

## Diabetic foot infections

any infection in a patient with DM that is below the malleolus كعب القدم.

- **diabetic ulcer** is the commonest.

- these infections range from: **Paronychia** التهاب حول الظفر/داحس - **cellulitis** -

**myositis** - **abscess formation** - **necrotizing fasciitis** - **septic arthritis** -

**tendonitis** - **osteomyelitis**

### Risk factors:

• **Neural**: development of peripheral sensory, motor, and/or autonomic **neuropathy, neuro-osteopathic deformity** (e.g. **Charcot joint**),



• **Vascular**: **vascular insufficiency**

• **Immune**: **hyperglycaemia** leading to poor immune function and wound healing

• **Other factors**: **poor vision**, **limited mobility**, previous **amputations** بتر, **poor healthcare**

**Clinical features**: (mild → severe → life-threatening)

→ no signs

→ surrounding inflammation or cellulitis <2cm from edge of the wound

→ Local complications:

**cellulitis** > 2cm from edge of wound

**lymphangitis**, spread beneath the superficial fascia

**deep tissue abscess**

**gas gangrene**

**involvement of muscle, tendon, or bone.**

→ **systemic toxicity**—fever, chills, tachycardia, hypotension, confusion, vomiting, **leucocytosis**, **acidosis**, **hyperglycaemia**, **uraemia**.

### Diagnosis:

1-Clinically

2-**Doppler ultrasound** (to determine ratio of ankle Vs brachial pressure index (aBPI)).

3-**Imaging (MRI)**

4-**Deep tissue specimens** (not superficial swabs).



## Management: (Inpatient Vs outpatient)

• **Inpatient** Rx is based on correcting systemic instability

non infected ulcers: Do not give antibiotics.

initial infected ulcers: empiric therapy **Oral** for mild

cases & **IV** broad spectrum for severe cases

sever infections in deeper tissues (necrotizing fasciitis, gas gangrene,

extensive tissue loss, critical limb ischemia): **Surgery**

An obese 50-year-old man with no known medical history presented with a necrotizing infection of his right foot that had begun 10 days previously with lesions that he attributed to wearing new shoes. He was found to have diabetes (glycated hemoglobin level, 10.5%) with peripheral neuropathy; he was afebrile, without leukocytosis or radiographic evidence of bone involvement in his right foot. The patient had photographed the lesion twice daily, thinking it would heal spontaneously (Panel A). The preoperative photographs show erythema (day 4), blisters (day 5), a necrotizing abscess (day 6), and wound infection requiring surgery (day 10). The patient underwent operative debridement. Tissue cultures grew *Enterobacter cloacae* and *Streptococcus agalactiae*. He was treated with antibiotic agents for 3 weeks. The infection resolved, with no recurrence or sequelae during 3 years of follow-up (Panel B). During this period, the infection-related swelling disappeared and the patient lost a considerable amount of weight. Diabetic foot infection may evolve rapidly, especially in patients with neuropathy.

Table 22.1 Aetiology of diabetic foot infections

Foot infection syndrome	Pathogens
Cellulitis	<b><math>\beta</math>-haemolytic streptococci</b> (groups A, B, C, and G), <b><i>S. aureus</i></b>
Infected ulcer, antibiotic-naïve	Often <b>monomicrobial</b> : <b><i>S. aureus</i></b> or <b><math>\beta</math>-haemolytic streptococci</b> (groups A, B, C, and G)
Infected ulcer, chronic, previous antibiotic therapy	Usually <b>polymicrobial</b> : <b><i>S. aureus</i></b> , <b><math>\beta</math>-haemolytic streptococci</b> (groups A, B, C, and G), <b><i>Enterobacteriaceae</i></b>
Macerated ulcer	<b><i>P. aeruginosa</i></b> $\pm$ other organisms as <b>above</b>
Long-standing, non-healing wound, prolonged antibiotic therapy	Usually <b>polymicrobial</b> with <b>antibiotic-resistant</b> organisms: <b>aerobic Gram-positive cocci</b> ( <b><i>S. aureus</i></b> , <b>CoNS</b> , <b>enterococci</b> ), <b>diphtheroids</b> , <b><i>Enterobacteriaceae</i></b> , <b><i>Pseudomonas</i> spp.</b> , <b>non-fermentative GNRs</b> , <b>fungi</b>
'Fetid foot': extensive necrosis or gangrene	<b>Mixed aerobic Gram-positive cocci</b> ( <b><i>S. aureus</i></b> , <b>CoNS</b> , <b>enterococci</b> ), <b><i>Enterobacteriaceae</i></b> , <b>non-fermentative GNRs</b> , <b>obligate anaerobes</b>

