

A lady with fever

Speaker: Dr. CK Leung

Chairman: Dr. KB Tai

Triage Station of AED 20.10.2012

- Forty two years old lady HKC
- Complained of dizziness and fever
- GCS 15/15
- BP 80 / 46 mmHg , PR 79/min
- Temperature 36 C
- Just discharged from hospital in mainland
- Right breast operation on 18.10.2012
- Was informed that the excised tissue was benign

Medical Officer

- P/E : normal skin , no rash
- Chest : clear
- Abd : soft, nontender,
- Calf : soft
- Wound : no haematoma, no collection, clean
- Normal saline 500ml full rate,
- investigation

Investigation in AED

- Hstix 6.7
- Hb 11.9
- Urine : yellow, RBC large, WBC trace, protein negative
- Temperature rechecked : 36.5 C
- CXR : clear
- CBP, RFT, LFT, amylase sent
- BP rechecked 83 /53 , admitted to medical ward

Medical ward

- Married, mother of three children
- Cosmetic work (nail polish)
- Nonsmoker, nondrinker
- History of right breast lump, workup showed low suspicion microcalcification of breast, FU Surgery NDH before
- Excisional biopsy of right breast lump under local anaesthesia on 18.10.2012

- Put on NSAID and two unknown medication after operation
- Right breast tissue: benign
- Discharged on 20.10.2012 afternoon
- Developed dizziness and vomited once when returned to HK
- No wound pain, no wound discharge, no diarrhoea/ chest symptom

- Hb 12.5 WBC 12.1 , neutrophilic , platelet count normal
- Normal Ca, CPK and amylase
- Albumin 32 TB 23 ALP 99 ALT 299
- Started on IV augmentin, keep fluid challenge,
- After a total of 2.5L of IVF challenge, BP remained low 4 hours after medical ward admission
- Temp 37.5, BP 67/45, urine output 280ml since admission
- Transferred into ICU

- BP 94 / 60 in medical ward
- Old AED record traced, SBP was 100 – 120 mmHg during previous AED visit
- SaO₂ 98% on room air
- Right breast wound : 2cm, mild erythema, mild tenderness, no discharge,
- Na 132 mmol/L K 2.9 mmol/l urea 3.5
crea 85 mmol / L

In ICU

- Mild sore throat
- Mild tenderness over epigastrium
- GCS 15 /15
- Urinalysis : WBC trace, Blood large, protein +++
- Temperature 37.7C
- ABG : pH 7.43 pCO₂ 4 pO₂ 12.6
- HCO₃ 19.6
- Put on noradrenaline infusion
- Put on iv tazocin
- RFT remained normal, urine output > 50ml/hour

Day 2 ICU

- Temperature 39.6 C
- Urine output 50 to 200ml/hour
- ABG : mild Type I respiratory failure
- HCO₃ 17.8
- Normal hstix
- Blood pressure maintained with IVF and noradrenaline infusion
- Fully concious
- Right breast wound : total of six stitches, no discharge, on dressing daily

Day 3 ICU

- Sore throat +
- Faint maculopapular rash
- Plt 138 WBC 15, neutrophilic
- Total bilirubin 45, ALT 158
- Soft abdomen
- US abdomen : small amount of ascitic fluid, no hepatobiliary lesion
- Reviewed in evening : generalized maculopapular rashes

- ? Streptococcal URTI with toxic shock syndrome
- General condition improved, able to cut down dose of inotrope, no major organ failure, not for IVIG at the moment

Day 4

- Sore throat relieved,
- Rash : subsiding
- Platelet count 162 WBC 7.6
- Wean off inotrope
- Fever subsided
- No positive culture yet

Day 5

- Off stitches over right breast wound as planned by surgeon
- Significant amount pus coming out of the wound!!
- Reviewed by surgeon : 2cm cavity, no abscess, mild slough, no implant mentioned
- Wound swab sent

Subsequent course

- Transferred to medical ward
- Wound swab: *Staphylococcus aureus* , sensitive to cloxacillin
- ASOT titre : no elevation
- Blood culture : sterile
- Discharge home with cloxacillin on Day 8
- FU blood test : not diabetic
- Surgical clinic: no palpable breast lump, yearly FU

Toxic Shock Syndrome(TSS)

Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)

- Acute, multi-system, toxin-mediated illness
- Staphylococcus aureus/streptococcus pyogenes(group A strept)
- Bacterial toxin acts as superantigens(SAgs)
- Stimulating the immune-cell expansion
- Enhancing the cytokine released and tissue damage

