

10.2 Features suggestive of Graves' hyperthyroidism

History

- Female sex
- Prior episode of hyperthyroidism requiring treatment
- Family history of thyroid or other autoimmune disease
- Ocular symptoms ('grittiness', redness, pain, periorbital swelling)

Physical examination

- Vitiligo
- Thyroid acropachy
- Diffuse thyroid enlargement (can be nodular)
- Thyroid bruit
- Pretibial myxoedema
- Signs of Graves' ophthalmopathy (proptosis, redness, oedema)

13.1 Common causes of arthralgia (joint pain)

Infective

- Viral, e.g. rubella, parvovirus B19, mumps, hepatitis B, chikungunya
- Bacterial, e.g. staphylococci, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Borrelia*
- Fungal

Postinfective

- Rheumatic fever
- Reactive arthritis

Inflammatory

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Systemic lupus erythematosus
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Systemic sclerosis

Degenerative

- Osteoarthritis

Tumour

- Primary, e.g. osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma
- Metastatic, e.g. from lung, breast, prostate
- Systemic tumour effects, e.g. hypertrophic pulmonary osteoarthropathy

Crystal formation

- Gout, pseudogout

Trauma

- e.g. Road traffic accidents

Others

- Chronic pain disorders, e.g. fibromyalgia (usually diffuse pain)
- Benign joint hypermobility syndrome

13.2 Causes of muscle pain (myalgia)

Infective

- Viral: Coxsackie, cytomegalovirus, echovirus, dengue
- Bacterial: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Mycoplasma*
- Parasitic: schistosomiasis, toxoplasmosis

Traumatic

- Tears
- Haematoma
- Rhabdomyolysis

Inflammatory

- Polymyalgia rheumatic
- Myositis
- Dermatomyositis

Drugs

- Alcohol withdrawal
- Statins
- Triptans

Metabolic

- Hypothyroidism
- Hyperthyroidism
- Addison's disease
- Vitamin D deficiency

Neuropathic

13.3 Common patterns of referred and radicular musculoskeletal pain

Site where pain is perceived	Site of pathology
Occiput	C1, 2
Interscapular region	C3, 4
Tip of shoulder, upper outer aspect of arm	C5
Interscapular region or radial fingers and thumb	C6, 7
Ulnar side of forearm, ring and little fingers	C8
Medial aspect of upper arm	T1
Chest	Thoracic spine
Buttocks, knees, legs	Lumbar spine
Lateral aspect of upper arm	Shoulder
Forearm	Elbow
Anterior thigh, knee	Hip
Thigh, hip	Knee

13.5 Extra-articular signs in rheumatic conditions

Condition	Extra-articular signs
Rheumatoid arthritis	Rheumatoid nodules, palmar erythema, episcleritis, dry eyes, interstitial lung disease, pleural \pm pericardial effusion, small-vessel vasculitis, Raynaud's phenomenon, low-grade fever, weight loss, lymphadenopathy, splenomegaly, leg ulcers
Psoriatic arthritis	Psoriasis, nail pitting, onycholysis, enthesitis, dactylitis
Reactive arthritis	Urethritis, mouth and/or genital ulcers, conjunctivitis, iritis, enthesitis (inflammation of tendon or ligament attachments), e.g. Achilles enthesitis/plantar fasciitis, rash (keratoderma blenorrhagica)
Axial spondyloarthritis	Inflammatory bowel disease, psoriasis, enthesitis, iritis, aortic regurgitation, apical interstitial fibrosis
Septic arthritis	Fever, malaise, source of sepsis, e.g. skin, throat, gut
Gout	Tophi, signs of renal failure or alcoholic liver disease
Sjögren's syndrome	'Dry eyes' (keratoconjunctivitis sicca), xerostomia (reduced or absent saliva production), salivary gland enlargement, Raynaud's phenomenon, neuropathy
Systemic lupus erythematosus	Photosensitive rash, especially on face, mucocutaneous ulcers, alopecia, fever, pleural \pm pericardial effusion, diaphragmatic paralysis, pulmonary fibrosis (rare), Raynaud's phenomenon, lymphopenia
Systemic sclerosis	Skin tightening (scleroderma, see Fig. 3.30C), telangiectasia, Raynaud's phenomenon, calcific deposits in fingers, dilated nail-fold capillaries, pulmonary fibrosis
Adult-onset Still's disease	Rash, fever, hepatomegaly, splenomegaly
Other	Erythema nodosum of shins in sarcoidosis, viral rashes, drug rashes

