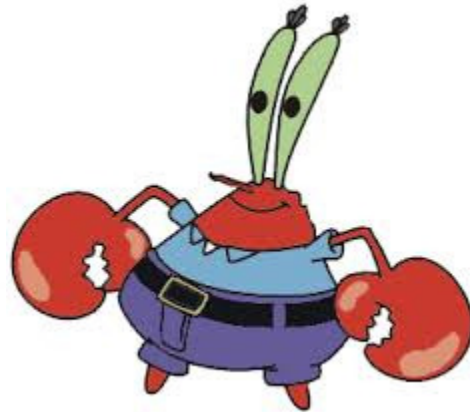


Getting to Know Mr. CRAB



How to Diagnose Multiple Myeloma



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

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Disclosures

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Speaker bureau/Honoraria amounts: None

Consulting fees: None

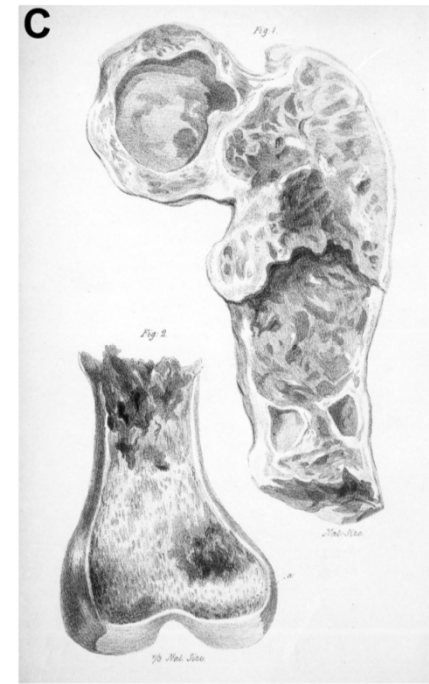
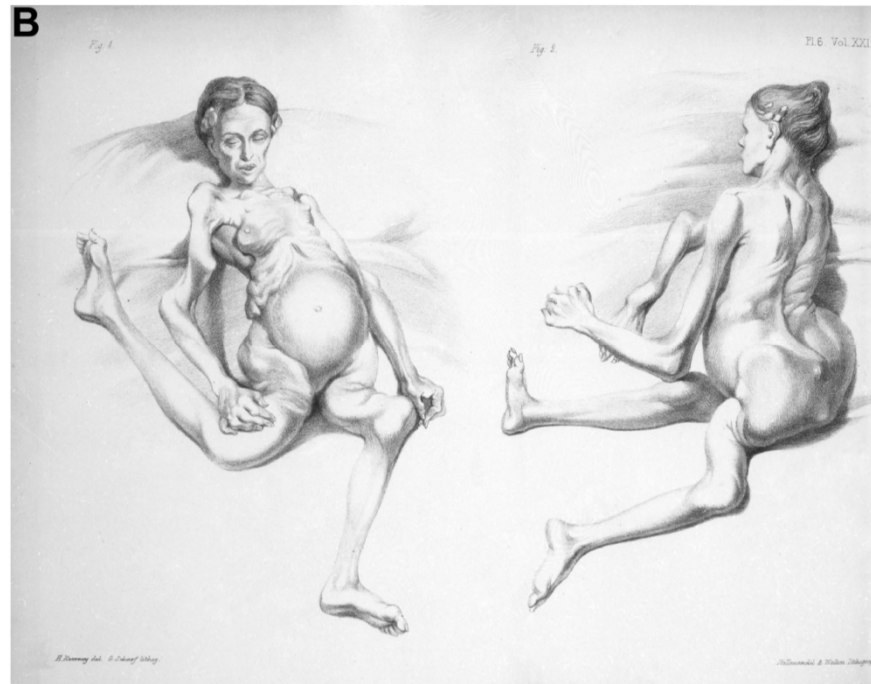
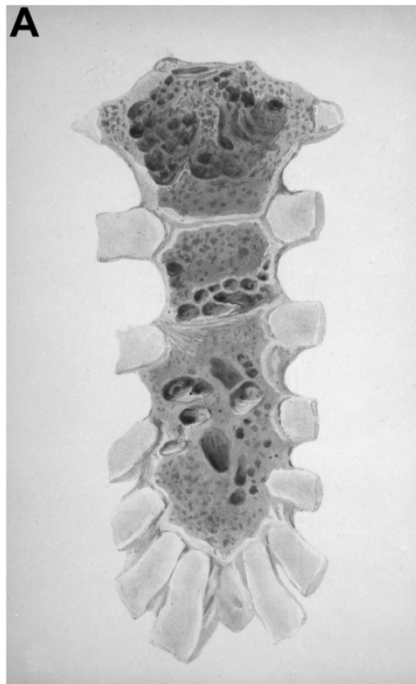
Other: None



Objectives

By the end of this session, learners should be able to:

- 1) Know when to suspect a diagnosis of multiple myeloma
- 2) Order the appropriate initial investigations to diagnose multiple myeloma
- 3) Know when to refer a patient to a hematologist and identify emergency complications requiring immediate intervention



Sarah Newbury 39 female, first reported case of myeloma in 1844



III. *On a new substance occurring in the Urine of a patient with Mollities Ossium.*

By HENRY BENICE JONES, M.A., F.R.S., *Physician to St. George's Hospital.*

Received February 25,—Read April 22, 1847.

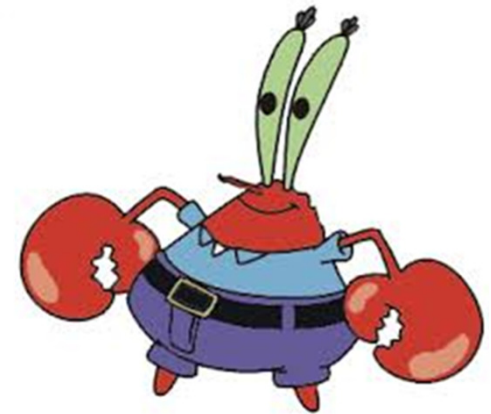
ON the 1st of November 1845 I received from Dr. WATSON the following note, with a test tube containing a thick, yellow, semi-solid substance:—"The tube contains urine of very high specific gravity; when boiled it becomes highly opake; on the addition of nitric acid it effervesces, assumes a reddish hue, becomes quite clear, but, as it cools, assumes the consistence and appearance which you see: heat reliquifies it. What is it?"