Staphylococcus TSS

- Staphylococcus TSS
 - First reported in 1978
 - Associated with the use of highly absorbent tampons
 - Peak incidence in early 1980s, ~6-12 cases per 100,000 per year
 - 1-5% healthy women have vaginal colonization with toxin-producing strain of S.aureus

Staphylococcus TSS

■ Menstrual STSS

- During or within 2 days of menstrual period
- Associated with tampon used
- Tampon-introduced oxygen -> TSST-1 production

■ Non-menstrual STSS

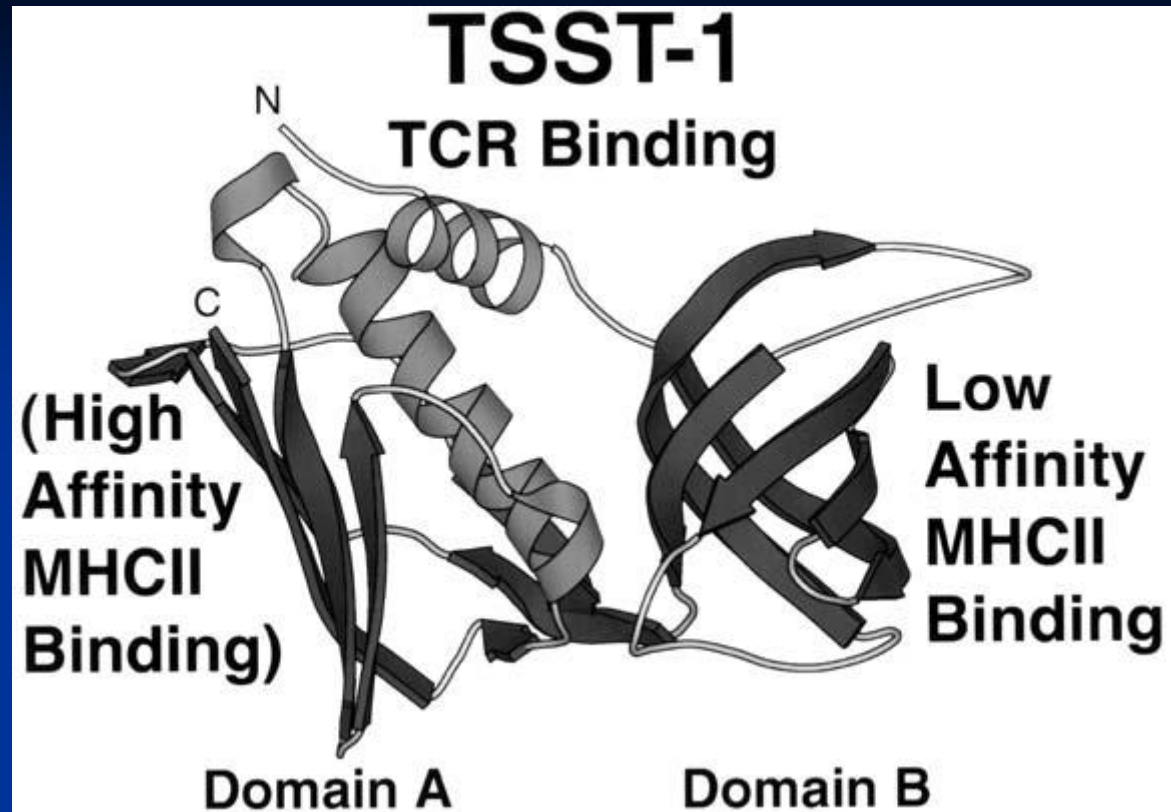
- Disruption of skin or mucus membrane
- Abscess/burns/surgical or post-partum wound infection
- Bone/joint, e.g. arthritis/osteomyelitis