13.7 Drugs associated with adverse musculoskeletal effects

Drug	Possible adverse musculoskeletal effects
Glucocorticoids	Osteoporosis, myopathy, osteonecrosis, infection
Statins	Myalgia, myositis, myopathy
Angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors	Myalgia, arthralgia, positive antinuclear antibody
Antiepileptics	Osteomalacia, arthralgia
Immunosuppressants	Infections
Quinolones	Tendinopathy, tendon rupture

13.9 Common spinal problems

- Mechanical back pain
- Prolapsed intervertebral disc
- Spinal stenosis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Compensatory scoliosis from leg-length discrepancy
- Cervical myelopathy
- Pathological pain/deformity, e.g. osteomyelitis, tumour, myeloma
- Osteoporotic vertebral fracture resulting in kyphosis (or rarely lordosis), especially in the thoracic spine with loss of height
- Cervical rib
- Scoliosis
- Spinal instability, e.g. spondylolisthesis

13.10 Causes of abnormal neck posture

Loss of lordosis or flexion deformity

- Acute lesions, rheumatoid arthritis, trauma

Increased lordosis

- Ankylosing spondylitis

Torticollis (wry neck)

- Sternocleidomastoid contracture, trauma
- Pharyngeal/parapharyngeal infection

Lateral flexion

- Erosion of lateral mass of atlas in rheumatoid arthritis

13.11 Causes of thoracic spine pain

Adolescents and young adults

- Scheuermann's disease
- Axial spondyloarthritis
- Disc protrusion (rare)

Middle-aged and elderly

- Degenerative change
- Osteoporotic fracture

Any age

- Tumour
- Infection

13.12 'Red flag' and 'yellow flag' features for acute low back pain

'Red flag' features

Features that may indicate serious pathology and require urgent referral

History

- Age <20 years or >55 years
- Recent significant trauma (fracture)
- Pain:
 - Thoracic (dissecting aneurysm)
 - Non-mechanical (infection/tumour/pathological fracture)
- Fever (infection)
- Difficulty in micturition
- Faecal incontinence
- Motor weakness
- Sensory changes in the perineum (saddle anaesthesia)
- Sexual dysfunction, e.g. erectile/ejaculatory failure
- Gait change (cauda equina syndrome)
- Bilateral 'sciatica'

Past medical history

- Cancer (metastases)
- Previous glucocorticoid use (osteoporotic collapse)

System review

- Weight loss/malaise without obvious cause, e.g. cancer

'Yellow flag' features

Psychosocial factors associated with greater likelihood of long-term chronicity and disability

- A history of anxiety, depression, chronic pain, irritable bowel syndrome, chronic fatigue, social withdrawal
- A belief that the diagnosis is severe, e.g. cancer. Faulty beliefs can lead to 'catastrophisation' and avoidance of activity
- Lack of belief that the patient can improve leads to an expectation that only passive, rather than active, treatment will be effective
- Ongoing litigation or compensation claims, e.g. work, road traffic accident

13.14 American College of Rheumatology/European League Against Rheumatism classification criteria for rheumatoid arthritis, 2010

Criteria	Score
Duration of symptoms (as reported by patient)	
<6 weeks	0
>6 weeks	1
Joint distribution (0–5)	
1 large joint ^a	0
2–10 large joints	1
1–3 small joints ^b (large joints not counted)	2
4–10 small joints (large joints not counted)	3
>10 joints (at least 1 small joint)	5
Serology (0–3)	
Negative RF and negative ACPA	0
Low positive RF or low positive ACPA	2
High positive RF or high positive ACPA	3
Acute-phase reactants	
Normal CRP and normal ESR	0
Abnormal CRP or abnormal ESR	1
<p>Patients must have at least 1 swollen joint not better explained by another disease.</p> <p>A score of ≥ 6 classifies the patient as having definite rheumatoid arthritis. A score of 4–5 is probable rheumatoid arthritis, i.e. a patient may have clinical rheumatoid arthritis but not fulfil all criteria.</p>	
<p>^aLarge joints: shoulders, elbows, hips, knees and ankles</p> <p>^bSmall joints: all metacarpophalangeal and proximal interphalangeal joints, thumb interphalangeal joint, wrists and 2nd–5th metatarsophalangeal joints.</p> <p>ACPA, anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide antibody; CRP, C-reactive protein; ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate; RF, rheumatoid factor.</p> <p>Reproduced from Aletaha D, Neogi T, Silman AJ, et al. Rheumatoid arthritis classification criteria: an American College of Rheumatology/European League Against Rheumatism collaborative initiative. <i>Arthritis & Rheumatism</i> 2010; 62(9): 2569–2581, with permission from John Wiley and Sons.</p>	

13.18 Bone conditions associated with pathological fracture

- Osteoporosis
- Osteomalacia
- Primary or secondary tumour
- Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Renal osteodystrophy
- Parathyroid bone disease
- Paget's disease