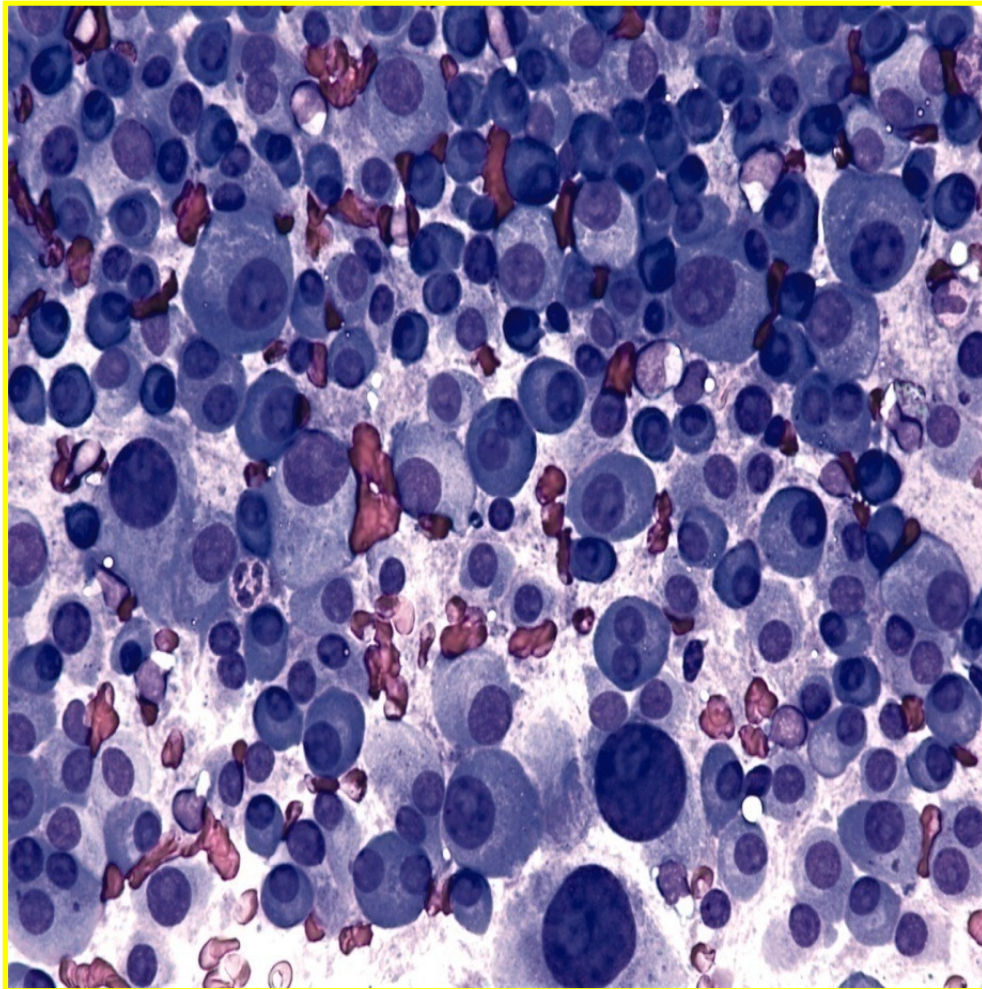
Bence Jones, Phil Trans R Soc Lond 1848



What is Multiple Myeloma?

- A bone marrow cancer characterized by uncontrolled proliferation of clonal plasma cells
- Disease manifests with CRAB symptoms
 - **C** – Hypercalcemia
 - **R** – Renal Failure
 - **A** – Anemia
 - **B** – Bone disease – lytic lesions/bone fractures







What is Multiple Myeloma?

- 1% of all cancers and 15% of hematologic malignancies
 - ~2,700 new cases in Canada in 2015 (estimated 80 new cases in Manitoba)
 - Prevalence of ~7,500 across Canada
- Median age at diagnosis of 69 years
- Incurable malignancy characterized by multiple relapses

Canadian Cancer Society Statistics 2015



FIGURE 1.2 Percent distribution of estimated new cancer cases, by sex, Canada, 2016

