

TEACHING COURSE: TC25: AUTOIMMUNE NEUROLOGIC DISORDERS:
IMMUNE MEDIATED DISORDERS OF THE CNS:
PHENOTYPES, TREATMENT AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

Autoimmune Spinal Cord Disorders

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DISCLOSURE

- Dr. Pittock receives no royalties from the sale of tests performed in the Neuroimmunology Laboratory at Mayo Clinic; however, Mayo Collaborative Services Inc. does receive revenue for conducting these.
- Dr. Pittock reports grants, personal fees, non-financial support and other from Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., grants from Grifols, grants from AEA (Autoimmune Encephalitis Alliance), grants, personal fees, non-financial support and other from MedImmune/Viele Bio, Inc..
- Dr. Pittock has a patent Patent# 8,889,102 (Application#12-678350) - Neuromyelitis Optica Autoantibodies as a Marker for Neoplasia issued, and a patent Patent# 9,891,219B2 (Application#12-573942) - Methods for Treating Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO) by Administration of Eculizumab to an individual that is Aquaporin-4 (AQP4)-IgG Autoantibody positive issued.
- Patents pending for MAP1P, Septin5, Kelch11.
- Off Label Usage
 - I will mention use of a variety of immunotherapies.

Learning Objectives

- To highlight neural antibodies and their association with myelopathy
- To identify MRI patterns that associate with the different types of myelopathy
- To highlight the differential diagnosis of autoimmune myelopathy

Time to nadir is critical

- Acute/hyperacute <12 hrs to nadir
 - Spinal cord infarct
 - Severe deficit (paraplegia/quadriplegia)
- Time to nadir: 1-21 days
 - Inflammatory/transverse myelitis/MS/NMOSD
 - Tonic spasms may follow (NMOSD>MS)
- Progression >21 days
 - Spondylosis
 - Tumor
 - Dural AVF
 - Nutritional
 - Sarcoid

Wingerchuk and Frohman. NEJM 2010

Kim et al. Arch Neurol 2012

TM consortium working group. Neurology 2002

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Cerebrospinal fluid myelopathy pearls

- Non-inflammatory (WBC normal; no OCB)
 - Infarct, Dural AVF, Spondylosis, tumor, B12
 - Inflammatory may be normal
- Inflammatory (\uparrow WBC; +/- OCB's)
 - MS, NMOSD, ITM, infectious, sarcoid
 - Occasionally seen in non-inflammatory
- Markedly \uparrow CSF protein; normal cell count
Spinal block (tumor/spondylosis); Guillain Barre
- \downarrow Glucose
 - Meningo-myelitis

Transverse Myelitis - Lesion Length

- **Short TM (MRI T2 lesion <3 vertebral segments)**
 - MS is commonest cause (adults) – peripheral
 - Children may have LETM
 - Under-recognized in AQP4-IgG + NMOSD
- **LETM (MRI T2-lesion ≥3 vertebral segments)**
 - Hallmark of AQP4-IgG pos NMOSD - central
 - **Caution!** AQP4-IgG seronegative LETM
 - Many other causes of long lesions