### Papular and nodular lesions

Fish-tank or swimming-pool granuloma	<i>Mycobacterium marinum</i>
Creeping eruption (cutaneous larva migrans)	<i>Ancylostoma braziliense</i>
Dracunculiasis	<i>Dracunculus medinensis</i>
Cercarial dermatitis	<i>Schistosoma mansoni</i>
Verruca vulgaris	Human papillomaviruses 1, 2, 4
Condylomata acuminata (anogenital warts)	Human papillomaviruses 6, 11, 16, 18
Onchocerciasis nodule	<i>Onchocerca volvulus</i>
Cutaneous myiasis	<i>Dermatobia hominis</i>
Verruca peruana	<i>Bartonella bacilliformis</i>
Cat-scratch disease	<i>Bartonella henselae</i>
Lepromatous leprosy	<i>Mycobacterium leprae</i>
Secondary syphilis (papulosquamous and nodular lesions, condylomata lata)	<i>Treponema pallidum</i>
Tertiary syphilis (nodular gummatous lesions)	<i>T. pallidum</i>

## Papular and Nodular Lesions: *Mycobacterium marinum*

marine  
بحري

Infections of the skin may present as

**cellulitis** or as **raised erythematous nodules**.

• In **aquarium cleaners, fishermen, seafood handlers**.

• Organism growth **requires lower temperatures** than 37C (24-32) and **thus is limited only to skin**

• **Diagnosis: needle aspiration, acid-fast bacilli**

• **Treatment: rifampin+ethambutol** for four months

## Cat-scratch disease

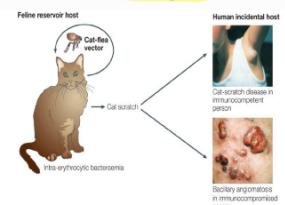
Caused by: ***Bartonella henselae***, G -ve bacillus, grows on **Columbia agar**

supplemented with 5% **sheep blood**

• **Transmit between cat and flea, then cats to humans** by bite or scratch.

- **Symptoms** : **myalgia** ألم عضلي, arthralgia, malaise,

Cat







# Leprosy (lepromatous leprosy)



- Skin nodules & thickened subcutaneous tissue.
- caused by Mycobacterium leprae (acid fast bacillus).
- Chronic infection of the skin, causes granulomas at the body aims to contain the bacilli.
- Long incubation (years, 3-upto 20 years)
- Transmitted by nasal secretion.
- Has two types :
  1. tuberculoid: patient has intact immunity, nerve changes predominate.
  2. lepromatous: defect in cell immunity, skin changes predominate.
- Skin changes: bilateral symmetrical macules and papules , progresses to nodules and even plaques. *ma pa no pla*
- hypopigmented in dark skinned people and seen on face, wrists, buttocks and kneed, but spares groin and axilla (folded skin) has higher temp which doesn't favor its growth.
- Diagnosis: acid fast stain, skin smears and biopsy (stain especially +ve in lepromatous leprosy).
- Treatment: Dapsone and Rifampin (anti mycobacterial drugs).

# Syphilis

- Large nodules or gummas are features of tertiary syphilis (late untreated syphilis)
- Flat papulosquamous lesions are characteristic of secondary syphilis.