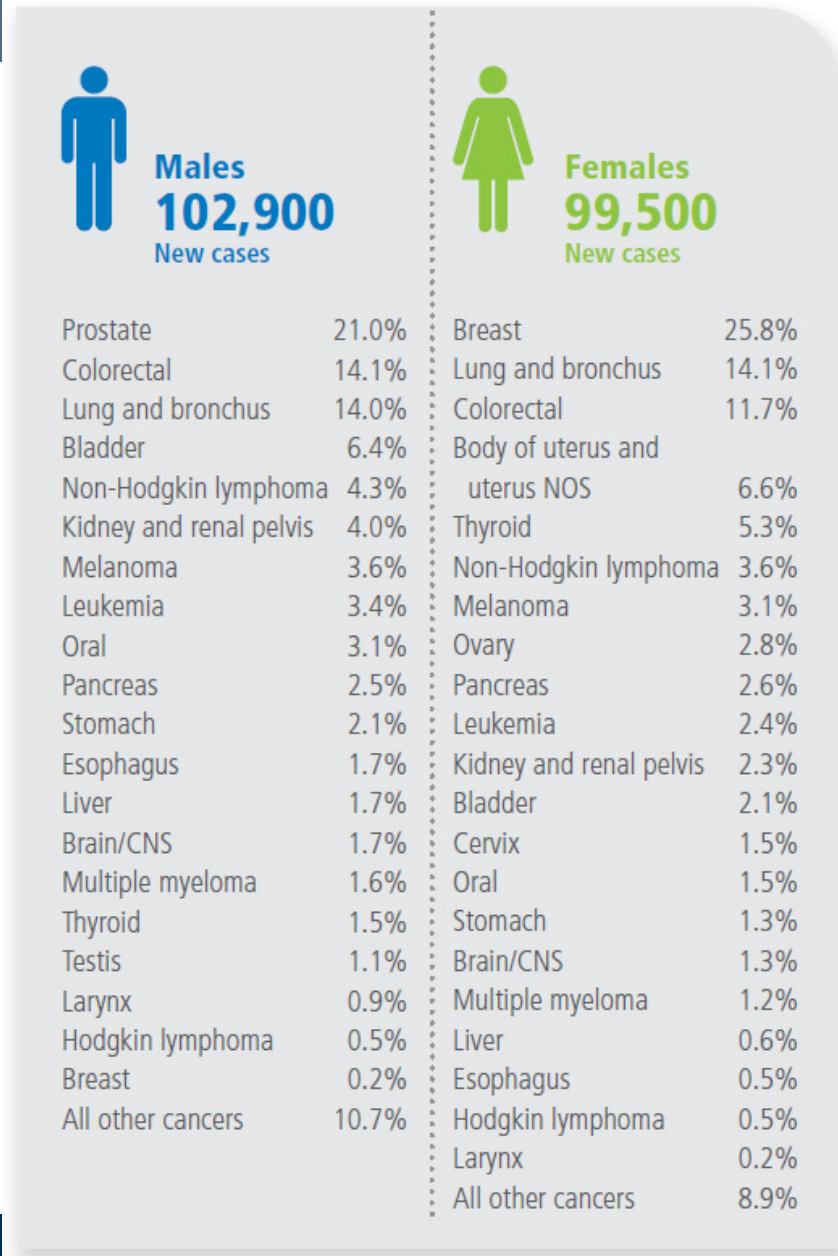
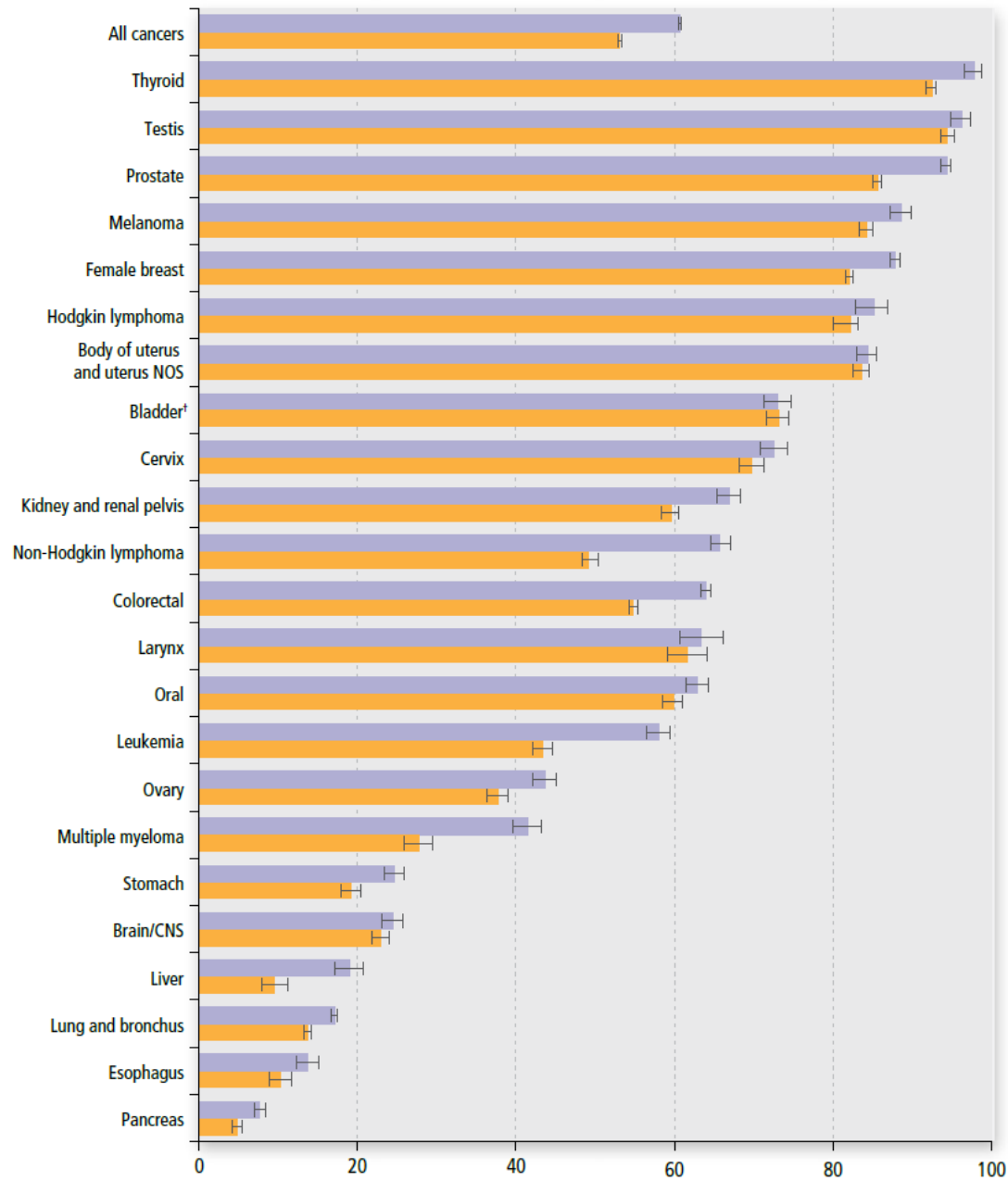




FIGURE 5.3 Five-year age-standardized net survival for selected cancers by time period, ages 15–99, Canada (excluding 2006–2008 versus 1992–1994)



Canadian Cancer Society 2016



How does myeloma present?

