Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis with associated CT findings highly suggestive of PPFE**

Pulmonary rehabilitation

Therapy with an anti-fibrotic drug was not indicated

Infection prevention (vaccination)

Correction of Vitamin D deficiency

Oxygen supplementation

GE reflux therapy

Clinical and functional monitoring every three months



# Open questions

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Is the CT pattern of PPFE/UIP representative of a disease entity distinct from IPF in some cases?

Is such a pattern representative of a distinct phenotype of IPF (more aggressive)?

**Should the combination of PPFE/UIP be considered as the pathological background of a combined syndrome?**

**Are we going to treat with new anti-fibrotic drugs patients with a fibrotic CT pattern until lung transplantation as having IPF?**

Thank you all for your attention