Streptococcus TSS

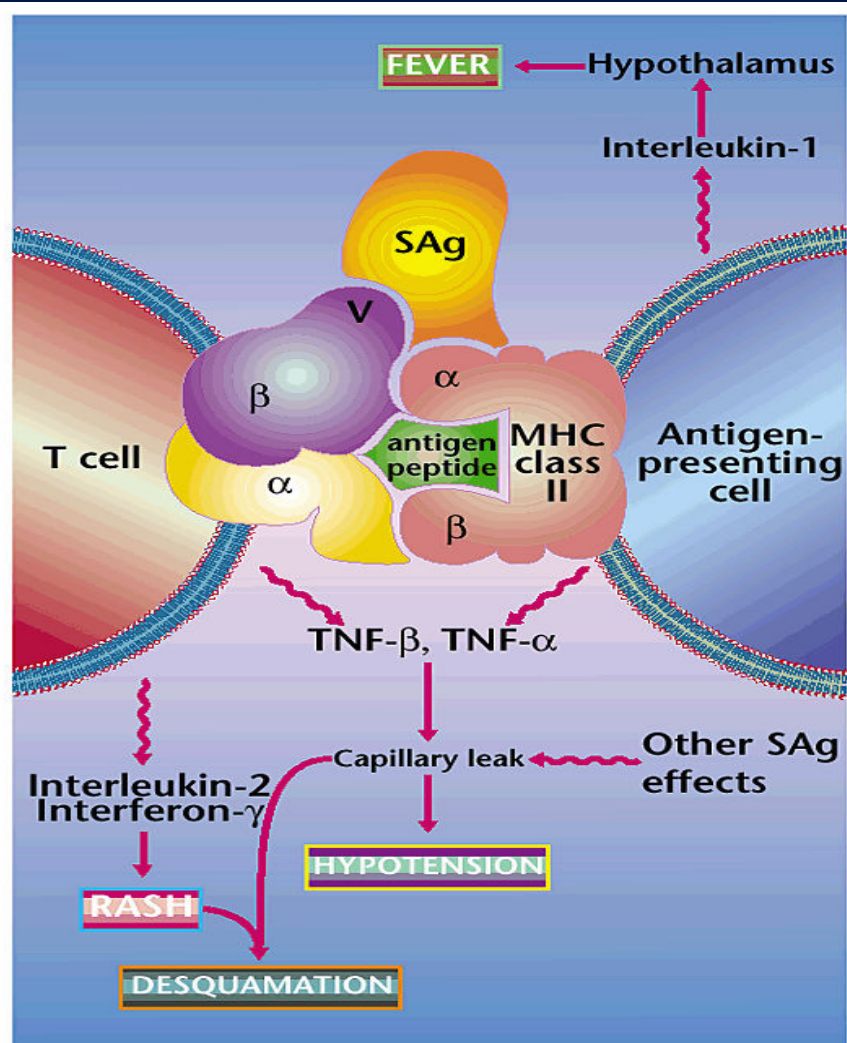
- First reported in 1987
- Usually arise from soft tissue infection
- 1.5-5.2 cases per 100,000 per year
- Mortality up to 30%
- Account for ~13% in strept infection from any source
- Up to 50% in pts with necrotizing fasciitis

Pathophysiology

- Bacterial toxin act as superantigens
- Single chain proteins bypass conventional MHC antigen processing
- trigger excessive T-cell activation -> cytokine/chemokine release



- simple, non-glycosylated protein
- resistant to heat, proteolysis (causing food poisoning)
- two-domain molecule
- domain A: beta grasp fold
- domain B: oligosaccharide binding (OB) fold



Bob Crimi

- Interact with MHC class II molecules (antigen-presenting cell) and the V β subunit (T-cell receptor)
- Unlike typical antigens activate 0.1% of host T-cell population, SAg can activate up to 20-50%

TABLE I. Staphylococcal and streptococcal superantigens

Superantigen	Serological types
Toxic shock syndrome toxin-1 (TSST-1)	Human, ovine
Staphylococcal enterotoxins (SEs)	A, B, Cn, D, E, G-P
Streptococcal pyrogenic exotoxins (SPEs)	A, B*, C, F, G-J
Streptococcal superantigen	
Streptococcal mitogenic exotoxin	Zn
Exfoliative toxins	A*, B*

Table 2. Superantigen-associated illnesses.

Human illness	SAg association
Staphylococcal menstrual TSS	TSST-1
Staphylococcal non-menstrual TSS	TSST-1, SEB, SEC, occasionally others
1. Soft tissue infection	
2. Purpura fulminans	
3. Pneumonia	
4. Recalcitrant erythematous desquamating syndrome of AIDS	
5. Anaphylactic	
6. Kawasaki-like	
7. Scleroderma-like	
8. Rheumatoid arthritis like	
Staphylococcal extreme pyrexia syndrome	TSST-1, any SE or SE-like SAg
Staphylococcal food poisoning	Any SE
Atopic dermatitis	TSST-1, any SE or SE-like SAg
Pseudomembranous enterocolitis	TSST-1, any SE or SE-like SAg
Severe nasal polyposis	TSST-1, any SE or SE-like SAg
Perineal erythema	TSST-1, any SE or SE-like SAg
Sudden infant death syndrome	Any SAg
Streptococcal TSS	Any streptococcal SAg
PANDAS	SPE C, L and M
Acute rheumatic fever	SPE C, L and M
Guttate psoriasis	Any SPE, SMEZ or SSA