- Study on 1027 consecutive patients referred to Mayo Clinic
 - Anemia – 73%
 - Bone pain – 58%
 - Elevated creatinine – 48%
 - Fatigue/generalized weakness – 32%
 - Hypercalcemia – 28%
 - Weight Loss - 24%



Kyle et al. Mayo Clinic Proc, 2003



Case presentation

- 73 year old female presents to family MD with a couple months history of fatigue and new low back pain
- No significant past medical history
- Physical exam unremarkable (no bony tenderness, no evidence of cord compression/neurologic compromise)
- CBC
 - Hb - 81 (previously 135 1 year ago), MCV 99.1, WBC – 9.1 (normal differential), platelets – 144
- Na 139, K 3.7, Ca – 2.58, Alb - 30, Creatinine 112 (previously in the 70s 1 year ago), urea 10.0



Case Presentation

- Questions
 - Do you think myeloma is a possibility here?
 - What investigations should you order to make the diagnosis?
 - When should you refer to hematology?

When to ORDER SPEP and how to INTERPRET RESULTS

WHEN TO ORDER AN SPEP:

- Unexplained anemia, back pain
- Osteopenia, osteolytic lesions, spontaneous fractures
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- Hypergammaglobulinemia
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- Unexplained peripheral neuropathy
- Recurrent infections
- Elevated ESR or serum viscosity
- Peripheral blood smear showing rouleaux

CRAB SYMPTOMS**:

- C – Ca²⁺ >2.8
 - R – creatinine >177 umol/L or GFR <40mL per min
 - A – hemoglobin <100g/L or 20g/L below normal
 - B – lytic lesions
- **Attributable to plasma cell disorder

If clinical suspicion remains high for plasma cell disorder and SPEP is negative → obtain serum free light chain ratio (SFLCR)

OTHER SPEP RESULTS

POLYCLONAL GAMMOPATHY (reactive)

Investigate for other causes including:

- Liver disease
- Connective tissue disease I
- Infection

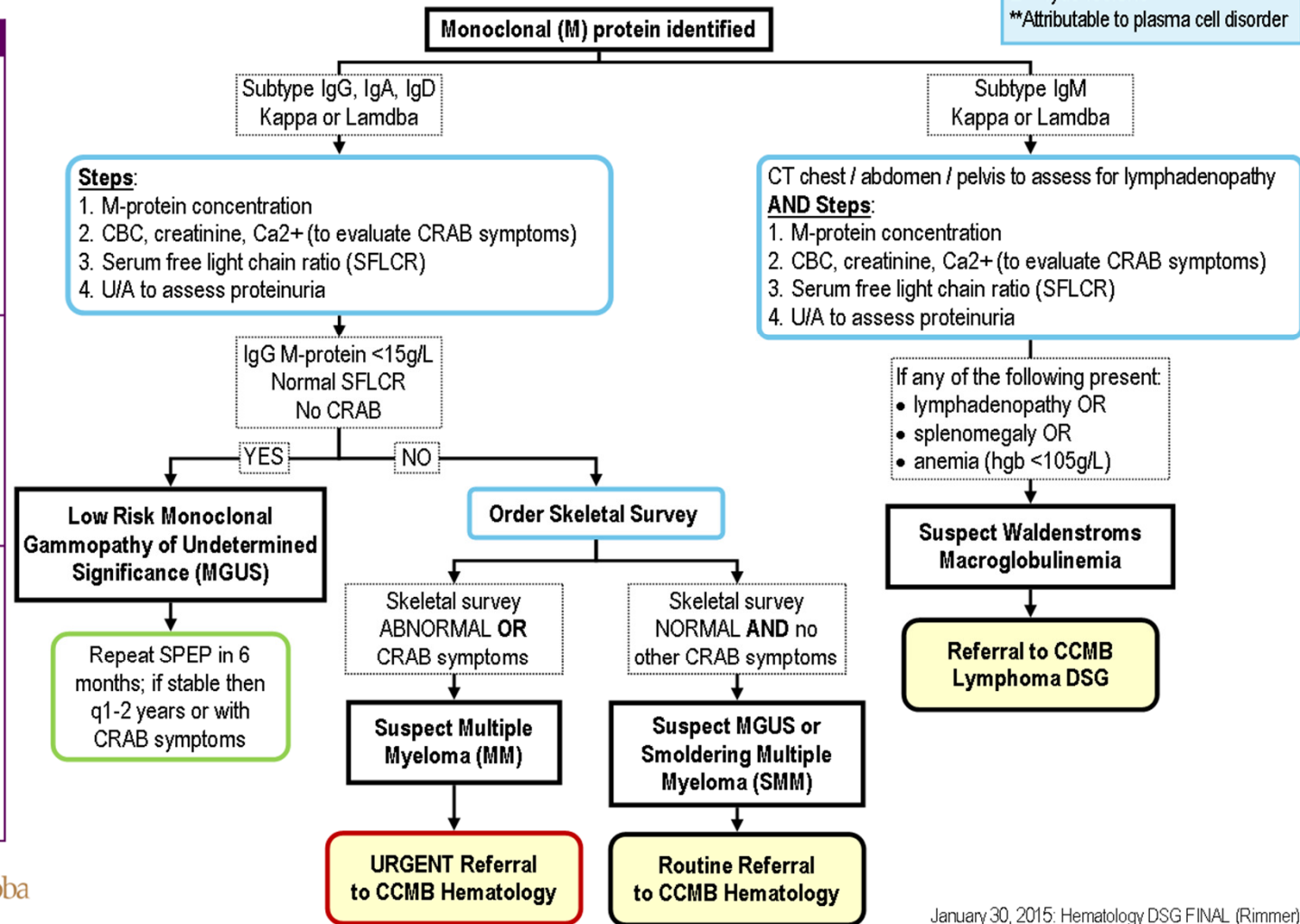
OLIGOCLONAL GAMMOPATHY (usually reactive)

Repeat test in 6 – 12 months if clinically indicated (see top box "When to order an SPEP")

ELEVATED FREE LIGHT CHAINS - NORMAL RATIO (reactive)

Investigate for other causes including:

- Kidney disease
- Liver disease
- Connective tissue disease
- Infection





Further Work Up

- X-ray lumbosacral spine shows L4 compression fracture
- Serum immunoglobulins
 - IgG – 4.06 g/L (low)
 - IgA – 0.3 g/L (low)
 - IgM – 0.3 g/L (low)
- Serum protein electrophoresis shows no monoclonal protein detectable
- Now What?