Frohman & Wingerchuk et al. NEJM 2015

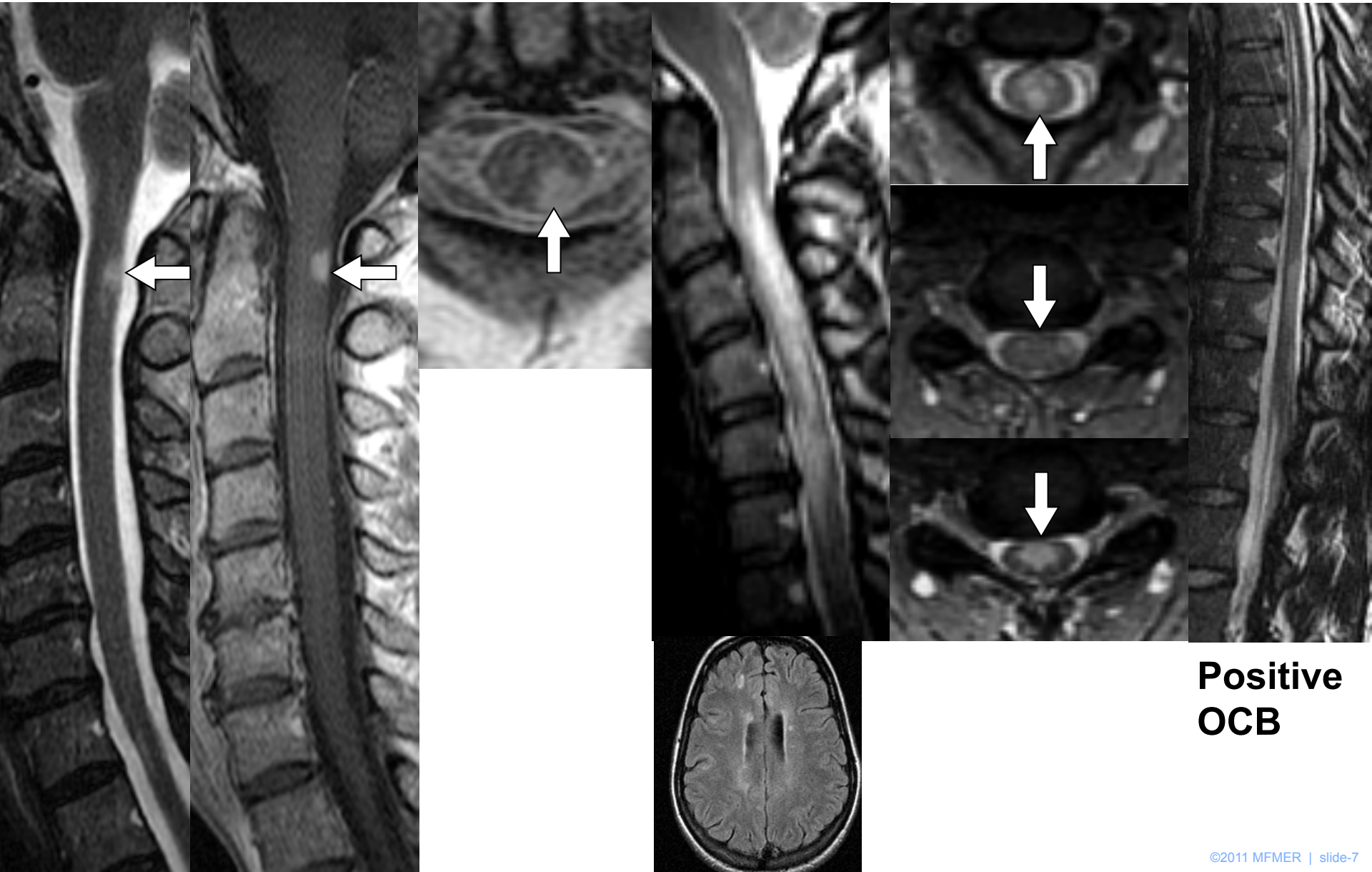
Banwell, Lennon and Pittock et al. Neurology 2008

Katz Sand and Lublin. Continuum 2013

Wingerchuk et al. Neurology 1999

Tobin, Weinshenker and Lucchinetti. Curr opinion Neurol 2016

MRI of STM in MS; Coalescence of short MS lesions may resemble LETM (axial helps)



**Positive
OCB**

Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders (NMOSD)

- Autoimmune channelopathy (predominantly astrocytopathy)
- Serum biomarker aquaporin-4-IgG
 - $\approx 80\%$ sensitive; 99-100% specific
- Predilection for:
 - Spinal cord
 - Optic nerve
 - Area postrema

LETM in AQP4-IgG + NMOSD

- Severe; paraplegia common
- Central on axial images
- Length distinguishes NMOSD from MS
- LETM prompts AQP4-IgG testing
- **Caution!** AQP4-IgG seronegative LETM
 - Other causes of LETM exist
 - Dx criteria for seronegative NMOSD require dissemination in space