- For critical ill pt, may also expose to gram -ve organism
 - Endotoxin
- Superantigen act synergistically with endotoxin
 - Further enhance the inflammatory cascade

Host-pathogen interaction

- Colonization v.s. infection
- 1-5% healthy women have colonization of toxin-producing strain of *S.aureus*
- Interaction between host immune system and pathogen play a major role

Factors predispose to TSS

1. The absence of Ab to superantigens seems to be a major risk factor for development of TSS

Herman A, Kappler JW, Marrack P, Pullen AM.
Superantigens: mechanisms of T-cell stimulation and role in immune responses.
Annu Rev Immunol 1991; 9: 745–72.

Basma H, Norrby-Teglund A, Guedez Y, et al M.
Risk factors in the pathogenesis of invasive group A streptococcal infections:
role of protective humoral immunity.
Infect Immun 1999; 67: 1871–77

- 90.5% of patients with menstrual TSS had low or -ve concentration of Ab
- Failed to seroconvert with 2 months after acute illness

Stolz SJ, Davis JP, Vergeront JM, et al.
Development of serum antibody to toxic shock toxin
among individuals with toxic shock syndrome in Wisconsin.
J Infect Dis 1985; 151: 883–89.

2. Sex-dependent response to sepsis and superantigen shock

- More female cases in non-menstrual TSS

Hajjeh RA, Reingold A, Weil A, Shutt K, Schuchat A, Perkins BA.
Toxic shock syndrome in the United States: surveillance update, 1979–1996.
Emerg Infect Dis 1999; 5: 807–10

- More pronounced TNF response to superantigen
- Deficient TNF removal
- Greater degree of TNF-induced hepatic apoptosis

Faulkner L, Altmann DM, Ellmerich S, Huhtaniemi I, Stamp G, Sriskandan S.
Sexual dimorphism in superantigen shock
involves elevated TNF-alpha and TNF-alpha induced hepatic apoptosis.
Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2007; 176: 473–82

Clinical features and diagnosis

■ Staphylococcus TSS

- Abruptly with influenza-like prodromal illness
 - Vomiting, diarrhoea
- Followed by confusion/lethargy
- Focus of infection
 - Superficial, e.g. burns/surgical wound
- Desquamation is characteristic
 - Erythematous rash, peeling of skin on recovery (10-21 days after onset)
- Any 3 of a multi-organ component
- <5% have positive blood culture

Panel 1: Staphylococcal toxic shock syndrome clinical case definition

- 1 Fever $\geq 38.9^{\circ}\text{C}$
- 2 Rash—diffuse macular erythroderma
- 3 Desquamation—1–2 weeks after onset of illness, especially of palms and soles
- 4 Hypotension—systolic blood pressure ≤ 90 mm Hg for adults
- 5 Multi-system involvement—3 or more of the following:
 - a Gastrointestinal—vomiting or diarrhoea at the onset of illness
 - b Muscular—severe myalgia or elevated creatine phosphokinase
 - c Mucous membranes—vaginal, oropharyngeal, conjunctival hyperaemia
 - d Renal—blood urea nitrogen or creatinine twice-upper limit of normal
 - e Hepatic—total bilirubin twice-upper limit of normal
 - f Haematological—platelets $\leq 100 \times 10^3/\text{L}$
 - g ~~CNS—disorientation or alterations in consciousness without focal neurological signs~~
- 6 Negative results on the following tests:
 - a Blood, throat, or cerebrospinal fluid culture (blood culture may be positive for *S aureus*)
 - b Rise in titre to Rocky Mountain spotted fever, leptospirosis, or measles

Case classification

Probable: case with five of the six clinical findings described

Confirmed: case with all six of the clinical findings described

Wharton M, Chorba TL, Vogt RL, Morse DL, Buehler JW.
Case definitions for public health surveillance.
MMWR Recomm Rep 1990; 39: 1–43.