Monoclonal Proteins in Myeloma

- IgG – 52%
- IgA – 21%
- Light chain only – 16%
 - Seen only on UPEP or sFLC assay
- IgD – 2%
- Biclonal – 2%
- Non secretory – 3%
 - ~60% of these will be detectable using sFLC assay
- IgM – 0.5%
 - Most patients with a IgM monoclonal protein have a lymphoproliferative disorder or amyloidosis, not myeloma



Back to the case...

- Patient with lytic bone lesion and normocytic anemia
- Serum immunoglobulins
 - IgG – 4.06 g/L (low)
 - IgA – 0.3 g/L (low)
 - IgM – 0.3 g/L (low)
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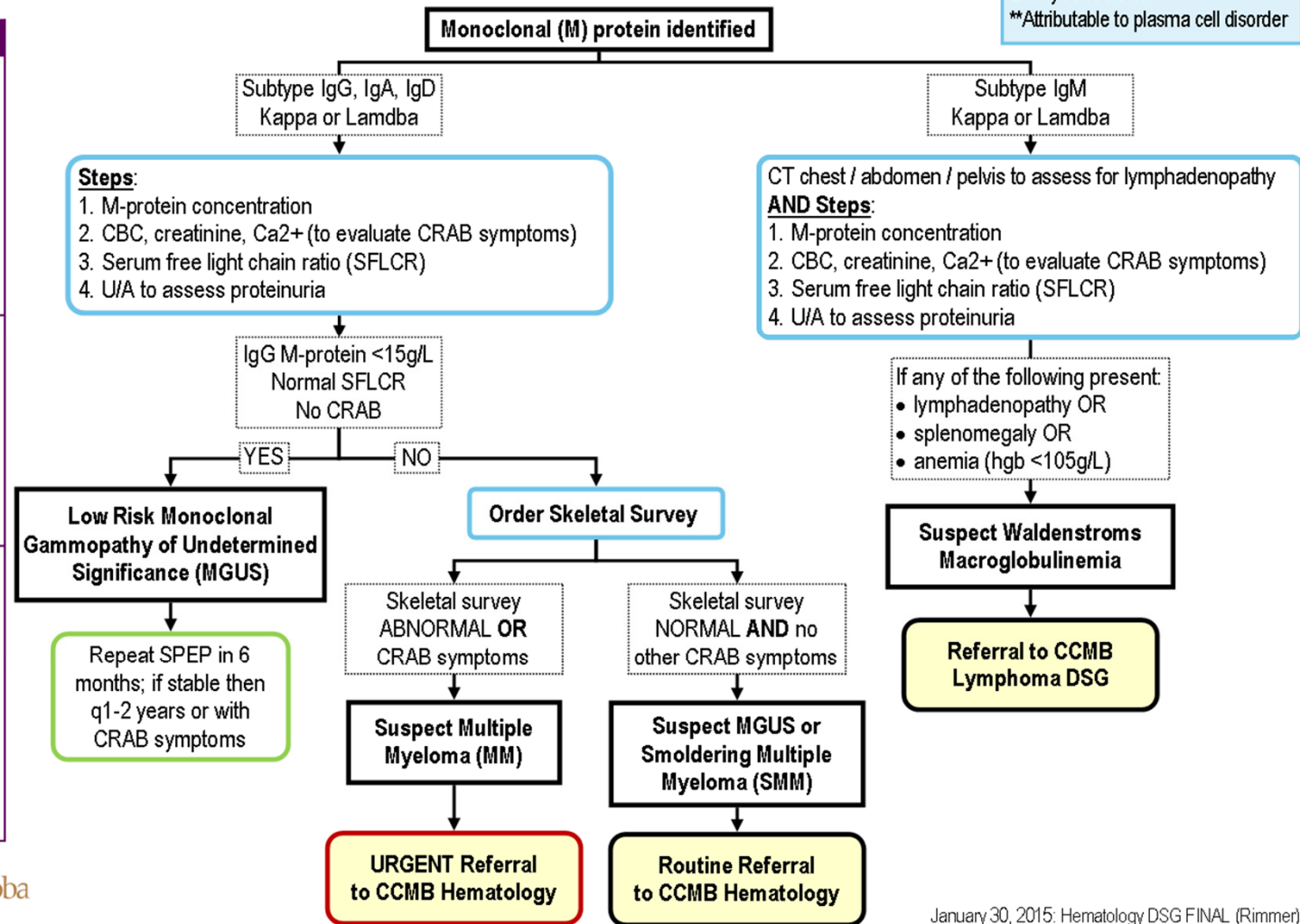
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Even Further Work Up

- 24 hour urine protein and urine protein electrophoresis
 - 4.2g/24hours proteinuria
 - Mainly consists of monoclonal lambda light chains (minimal albuminuria)
- Serum free light chain assay
 - Free kappa – 7.72 g/L
 - Free lambda – 2,224 g/L
 - Kappa/lambda ratio – 0.0034



Now What? Further Diagnostics

- Basic Investigations for Myeloma
 - CBC with differential, lytes, urea, creatinine, calcium, SPEP and UPEP with immunofixation, serum free light chain assay
 - Albumin, beta 2 microglobulin (necessary for ISS staging)
- Imaging
 - Skeletal survey in all patients
 - CT or MRI to investigate 1) pain when plain films normal, 2) extramedullary plasmacytomas, 3) neurologic compromise (cord comp)
- Bone marrow aspirate and biopsy
 - Flow cytometry
 - FISH cytogenetics – t(4;14), del17p and others (necessary for prognosis)



Who Should Do The Bone Marrow?