Primary chancre

**SYPHILIS**

chancere

Treponema pallidum

Secondary syphilis- papulosquamous dermatosis

Condyloma Lata, painless Wart like lesion

Syphilis is caused by:

Syphilis		
ABOUT	SYMPTOMS	TREATMENTS
<p>Sore</p> <p>Stage 1 3-90 days after exposure</p>	<p>Body rash</p> <p>Stage 2 4-10 weeks after initial infection</p>	<p>Affects internal organs</p> <p>Stage 3 3-15 years after initial infection</p>

CNS involvement



# Human Papilloma virus:

- causes:

1. **verruca vulgaris**: singular warts بثور by HPV 1,2,4,7

in children and young adults

2. **condylomata acuminata**: multiple warts in the anogenital area (a major problem in HIV patients)

- **Transmitted by skin contact.**
- Usually on the **hands and nail edges**, can **auto inoculate face**
- **Management** : Dermatologists
- HPV is an **STD**, and **can cause cervical cancer** (16, 18, 31, 33..)  
Sexually transmitted disease



## Diagnosis of skin infections:

depends on three main clinical observation:

- **Appearance** of lesion (macule, papule, vesicle, etc)
  - **Location** within the layers of soft tissues (stratum corneum, epidermis, dermis, etc)
  - **Location** relative to the body (trunk, face, extremities, etc)
- information that helps fine tune the pathogenesis of the infective agent are :
- The **temporal progression** of the lesions (e.g. appear in crops, or appear acutely..etc)
  - the patient's **travel history** (for exogenous or exotic sources of pathogens)
  - **animal exposure** or bite history
  - **age** of patient
  - underlying **disease status**,
  - **lifestyle**

**Aiding diagnostic tests:** for defining a localized abscess or detecting gas in tissue

1- **Soft tissue radiography**, CT, and MRI: determine the **depth** of infection (helps in assessing deeper infections).

• eg: serious ones like **fasciitis** are rapidly progressing

\*Evidence of a **systemic inflammatory response syndrome** (to find a **local infection** that may be releasing **toxins**).

2- **lab diagnostics**

• **Aspiration** (without saline better → less dilution) or **punch biopsy with frozen section** might help (if imaging is positive. -There is a large false negative rate ~ 80%).



**FIGURE 22-2**  
Computed tomography showing edema and inflammation of the left chest wall in a patient with necrotizing fasciitis and myonecrosis caused by group A Streptococcus.

- Frozen sections are especially useful in distinguishing SSSS from TEN, also valuable in cases of necrotizing fasciitis (determining depth and level of involvement).
- Open surgical inspection (+debridement) is the optimal way to determine the extent and severity of infection, also to obtain specimen for culture and Gram stain. Although surgical approach maybe aggressive, it is important and maybe lifesaving in the course of fulminant infections where there is evidence of systemic toxicity.

## Treatment, overview:

- Furuncles, carbuncles, and abscesses caused by MRSA and MSSA are commonly encountered, Rx here depends on the size of the lesion:
  - Furuncles < 2.5 cm in diameter: treated with moist heat.
  - Furuncles > 4.5 cm of erythema + induration: surgical drainage
  - larger lesions + fever, chills, or leukocytosis: drainage + antibiotics.
- A study in children showed that surgical drainage of abscesses alone (mean diameter: 3.8 cm) was as effective as when combined with trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole treatment.
- However, recurrence was less in groups that added Abx with I&D.