- Methicillin-resistant s-aureus (MRSA)
- HA-MRSA
 - Do not make large amount of SAg
- CA-MRSA
 - High levels of SAg
 - Greater ability to cause TSS-like illness

Streptococcal TSS

- Deep-seated invasive soft-tissue infections
 - Necrotizing fasciitis/myositis
- Influenza-like illness at early stage
- Began with trivial injury, e.g. muscle strain
- Most (60%) with positive blood culture
- Mortality much higher than staphy TSS
 - Up to 80% in association with myositis

McCormick JK, Yarwood JM, Schlievert PM.
Toxic shock syndrome and bacterial superantigens: an update.
Annu Rev Microbiol 2001; 55: 77–104

Panel 2: Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome clinical case definition

- 1 Isolation of group A β -haemolytic streptococci:
 - a From a normally sterile site—blood, CSF, peritoneal fluid, tissue biopsy
 - b From a non-sterile site—throat, vagina, sputum
- 2 Clinical signs of severity:
 - a Hypotension—systolic blood pressure ≤ 90 mm Hg in adults
 - b Two or more of the following signs:
 - i Renal impairment—creatinine > 2 mg/dL (> 177 μ mol/L)
 - ii Coagulopathy—platelets $\leq 100 \times 10^9$ /L or disseminated intravascular coagulation
 - iii Hepatic involvement—alanine aminotransferase, aspartate aminotransferase, or total bilirubin twice the upper limit of normal
 - iv Adult respiratory distress syndrome
 - v Generalised, erythematous, macular rash that may desquamate
 - vi Soft-tissue necrosis, including necrotising fasciitis, myositis, or gangrene

Case classification

Probable: case fulfils 1b and 2 (a and b) if no other cause for the illness is found

Definite: case fulfils 1a and 2 (a and b)

Working Group on Severe Streptococcal Infections.
Defining the group A streptococcal toxic shock syndrome.
Rationale and consensus definition.
JAMA 1993; 269: 390–91.