- Should be done by hematologist (or trained NP/CA/PA):
 - Higher probability of diagnostic sample due to experience
 - Availability of complex testing at tertiary care centre (flow cytometry and cytogenetics)
 - Clinical trial participation often requires bone marrow sample



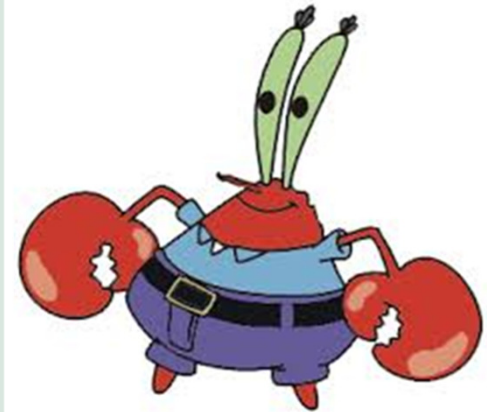


Panel: Revised International Myeloma Working Group diagnostic criteria for multiple myeloma and smouldering multiple myeloma

Definition of multiple myeloma

Clonal bone marrow plasma cells $\geq 10\%$ or biopsy-proven bony or extramedullary plasmacytoma* and any one or more of the following myeloma defining events:

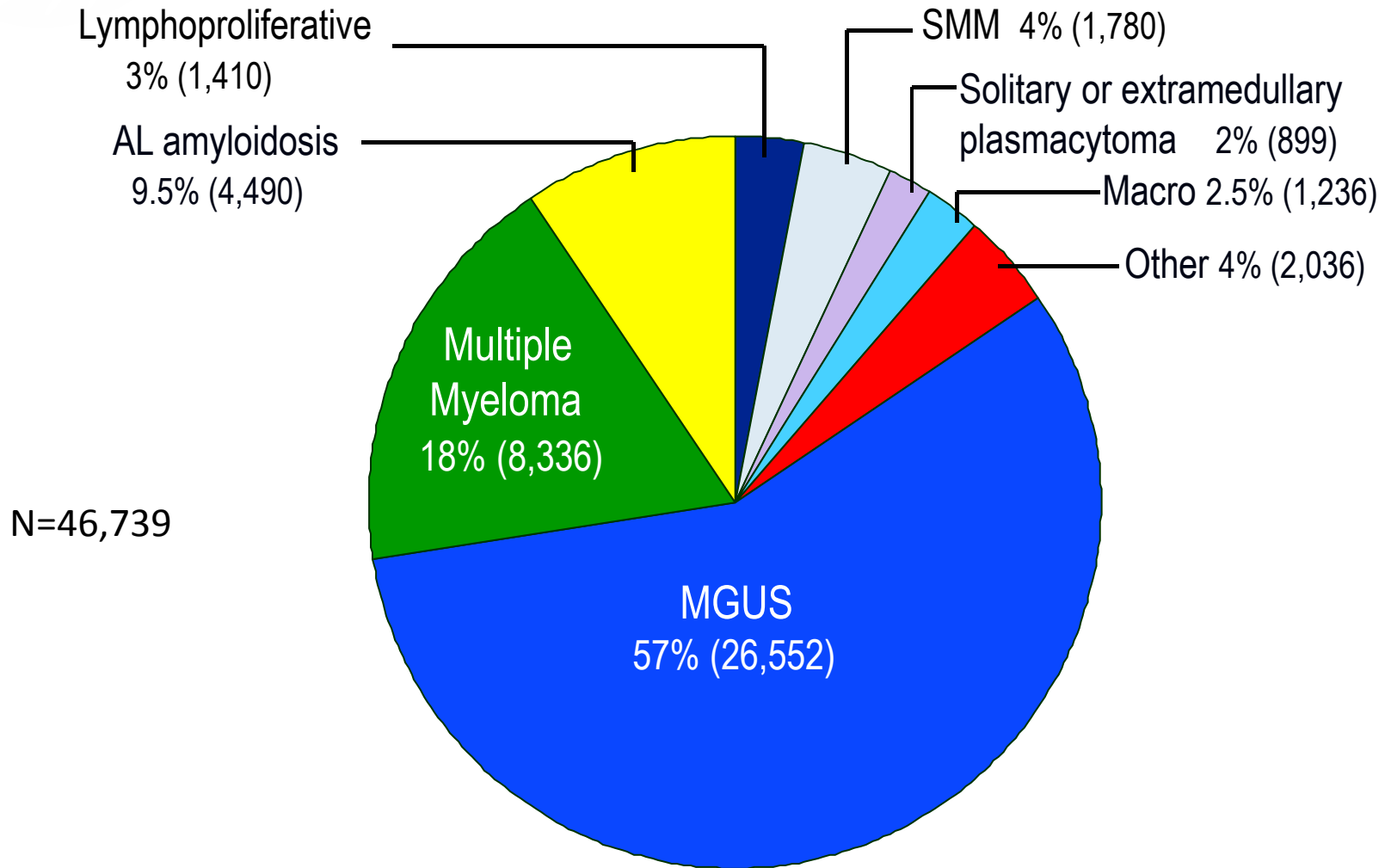
- Myeloma defining events:
 - Evidence of end organ damage that can be attributed to the underlying plasma cell proliferative disorder, specifically:
 - Hypercalcaemia: serum calcium >0.25 mmol/L (>1 mg/dL) higher than the upper limit of normal or >2.75 mmol/L (>11 mg/dL)
 - Renal insufficiency: creatinine clearance <40 mL per min[†] or serum creatinine >177 μ mol/L (>2 mg/dL)
 - Anaemia: haemoglobin value of >20 g/L below the lower limit of normal, or a haemoglobin value <100 g/L
 - Bone lesions: one or more osteolytic lesions on skeletal radiography, CT, or PET-CT[‡]
 - Any one or more of the following biomarkers of malignancy:
 - Clonal bone marrow plasma cell percentage* $\geq 60\%$
 - Involved:uninvolved serum free light chain ratio[§] ≥ 100
 - >1 focal lesions on MRI studies[¶]