Short myelitis lesions represents 14-15% of AQP4+ NMOSD myelitis

Original Investigation

Short Myelitis Lesions in Aquaporin-4-IgG-Positive Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders

Eoin P. Flanagan, MBBCh; Brian G. Weinshenker, MD; Karl N. Krecke, MD; Vanda A. Lennon, MD, PhD; Claudia F. Lucchinetti, MD; Andrew McKeon, MBBCh; Dean M. Wingerchuk, MD; Elizabeth A. Shuster, MD; Yujuan Jiao, MD; Erika S. Horta, MD; Sean J. Pittock, MD

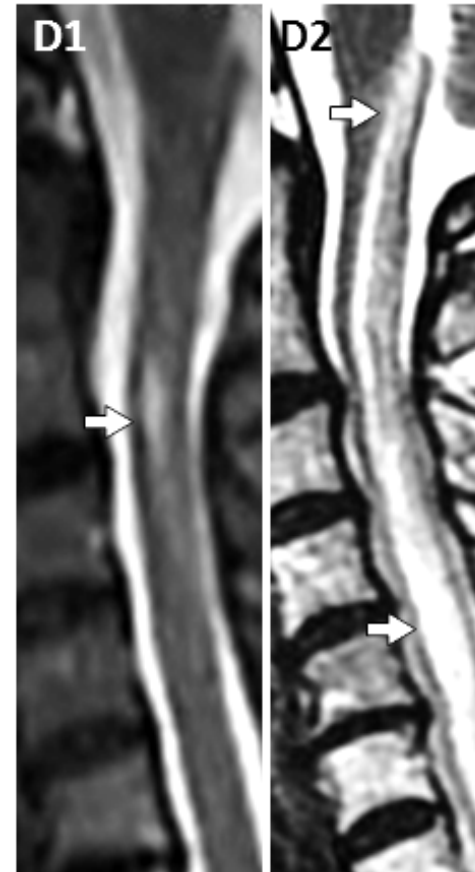
Original Research Paper

Short segment myelitis as a first manifestation of neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders

So-Young Huh, Su-Hyun Kim, Jae-Won Hyun, In Hye Jeong, Min Su Park, Sang-Hyun Lee and Ho Jin Kim

Multiple Sclerosis Journal

2017, Vol. 23(3) 413–419



- Distinction of AQP4-IgG pos NMOSD from MS important as MS medications may worsen NMOSD

STM in AQP4+ NMOSD

- Predictors of AQP4-IgG (+) in STM:
 - Nonwhite race
 - Tonic spasms
 - Coexisting autoimmunity (e.g., lupus)
 - MRI (central cord, ≥ 2 segments, MS brain lesions absent)
 - CSF lacking oligoclonal bands
- MS prevalence in region
 - CNS demyelinating episode 50 times more likely MS than NMOSD in Minnesota