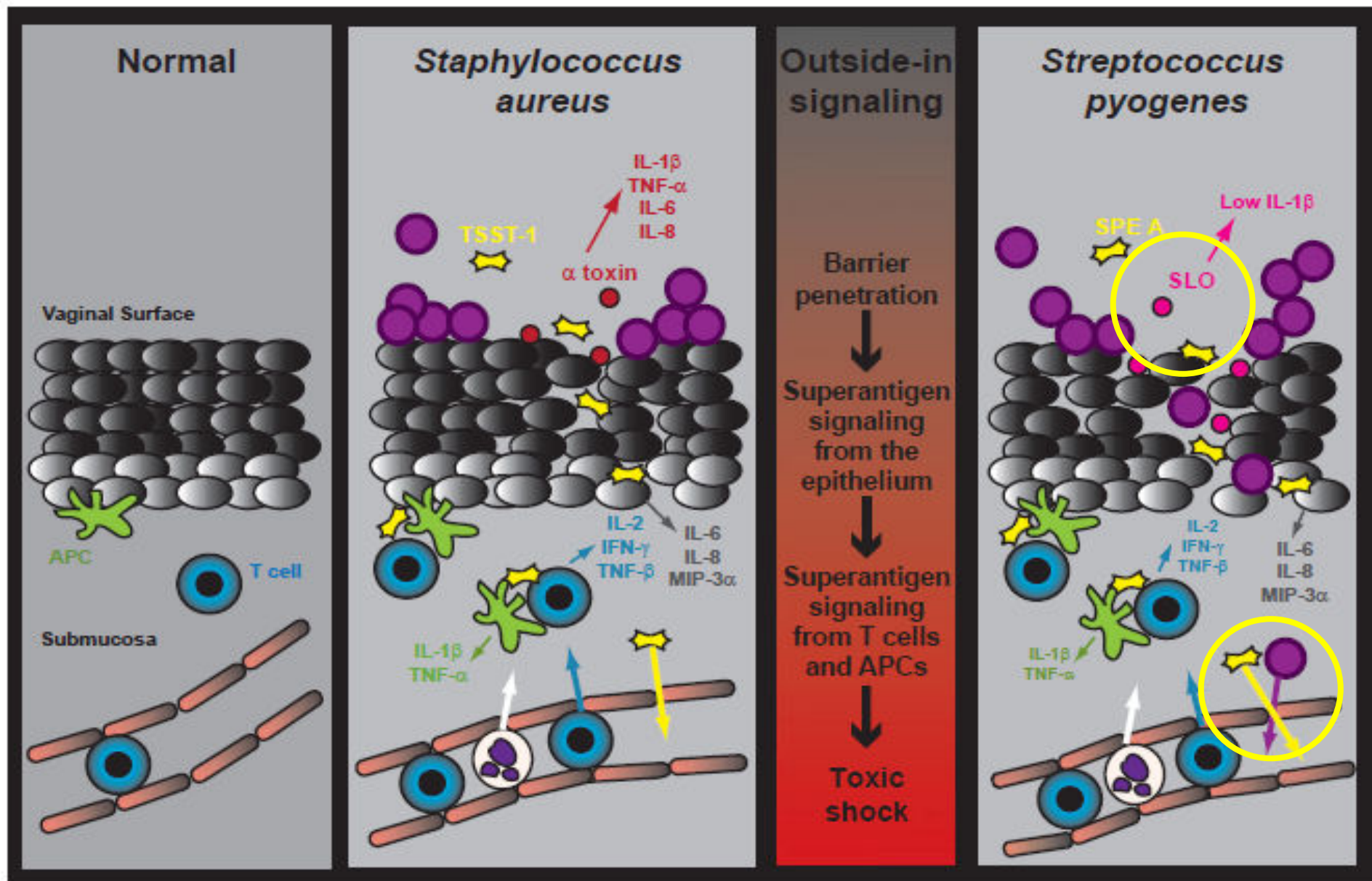
Comparison between staph/strep TSS

Staph. TSS

- Seldom with bloodstream invasion
- Localized on mucosal/body surface
- Skin rash as one of the defining clinical features

Strep. TSS

- more association with bloodstream invasion
- Often with presence of necrotizing fasciitis/myositis
- May lack of the skin rash



New method for early dx for staph. TSS

1. PCR-based detection of staph. Superantigen genes

Granger K, Rundell MS, Pingle MR, et al.

Multiplex PCRligation detection reaction assay for simultaneous detection of drug resistance and toxin genes from *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, and *Enterococcus faecium*

J Clin Microbiol, 2010, 48:277–280

New method for early dx for staph. TSS

2. Anti-TSST-1 Ab assays

- Antibody deficiency as maker of susceptibility

Javid Khojasteh V, Rogan MT, Edwards-Jones V, et al.
Detection of antibodies to Staphylococcus aureus toxic shock syndrome toxin-1 using a
competitive agglutination inhibition assay
Lett Appl Microbiol 2003, 36:372–376