Rajkumar et al. 2014 Lancet Oncology



Monoclonal Gammopathy



Mayo Clinic 1960-2002



MGUS	SMM	MM
M protein in serum <30g/l <u>and</u>	M protein >30g/l <u>and / or</u>	Any level of M protein (none in non-secretory) <u>and</u>
Clonal BMPC <10% <u>and</u>	Clonal BMPC >10% <u>and</u>	Clonal BMPC >10% <u>and</u>
No myeloma related “CRAB”	No myeloma related “CRAB”	Myeloma related “CRAB”
No evidence of other B cell LPD or light chain associated Amyloidosis or other tissue damage		Or : BM plasma cells >60% FLCR >100 >1 focal lesion on MRI

Rajkumar et al. 2014 Lancet Oncology



MGUS is Common

- MGUS is common especially in the elderly
 - <2% in those under 40
 - 3% in those over 50
 - 5% in those over 70
 - 7.5% in those over 85

Kyle et al, NEJM 2006



Epidemiology of MGUS

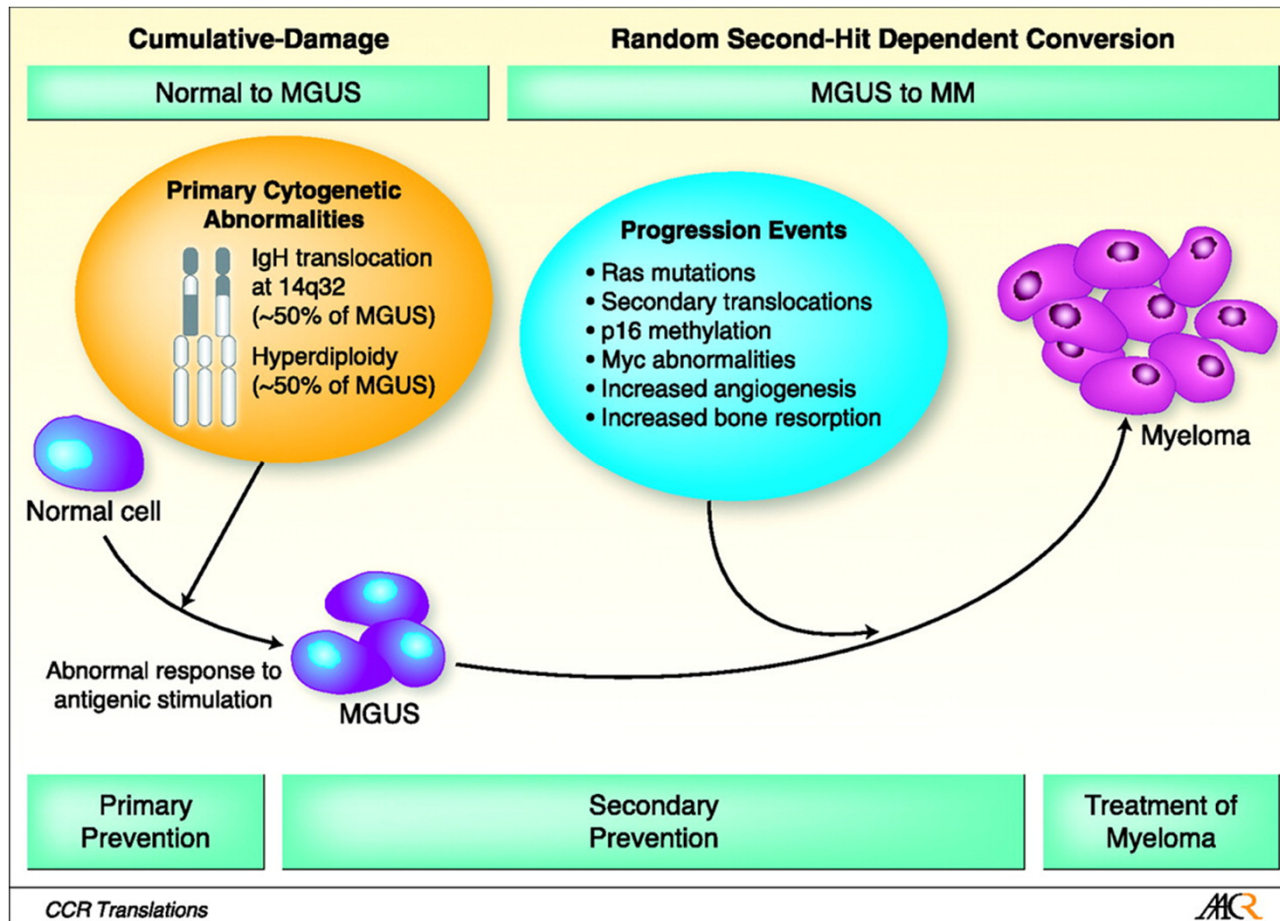
- Sex: Slightly higher risk in men than women (4.0% vs 2.7% in population >50 years old)
- Race: African Americans have 3 fold higher risk compared to Caucasians
- Familial Predisposition: 1st degree relative of patients with MGUS are at higher risk (though majority of cases are sporadic)
- MGUS RR 2.8, Multiple Myeloma RR 2.9, Waldenstrom's macroglobulinemia RR 4.0, CLL RR 2.0

Landgren et al Blood. 2006

Landgren et al Blood. 2009



MGUS Progression to Myeloma



Rajkumar S V Clin Cancer Res 2009



MGUS Precedes Myeloma

- Among 77, 469 healthy adults in an American population based cancer screening study (NIH PLCO Study)
 - 71 patients later developed myeloma

Blood Draw Prior to MM Diagnosis (years)	% with MGUS
2	100%
3	98.3%
4	97.9%
5	94.6%
6	100%
7	93.3%
8+	82.4%

Landgren et al, Blood. 2009



MGUS Risk Stratification

- All patients with myeloma are thought to arise from a pre-existing MGUS BUT not all MGUS turns into myeloma (or anything)
- Overall ~1%/year risk of progression to symptomatic myeloma, AL amyloidosis, or B cell lymphoproliferative disorder