TREATMENT OF COMMON INFECTIONS OF THE SKIN			
DIAGNOSIS/CONDITION	PRIMARY TREATMENT	ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT	SEE ALSO CHAP(S).
Animal bite (prophylaxis or early infection) <sup>a</sup>	Amoxicillin/clavulanate, 875/22 mg PO bid	Doxycycline 100 mg PO bid	35
Animal bite <sup>a</sup> (established infection)	Ampicillin/sulbactam, 1.5-3 g IV q6h	C Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q8h, plus C Ciprofloxacin, 400 mg IV q12h, or C Cefoxitin, 2 g IV q6h	35
Bacillary angiomatosis	Erythromycin, 500 mg PO qid	Doxycycline 100 mg PO bid	65
Herpes simplex (primary genital) <i>virus</i>	Acyclovir, 400 mg PO tid for 10 days	Famciclovir, 250 mg PO tid for 5-10 days, or Valacyclovir, 1000 mg PO bid for 10 days	84
Herpes zoster (immuno-competent host >50 years of age) <i>virus</i>	Acyclovir, 800 mg PO 5 times daily for 7-10 days	Famciclovir, 500 mg PO tid for 7-10 days, or Valacyclovir, 1000 mg PO tid for 7 days	85
Cellulitis (staphylococcal or streptococcal <sup>b,c</sup> )	Nafcillin or oxacillin, 2 g IV q4-6h	Cefazolin, 1-2 g q8h, or Ampicillin/sulbactam, 1.5-3 g IV q6h, or Erythromycin, 0.5-1 g IV q6h, or Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q8h	38, 39
Strong MRSA skin infection <sup>d</sup>	Strong Vancomycin, 1 g IV q12h	Linezolid, 600 mg IV q12h	38
Necrotizing fasciitis (group A streptococcal <sup>b</sup> )	Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q6-8h, plus Penicillin G, 4 million units IV q4h	Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q6-8h, plus Cephalosporin (first- or second-generation)	39
Necrotizing fasciitis (mixed aerobes and anaerobes) <i>ACC</i>	Ampicillin, 2 g IV q4h, plus Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q6-8h, plus Ciprofloxacin, 400 mg IV q6-8h	Vancomycin, 1 g IV q6h, plus Metronidazole, 500 mg IV q6h, plus Ciprofloxacin, 400 mg IV q6-8h	69
Gas gangrene	Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q6-8h, plus Penicillin G, 4 million units IV q4-6h	Clindamycin, 600-900 mg IV q6-8h, plus Cefoxitin, 2 g IV q6h	46

## Myositis and myonecrosis

Pyomyositis → Pus

Streptococcal necrotizing myositis

Gas gangrene

Nonclostridial (crepitant) myositis

Synergistic nonclostridial anaerobic myonecrosis

*S. aureus*

*S. pyogenes*

*Clostridium* spp.

Mixed aerobic and anaerobic bacteria

Mixed aerobic and anaerobic bacteria

## Myositis and Myonecrosis

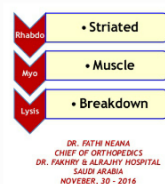
Muscle involvement (inflammation or infection) can occur with:

- viral infection (such as influenza, dengue, or coxsackievirus B infection)
- Parasitic invasion (trichinellosis, cysticercosis, or toxoplasmosis).

• Myalgia (muscle pain) can occur in most of these infections, severe muscle pain is the hallmark of pleurodynia (caused by coxsackievirus B & called Bornholm disease (أَلَمٌ عَضَلِيٌّ وَبَائِيٌّ), trichinellosis, and bacterial infection.

> Acute rhabdomyolysis (breakdown of damaged muscle) predictably occurs with clostridial and streptococcal myositis (both these organism have enzymes that breakdown muscle).

\*Rhabdomyolysis is less so associated with influenza virus, echovirus, coxsackievirus, Epstein Barr virus, and Legionella infections\*



## Necrotizing myositis

- *S. pyogenes* (GAS) may induce primary myositis (referred to as streptococcal necrotizing myositis) in association with severe systemic toxicity
- this is basically necrotizing fasciitis (Type2) that involves the muscle tissue.
- Myonecrosis occurs in about 50% of cases in typical necrotizing fasciitis without muscle involvement being the primary tissue infected! (meaning that muscles are affected by necrosis when the surrounding fascia is involved, even without the infection being active in the muscle itself!)

## Pyomyositis

- Pyomyositis, or pus forming infection of muscles, is usually due to *S. aureus* (remember it is the typical pus former in skin)
- common in tropical areas, and generally has no known portal of entry (in contrast to necrotizing fasciitis).
- pyomyositis caused by MRSA producing the PVL toxin have been described among children in the United States.
- Muscle infection begins at the exact site of blunt trauma or muscle strain.