New method for early dx for staph. TSS

3. Flow cytometric analysis of T-cell population
 - massive expansion of a $V\beta 2$ -positive T-cell subset

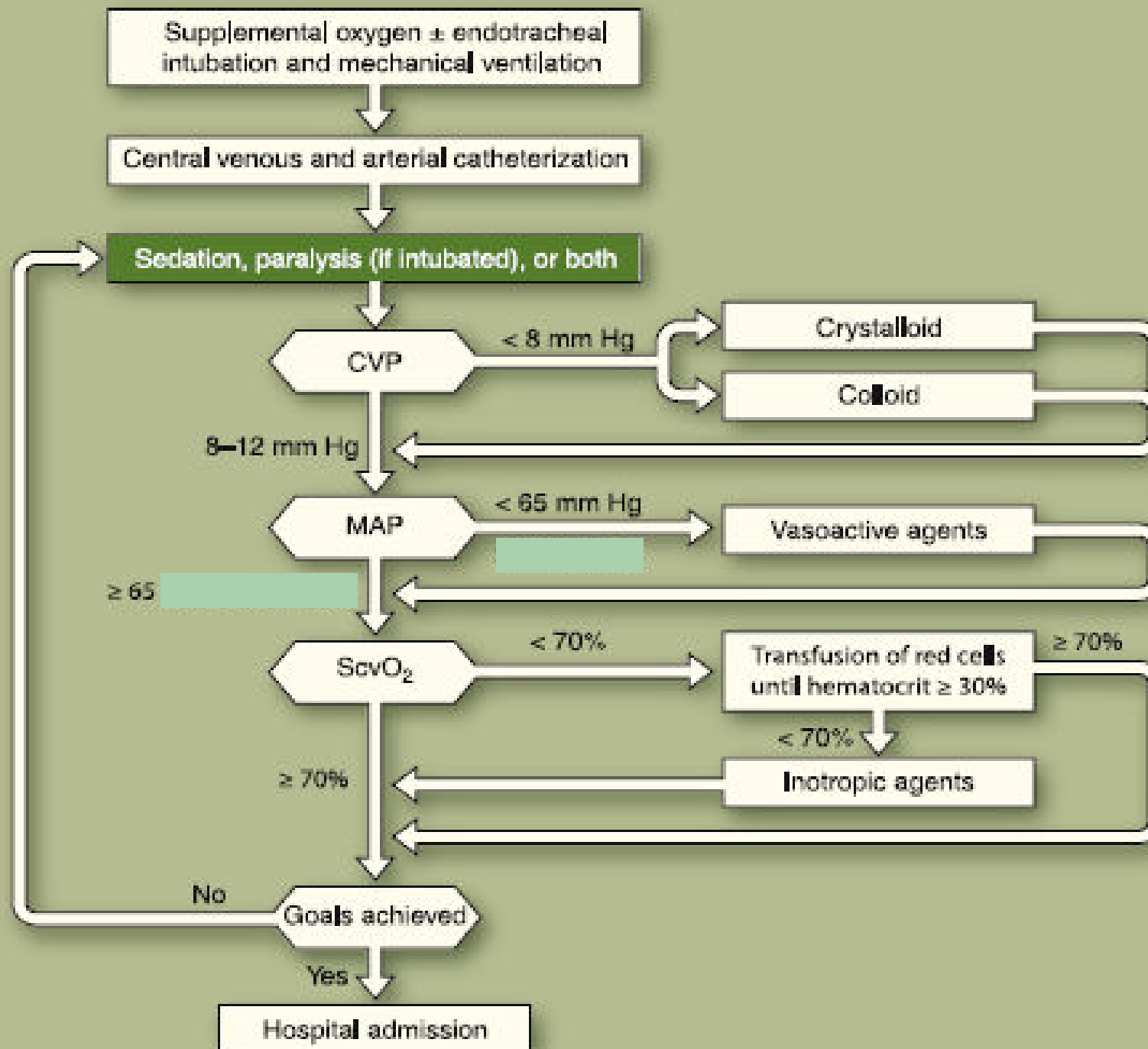
Ferry T, Thomas D, Perpoint T, et al

Analysis of superantigenic toxin Vb T-cell signatures produced during cases of staphylococcal toxic shock syndrome and septic shock

Clin Microbiol Infect, 2008, 14: 546–554

Treatment of TSS

- Required ICU care
 - Aggressive shock management
 - Early goal-directed therapy
 - Ventilatory management if ARDS develops
- Complete sepsis workup
- Removal of foreign bodies, i.e. tampon or nasal packing
- Start IV antibiotics promptly after culture taken
- Surgical debridement in case suspecting necrotizing fasciitis



Antibiotics

- Aim to reduce both organism load and toxin production
- Usually include B-lactam agents (e.g. penicillin G)
 - Bactericidal
 - Covering both *S. aureus*/*S. pyogenes*
- Lincosamide (e.g. clindamycin)
 - Inhibitory actions on protein synthesis
 - Inhibit toxin production

Table 2 Antimicrobial options in staphylococcal toxic shock syndrome

Organism	Option A	Option B (β -lactam intolerant)	Option C
Methicillin-sensitive <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Nafcillin or cloxacillin or flucloxacillin, and clindamycin	Clarithromycin +/- gentamicin, and clindamycin	Linezolid or daptomycin or tigecycline, +/- rifampicin
Methicillin-resistant <i>S. aureus</i>	Vancomycin or teicoplanin, and clindamycin	N/A	Linezolid or daptomycin or tigecycline, +/- rifampicin
Glycopeptide-resistant or glycopeptide- intermediate sensitivity <i>S. aureus</i>	Linezolid +/- clindamycin, or daptomycin	N/A	Tigecycline

Jonathan A. Silversides & Emma Lappin & Andrew J. Ferguson
Staphylococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome: Mechanisms and Management
Curr Infect Dis Rep (2010) 12:392–400

	Option 1	Option 2 (β -lactam intolerant)	Option 3	Comments
Group A streptococcus	Penicillin G and clindamycin	Macrolide or fluoroquinolone, and clindamycin	Linezolid or daptomycin or tigecycline	Macrolide and fluoroquinolone resistance increasing
MLS-resistant group A streptococcus	Penicillin G, and vancomycin or teicoplanin	Vancomycin or teicoplanin	Linezolid or daptomycin or tigecycline	Macrolide resistance associated with clindamycin resistance

Emma Lappin, Andrew J Ferguson
 Gram-positive toxic shock syndromes
Lancet Infect Dis 2009; 9: 286

	Usual organisms	Preferred regimens	Alternatives	Special considerations / [usual duration of treatment]
Necrotizing fasciitis [171]				
1. Following exposure to freshwater; seawater or seafood	<i>Aeromonas hydrophilia</i> , <i>A. caviae</i> ; <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	I.V. fluoroquinolone + I.V. amoxicillin-clavulanate		Immediate surgical intervention essential. Urgent consult clinical microbiologist.
2. Following cuts and abrasion; recent chickenpox; IVDU; healthy adults	Group A streptococci	I.V. penicillin G + I.V. linezolid [172]		Add high dose IVIG (1–2 g/kg for 1 dose) for streptococcal toxic shock syndrome [173] ^a . In HK, Group A streptococci: more often resistant to clindamycin (50–80%) [170].
3. Following intra-abdominal; gynaecological or perineal surgery [174]	Polymicrobial: <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , streptococci, anaerobes	I.V. imipenem or meropenem	I.V. amoxicillin-clavulanate + levofloxacin	

