Problemi aperti in Medicina Respiratoria: confronto con gli esperti 5-6 Giugno 2015 Catania

#### **Diagnosi Differenziale IPF-UIP**



Sergio Harari U.O. di Pneumologia e UTIR Servizio di Emodinamica e Fisiopatologia Respiratoria Ospedale San Giuseppe - Milano

Diagnosis	Frequency	
Idiopathic Interstitial pneumonias		40%
Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis	55%	
Non specific interstitial pneumonia	25%	
Respiratory bronchiolitis-ILD and desquamative interstitial pneumonia	15%	
Cryptogenic organizing pneumonia	3%	
Acute interstitial pneumonia	<1%	
Occupational and environmental		26%
Sarcoidosis		10%
Connective tissue diseases		9%
Drug and radiation		1%
Pulmonary hemorrhage	1%	
Others		13%

### The rising incidence of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in UK Navaratnam V et al. Thorax 2011;66:462

15000 people in the UK have a diagnosis of IPF-CS each year, 5000 new cases of IPF each year, 5000



"This means that in the UK, more people will die each year from IPF-CS than from ovarian cancer, lymphoma, leukaemia, mesothelioma or kidney cancer" **Prevalence and incidence rate** (x100,000 personyears) according to the three case definitions, during the period 2005-2010 in Lombardy



**Case definition** 

### Increase of prevalence - Lombardy





### New definition of IPF

 IPF is a specific form of progressive fibrosing interstitial pneumonia Unknown cause Occurring in older adults Limited to the lungs Associated with a histological and/or radiological pattern of usual interstitial pneumonia (UIP)

Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2011; 183: 788-824

### Importance of early diagnosis of IPF

- Begin evaluation for lung transplant earlier
- Allows for earlier referral and enrollment in clinical trials (which are generally limited to patients with mild to moderate disease)
- Emerging evidence regarding response to therapy
- Exclude other more treatable diseases

### UIP: progression of fibrosis on CT

#### Early:

#### Reticular





#### Midcourse: Subpleural honeycombing



#### Late:

#### Diffuse honeycombing





# Don't stop with "pulmonary fibrosis"

Reason for a specific diagnosis:

- many forms are treatable
- treatments depend on diagnosis
- prognosis varies
- clinical trial eligibility requirements

In idiopathic interstitial pneumonia, diagnosis is prognosis

### American Thoracic Society Documents

An official American Thoracic Society/European Respiratory Society Statement: Update of the International Multidisciplinary Classification of the Idiopathic Interstitial Pneumonias

Travis TW et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2013; 188: 733

Major IIPs are distinguished from rare IIPs and			
unclassifiable cases		NSIP is now	
Chronic fibrosing IIP	stitial pneumonias	accepted as a	
	y fibrosis	entity	
Cmoking related IID	c interstitial pneumonia		
Shloking-related IIP	itis-interstitial lung disea	se	
	itial pneumonia		
Acute/Subacute IIP	ng pneumonia		
Acute interstitial pneumonias			
Rare idiopathic interstitial pneumonia			
Idiopathic pleuro-parenchymal fibroelastosis			
Idiopathic lymphoid interstitial pneumonia			
Unclassifiable idiopathic interstitial pneumonias			



### Typical exam is non-specific

Dry bi-basilar crackles most common finding

Inspiratory high-pitched squeaks can be seen with bronchiolitis

Skin, joint, or muscle findings should prompt evaluation for an underlying rheumatologic disorder

### **Diagnostic algorithm for IPF**



La radiografia standard del torace è un momento importante nella valutazione di un paziente con pneumopatia infiltrativa diffusa, tuttavia la sensibilità della metodica è bassa e la specificità scarsa





Predominanza Zone Superiori Sarcoidosi Istiocitosi X Silicosi Polmoniti da ipersensibilità Polmonite eosinofila cronica Farmaci



#### Predominanza Zone Inferiori

Fibrosi Polmonare Idiopatica
Asbestosi
Connettiviti

Cortesia Prof. Pesci



### Predominanza Zone Periferiche

Polmonite Eosinofila Cronica Polmonite Organizzativa Idiopatica

### Radiografia standard del Torace Infiltrati Migranti

# Polmonite Eosinofila Cronica Polmonite Organizzativa Idiopatica Farmaci



## Chest radiograph in IPF



Reduced lung volume Basal and peripheral reticulation A normal chest x-ray does not exclude IPF





![](_page_22_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_4.jpeg)

## HRCT e Polmone Honeycombing

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_1.jpeg)

Irregular lines

# Peripheral/ Sub-pleural

Lower Lobe Predominant

### Classic IPF HRCT

![](_page_25_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Reticular opacities

Traction bronchiectasis

Honeycombing

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### features of fibrosis,

Intra-lobular and interlobular septal thickening, walled cysts representing honeycombing, may be associated traction bronchiectasis

![](_page_26_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_4.jpeg)

"The diagnosis of IPF *requires*:

- a) exclusion of other known causes of interstitial lung disease
- a) the presence of a UIP pattern on HRCT in patients not subjected to surgical lung biopsy
- a) specific combinations of HRCT and surgical lung biopsy pattern in patients subjected to surgical lung biopsy"

![](_page_27_Picture_4.jpeg)

Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2011; 183: 788-824

### Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2011; 183: 788-824

#### TABLE 5. HISTOPATHOLOGICAL CRITERIA FOR UIP PATTERN

U	IP Pattern (All Four Criteria)
•	Evidence of marked fibrosis/
	a nala ita atu wa Laki ata uti a a 💷 👘

- architectural distortion, ± honeycombing in a predominantly subpleural/ paraseptal distribution
- Presence of patchy involvement of lung parenchyma by fibrosis
- Presence of fibroblast foci
- Absence of features against a diagnosis of UIP suggesting an alternate diagnosis (see fourth column)

 Evidence of marked fibrosis / architectural distortion, ± honeycombing

Probable UIP Pattern

- Absence of either patchy involvement or fibroblastic foci, but not both
- Absence of features against a diagnosis of UIP suggesting an alternate diagnosis (*see* fourth column) OR
- Honeycomb changes only<sup>‡</sup>

• Patchy or diffuse involvement of lung parenchyma by fibrosis, with or without interstitial inflammation

Possible UIP Pattern

(All Three Criteria)

- Absence of other criteria for UIP (see UIP PATTERN column)
- Absence of features against a diagnosis of UIP suggesting an alternate diagnosis (see fourth column)

- Not UIP Pattern (Any of the Six Criteria)
- Hyaline membranes\*
- Organizing pneumonia\*<sup>†</sup>
- Granulomas<sup>†</sup>
- Marked interstitial inflammatory cell infiltrate away from honeycombing
- Predominant airway centered changes
- Other features suggestive of an alternate diagnosis

![](_page_28_Picture_21.jpeg)

HRCT Pattern	Surgical Lung Biopsy Pattern (when performed)	Diagnosis of IPF?	
UIP	UIP Probable UIP Possible UIP Non-classifiable fibrosis	YES	
	Not UIP	No	
Possible UIP	UIP Probable UIP	YES	
	Possible UIP Non-classifiable fibrosis	Probable	
	Not UIP	No	
Inconsistent with UIP	UIP	Possible	
	Probable UIP Possible UIP Non-classifiable fibrosis Not UIP	Νο	

### Inconsistent with UIP pattern (any of the seven):

- Upper or mid-lung predominance
- Peribronchovascular predominance
- Extensive groud glass abnormality (extent > reticular abnormality)
- Profuse micronodules (bilateral, predominantly upper lobes)
- Discrete cysts (multiple, bilateral, away from areas of honeycombing)
- Diffuse mosaic attenuation/air-trapping (bilateral, in three or more lobes)
- Consolidation in bronchopulmonary segment(s)/lobe(s)

### Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2011; 183: 788-824

![](_page_30_Picture_9.jpeg)

# HRCT e Polmone Non Specific Interstitial Pneumonia

Irregular lines

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

Peripheral/ Lower Lobes distribution

**Traction bronchiectasis** 

Ground glass

### HRCT e Polmone Non Specific Interstitial Pneumonia

![](_page_32_Picture_1.jpeg)

### HRCT e Polmone Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

Mosaic Ground glass air-trapping

\*\*Note: if chronic, fibrosis can mimic UIP, but is usually patchy and less sub-pleural and lower lung in distribution

### Chronic EAA

#### Churg A et al. Am J Surg Pathol 2006;30:201-8

- Traditionally divided on clinical grounds into acute, subacute, and chronic stages. Most biopsy specimens come from patients in the subacute stage.
  - Pathologic features in chronic, ie, fibrotic stage (n=13) showed 3 patterns:
    - 1) predominantly peripheral fibrosis in a patchy pattern with architectural distortion and fibroblast foci resembling, microscopically UIP;
    - 2) relatively homogeneous linear fibrosis resembling fibrotic NSIP;
    - 3) irregular predominantly peribronchiolar fibrosis. In some instances, mixtures of the UIP-like and peribronchiolar patterns were found.

### Chronic EAA

Churg A et al. Am J Surg Pathol 2006;30:201-8

- The presence of isolated giant cells, poorly formed granulomas, or Schaumann bodies is crucial to arriving at the correct diagnosis, and the finding of peribronchiolar fibrosis may be helpful.
- Despite the presence of extensive fibrosis, some patients responded to removal from exposure and steroid therapy

Chronic hypersensitivity pneumonitis: differentiation from UIP and NSIP using thin-section CT

Silva C. Radiology 2008; 246: 288

HRCT findings allow confident distinction of chronic HP from IPF and NSIP approximately 50% of the time

Diagnosis of HP at CT prompts a thorough clinical history to determine inciting antigens and removal of IIPs are frequently confused with HP, and vice versa, except when the exposure is readily apparent A detailed search for potential exposure in patients with these findings is essential, including consideration of specific circulating IgG antibodies, but up to 30% of subjects with histological HP have no identifiable exposure