MGUS Risk Stratification

- More refined risk stratification based on 3 risk factors:
 - 1) M-protein >15g/L
 - 2) IgA or IgM M-protein
 - 3) abnormal sFLC ratio
- Risk of progression at 20 years
 - Low (0) – 5%
 - Low-intermediate (1) – 21%
 - Intermediate (2) – 37%
 - High (3) – 58%
- 70% of patients fall into the “low” risk category and therefore it is projected that >90% of those diagnosed with MGUS will NOT progress

Merlini et al ASH Educ Prog 2012



Smoldering Myeloma Risk Stratification

- Risk of progression to myeloma or AL amyloidosis 10% per year for the first 5 years, then 3% for the next 5 years then 1-2% over the next 10 years
 - Median time to progression of 4.8 years
- Risk stratify based on 3 factors
 - Bone marrow plasma cells $\geq 10\%$
 - Serum M protein $\geq 30\text{g/L}$
 - Abnormal sFLC ratio (<0.125 or >8.0)
- Probability of progression at 5 years
 - 1 point – 25%
 - 2 points – 51%
 - 3 points – 76%

Dispenzieri et al Blood 2008

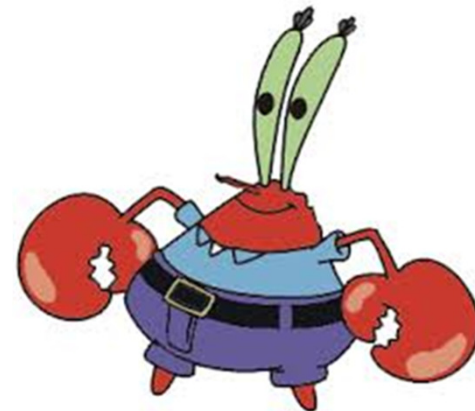


When to order an SPEP?

DIAGNOSIS

- Unexplained anemia
- Osteopenia, osteolytic lesions, spontaneous fractures
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- Hypergammaglobulinemia
- Hypogammaglobulinemia
- Unexplained peripheral neuropathy
- Recurrent infections
- Elevated ESR or serum viscosity
- Peripheral blood smear rouleaux

***If clinical suspicion remains high and SPEP is negative, then order a serum free light chain ratio (SFLCR)





Back to the Case

- Patient develops worsening fatigue and drowsiness
- Corrected calcium 3.58mmol/L
- Skeletal survey shows diffuse lytic bone lesions
 - “multiple lytic lesions throughout the calvarium. Small lytic lesions in the ribs as well as scapula bilaterally. Lesions in the femurs bilaterally.”



Referral to Hematology

- Outpatient Referral CCMB
 - High suspicion of myeloma (monoclonal protein on SPEP/UPEP/sFLC assay) plus:
 - One or more CRAB criteria
- Page Hematologist on Call
 - High suspicion of myeloma (monoclonal protein on SPEP/UPEP/sFLC assay) plus:
 - Severe hypercalcemia (calcium $>3\text{mmol/L}$)
 - Rapidly progressive renal failure
 - Cord compression
 - Fracture or impending pathologic fracture



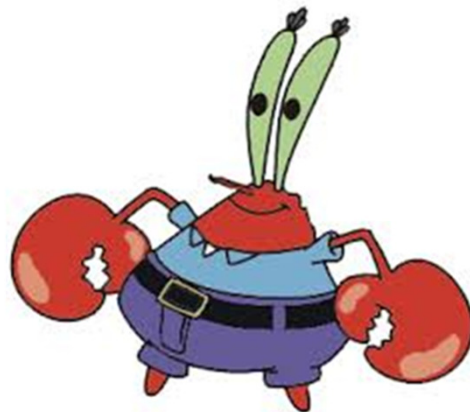
Case Resolution

- Hematologist on call paged re severe symptomatic hypercalcemia
- Patient admitted to HSC
- Given IV saline and zoledronic acid to manage hypercalcemia
- Bone marrow biopsy showed 70% infiltration by clonal plasma cells (lambda light chain restricted)
- Started on chemotherapy in hospital (cyclophosphamide, bortezomib, dexamethasone)
- Discharged after 7 day stay with outpatient CCMB appts for ongoing chemo



Take Home Message

- Order an SPEP when suspecting disorders associated with monoclonal gammopathy (esp myeloma)
- If SPEP negative and still suspicious, then order UPEP and sFLC
- When monoclonal protein identified, look for Mr. CRAB
- Recognize emergent situations



When to ORDER SPEP and how to INTERPRET RESULTS

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Repeat test in 6 – 12 months if clinically indicated (see top box “When to order an SPEP”)

ELEVATED FREE LIGHT CHAINS - NORMAL RATIO (reactive)

Investigate for other causes including:

- Kidney disease
- Liver disease
- Connective tissue disease
- Infection

Monoclonal (M) protein identified

Subtype IgG, IgA, IgD
Kappa or Lambda

Subtype IgM
Kappa or Lambda

Steps:

1. M-protein concentration
2. CBC, creatinine, Ca²⁺ (to evaluate CRAB symptoms)
3. Serum free light chain ratio (SFLCR)
4. U/A to assess proteinuria

CT chest / abdomen / pelvis to assess for lymphadenopathy

AND Steps:

1. M-protein concentration
2. CBC, creatinine, Ca²⁺ (to evaluate CRAB symptoms)
3. Serum free light chain ratio (SFLCR)
4. U/A to assess proteinuria

IgG M-protein <15g/L
Normal SFLCR
No CRAB

YES

NO

Low Risk Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS)

Repeat SPEP in 6 months; if stable then q1-2 years or with CRAB symptoms

Order Skeletal Survey

Skeletal survey ABNORMAL OR CRAB symptoms

Suspect Multiple Myeloma (MM)

URGENT Referral to CCMB Hematology

Skeletal survey NORMAL AND no other CRAB symptoms

Suspect MGUS or Smoldering Multiple Myeloma (SMM)

Routine Referral to CCMB Hematology

If any of the following present:
• lymphadenopathy OR
• splenomegaly OR
• anemia (hgb <105g/L)

Suspect Waldenstroms Macroglobulinemia

Referral to CCMB Lymphoma DSG



QUESTIONS?