IMPACT Guideline
Hong Kong
Fourth Edition 2012

Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG)

- Pt with deficient Ab response at risk of primary and recurrent TSS
- Pt with invasive GAS infection with lower concentration of superantigen-neutralizing Ab

Basma H, Norrby-Teglund A, Guedez Y, et al M. Risk factors in the pathogenesis of invasive group A streptococcal infections: role of protective humoral immunity. *Infect Immun* 1999; **67**: 1871–77

Mechanism of IVIG

- Commercially available IVIG with antibodies capable of neutralizing the toxins (superantigens)
- Suppressive effect of whole IVIG on T-cell proliferation/cytokine production

Kato K, Sakamoto T, Ito K.
Gamma-globulin inhibits superantigen-induced lymphocyte proliferation and cytokine production
Allergol Int 2007; **56**: 439–44

IVIG use in staphylococcus TSS

- Little data exist/no case-control studies to determine the effectiveness
- Some anecdotal examples showing its effectiveness
 - Esp in community/hospital-associated MRSA
 - Higher level of superantigens

IVIG in Streptococcal TSS

Lamothe F, D'Amico P, Ghosn P, Tremblay C, Braidy J, Patenaude JV.
Clinical usefulness of intravenous human immunoglobulins in invasive group A
streptococcal infections: case report and review.
Clin Infect Dis 1995; 21: 1469

Perez CM, Kubak BM, Cryer HG, Salehmugodam S, Vespa P, Farmer D.
Adjunctive treatment of streptococcal toxic shock syndrome using intravenous
immunoglobulin: case report and review.
Am J Med 1997; 102: 111–13.

- Case reports published in 1990s suggested improved outcomes using IVIG in streptococcal TSS

Intravenous immunoglobulin therapy for streptococcal toxic shock syndrome

a comparative observational study

Kaul R, McGeer A, Norrby-Teglund A, et al.

Clin Infect Dis 1999; 28: 800–07

- Comparative observational study
- 21 STSS patients given IVIG v.s. 32 control cases
- No different in duration of ventilation or hospital stay
- Higher 30-day survival in IVIG group
 - 67% v.s. 34%

Intravenous immunoglobulin G therapy in streptococcal toxic shock syndrome: A European randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

Darenberg J, Ihendyane N, Sjolín J, et al.

Clin Infect Dis 2003; 37: 333–40.

- Randomized, placebo-controlled trial
- 21 patients enrolled
 - 10 received IVIG (1g/kg at day 1, 0.5g/kg at day 2,3)
 - 11 received placebo (1% albumin)
- Primary endpoint was 28-day mortality
 - 3.6 times higher in placebo (36% v.s. 10%)
 - Statistically significance not reached
 - Greater improvement in sepsis-related organ failure (SOFA score) at day 2 (P=0.02) and 3 (P=0.03)

- Current UK department of Health IVIG in infectious diseases recommends:
 - *IVIG may be added to adequate toxin-neutralising antimicrobials, source control and sepsis management when these approaches have failed to elicit a response*
 - *May be use for TSS resulting from an infection refractory to several hrs of aggressive therapy, in presence of undrainable focus or persistent oliguria with pul edema*

Table 1: United Kingdom department of health guidelines for immunoglobulin use in infectious diseases^[5]

Condition	Short term	Long term	Recommendation/evidence grade	Alternatives
Severe invasive GAS	Selected	No	B, Ib	APC, antibiotics
Staphylococcal toxic shock	Selected	No	C, III	Antibiotics
Necrotizing (PVL-associated staph. sepsis)	Selected	No	C, III	APC, antibiotics
Severe or recurrent clostridium difficile colitis	Selected	No	C, III	Antibiotics, colectomy

GAS = Group A streptococcus; APC = Activated protein C

Streptococcal Toxic-Shock Syndrome (STSS), 2010 Case Definition.
CSTE Position Statement Number: 09-ID-60.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Conclusion

1. TSS is uncommon but can be a life threatening condition
2. Clinical diagnostic difficulty
 - There is often no definite infective foci identified
 - high index of clinical suspicion
3. Severe complication can occur in a well looking wound
 - Reassessment is important
4. Treatment
 - Intensive care for haemodynamic/organ support
 - Early surgical intervention
 - Choice of antibiotics
5. IVIG
 - No strong evidence of its effectiveness
 - Positive result from previous case studies
6. Future development
 - New technology aim for early diagnosis