The spectrum of atypical HRCT appearances in IPF

Exploration of biopsy-proven IPF (n=55)

As expected, a high prevalence of atypical HRCT findings (n=34, 62%), as judged by three observers

Alternative HRCT diagnoses analysed

Sverzellati N et al. Radiology 2010; 254:957-64

### Atypical HRCT appearances in IPF

Alternative first choice diagnoses were NSIP (53%), chronic HP (12%), sarcoidosis (9%), "unclassifiable" (23%)

Cases with atypical appearances had the same IPF-like outcome as those with typical HRCT appearances

Sverzellati N et al. Radiology 2010; 254:957-64

## Reason for being unclassifiable

Reasons	•Examples
<b>No biopsy performed or biopsy non-contributory</b> (unclassifiable clinical/radiological condition)	<ul> <li>Biopsy non proposed (stable or mild disease with biopsy risk outweighing benefit)</li> <li>Contraindication to biopsy</li> <li>Biopsy suggested but refused by patient</li> <li>Inadequate biopsy sample</li> </ul>
<b>Overlapping histological features</b> (unclassifiable histology)	•NSIP/UIP overlap •HP/UIP overlap, etc.
Major discrepancy (unclassifiable clinical/radiological/ pathological condition)	•Stable disease, but UIP on histology

10-20% of ILD patients remain unclassified after multidisciplinary evaluation

![](_page_40_Picture_0.jpeg)

Usefulness of BAL in diagnosis of IPF: Conclusions

Should BAL cellular analysis be performed in the diagnostic evaluation of suspected IPF?

The most important application of BAL is in the exclusion of chonic HP; prominent lymphocitosis (>40%) should suggest the diagnosis

**Recommendation**: BAL cellular analysis should not be performed in the diagnostic evaluation of IPF in the majority of patients, but may be appropriate in a minority (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence)

Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2011; 183: 788-824

# Biopsia Transbronchiale

### ....distribuzione delle lesioni nel lobulo secondario

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Maffessanti & Dalpiaz

### Probability of Diagnosing Diffuse Diseases

#### Transbronchial Biopsy

**Surgical Biopsy** 

![](_page_43_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

Transbronchial Lung Cryobiopsy in the Diagnosis of Fibrotic Interstitial Lung Diseases Casoni GL et al. PILOS One 2014

**Conclusions**: TBLC in the diagnosis of f-DPLD appears safe and feasible. TBLC has a good diagnostic yield in the clinical-radiological setting of f-DPLD without diagnostic HRCT features of usual interstitial pneumonia. Future studies should consider TBLC as a potential alternative to SLBx in f-DPLD. The big problem is the differential diagnosis between UIP and NSIP, HP and ILD in CVDs

# What's the problem?

- It is not uncommon for pulmonologist to find patients with IP who are supposed to have a systemic autoimmune disease
  - Within current classification schemes, many of these patients are labeled as idiopathic by default

Despite the recognition that IP may be the *forme fruste* presentation of CTD, current classification criteria do not allow a CTD designation for ILD alone

# Why is important to discover an occult CTD?

For disease prognosis For appropriate therapeutic approach For a search of additional system involvement or underlying malignancy For specific complications Is lung biopsy indicated?

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

Complete history assessment		hysical		Raynaud phenomenon esophageal hypomobility, dysphagia inflammatov arthritis, arthralaias	
L L	ex		amination	PFT, 6MWT	digital edema, clubbing symptomatic keratoconjunctivitis icca, al ulceration euritis pericarditis
dic evaluatia		Lat te auto	ooratory est and dimmunity	Chest radiograp	ESR, CRP, CPK, LDH, rheumatoid factor ANA titer and pattern of inofluorescence h -Scl -70 Arti Po Anti-ds-
Perio			HRCT		Schirmer test, Nailfold capillaroscopy, Digestive tract X-ray, Echocardiograph
		ev	Biopsy aluation		Lyn, germinal centers Extensive pleuritis Prominent plasmacytic infiltration Dense perivascular collagen

# Conclusions

- The early recognition of IPF starts with a high level of clinical suspicion
- The approach to the diagnosis of IPF requires a multi-disciplinary effort (pulmonologist, radiologist, and pathologist)
- Differentiating IPF from other ILDs can direct the management and predict the prognosis of these patients

# Conclusions

In some patients, lung involvement precedes other systemic manifestations, making the distinction between IIP and lung involvement of CTD impossible

An association of IIP with CTD should be vigorously searched, not only at time of diagnosis but also during follow-up

# Conclusions

It is important to look for additional minor/minimal abnormalities (clinical, radiological, histological) that may help in diagnosis of occult CTD or chronic HP

IPF can be diagnosed on HRCT in the majority of cases but a crucial sub-group have very atypical HRCT appearances

Early diagnosis of IPF allows early treatment approaches and prompt referral for LTx