- a purulent -PUS forming- infection of skeletal muscle.
- Abscess formation is the usual consequence when these pyogenic bacteria reach the muscle tissue.
- usually arises from haematogenous spread (deeper infections (muscle and bone) are typically more related with haematogenous spread rather direct inoculation).
- usually remains localized and shock does not develop unless organisms produce:
  - 1- toxic shock syndrome toxin 1 (a super antigen, causes exaggerated immune response that is many fold the normal response: shock).
  - 2- enterotoxins (exotoxins produced by S. aureus).
- If the patient lacks antibodies to the toxins above then they are prone to developing toxic shock when these toxins are produced.

## Epidemiology

- Occurs in M>F, and more in tropical climate in two main age groups:
  1. children (aged 2–5 years)
  2. adults (aged 20–45 years).
- In temperate climates:
  - pyomyositis typically affects adults or the elderly (not children).
  - Patients usually have predisposing conditions such as HIV, infection, DM, malignancy, cirrhosis, renal insufficiency, organ transplantation (reduced cell immunity), immunosuppressive therapy.
  - Other risk factors include trauma, IDU (injection drug use), and concurrent infections (toxocariasis –roundworms-, VZV).



## Microbiology

- S. aureus 90% of tropical cases 75% of temperate cases.
- GAS account for 1–5% of cases all around.
- E. coli ST131 is an emerging cause in patients with haematological malignancy.
- Uncommon causes B, C, and G streptococci and S. pneumoniae, and S. anginosus.
- Rare causes include Enterobacteriaceae, Y. enterocolitica, N. gonorrhoeae, H. influenzae, A. hydrophila, anaerobes, B. mallei, B. pseudomallei, A. fumigatus, Candida spp., MTB (Mycobacterium tuberculosis), and MAC (Mycobacterium avium).

## Clinical features

- 20% and 50% of cases patient have had recent blunt trauma or vigorous قوي exercise of the affected area -myolysis- (The muscle area is damaged and becomes susceptible for infections).
- Seen more in the lower extremity (thigh, calf, gluteal muscles), but not limited to that area and can affect any muscle group.
- Multifocal infection عدوى متعددة البؤر occurs in up to 20% of cases!
- Since it is usually from a hematologic cause, the patient must be assessed for complications of bacteraemia (endocarditis).

## clinical stages:

- **Stage 1** (early invasive stage): crampy local muscle pain, swelling, and lowgrade fever. Induration(hardening)of the affected muscle + leucocytosis may be present.
- **Stage 2** (suppurative stage) at 10–21 days after onset of symptoms (most patients present at this stage): fever, very sharp muscle tenderness and swelling. An abscess may be clinically apparent, aspiration of which yields pus. There is marked leucocytosis.
- **Stage 3** (systemic stage) the affected muscle is fluctuantمنقلب. Patients may present with complications of *S. aureus* bacteraemia, e.g. septic shock, endocarditis, septic emboli, pneumonia, pericarditis, septic arthritis, brain abscess, and ARF (acute renal failure). Rhabdomyolysis may occur.

## Diagnosis

- Early pyomyositis is difficult to distinguish from other Dx (thrombophlebitis, muscle haematoma, muscle rupture, fever of unknown origin osteomyelitis).
- Iliacus pyomyositis may mimic septic arthritis of the hip, and iliopsoas pyomyositis may mimic appendicitis.
- **Imaging:**
  - MRI is gold standard technique (may show muscle enhancement and intramuscular abscesses).
  - CT (may detect muscle swelling and well defined abscesses).
  - Ultrasound can be helpful for Dx and Rx
- **Microbiology:**
  - diagnostic aspirates before starting Abx to get a specific culture
  - BCs are only positive in 10% of tropical cases and 35% of temperate cases
  - Pyomyositis inner thigh in young patients with severe aplastic anemia (*E.coli*)

## Management

- Antibiotics: **stage 1:** antibiotics alone.  
**stage 2/3:** antibiotics + drainage.
- Empiric therapy:
  - *S. aureus* and streptococci: (flucloxacillin or vancomycin, if MRSA is suspected or there is a risk of MRSA).
  - Immunocompromised patients: broader Abx such as piperacillin–tazobactam ± vancomycin.
- Once culture is out: Tailored Abx for 3-4 weeks
- **Drainage:** percutaneous drainage (drainage and send drain sample for Micro). This may be CT-guided or ultrasound-guided.