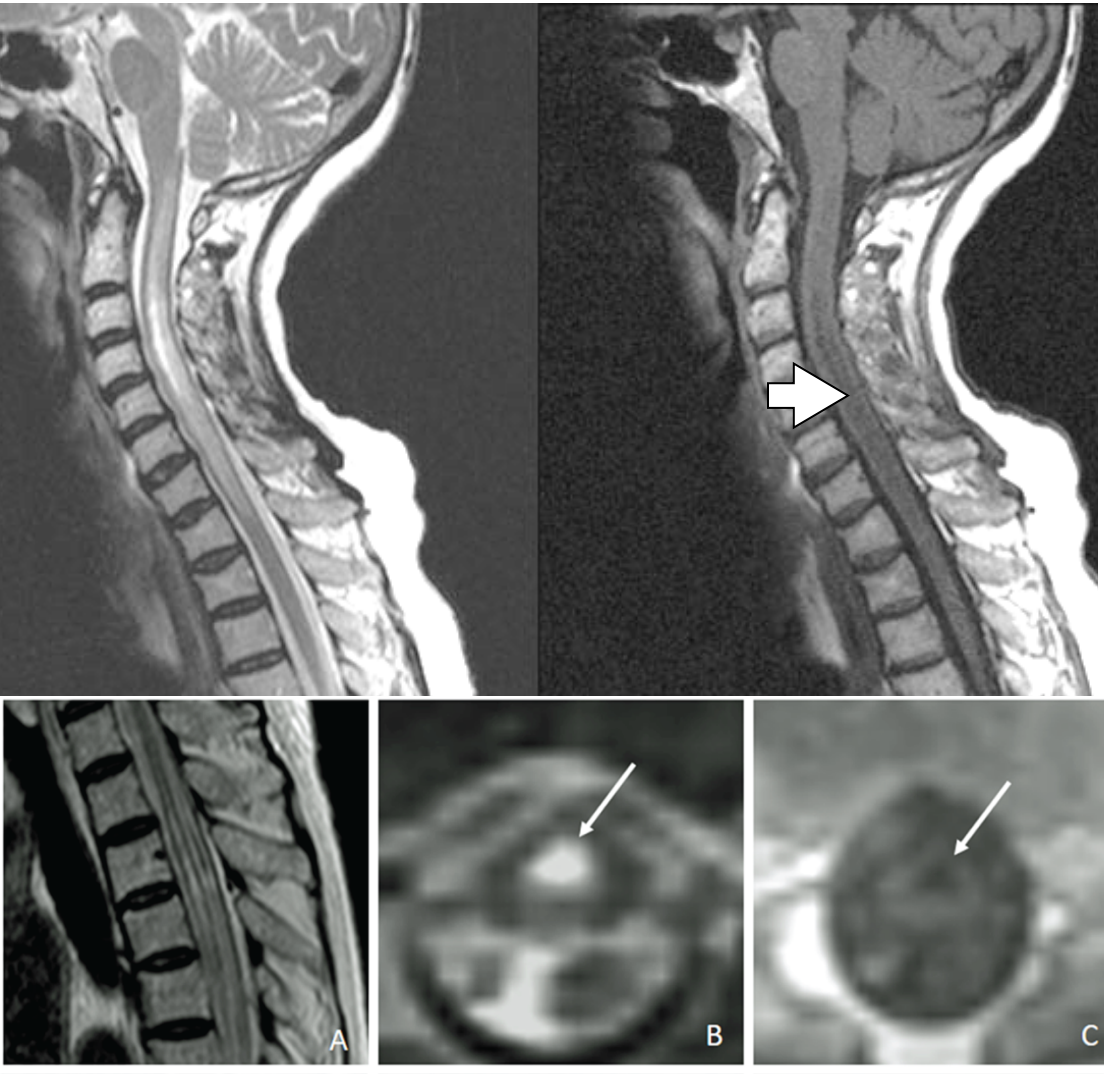
Flanagan et al. JAMA Neurol 2015

Flanagan et al. Ann Neurol 2016

Huh et al. MSJ 2017

Differential Diagnosis of Longitudinally Extensive Spinal Cord Lesions

NMOSD: T1 Hypointense & bright-spotty T2 lesions

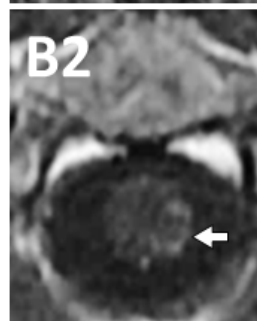
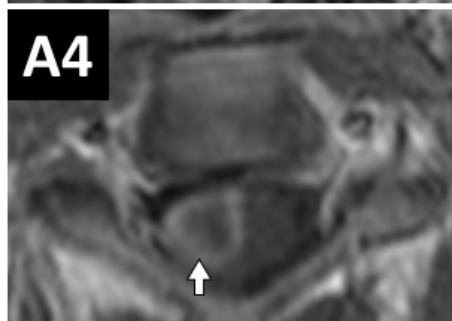


Segmental cord atrophy



Downer et al. Neuroradiology 2011
Yonezu et al. MSJ 2014
Pekcevik et al. MSJ 2016
Tanaka et al. JNNP 2007
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Ring enhancement distinguishes NMOSD from other LETM etiologies but not MS



AQP4+ NMOSD

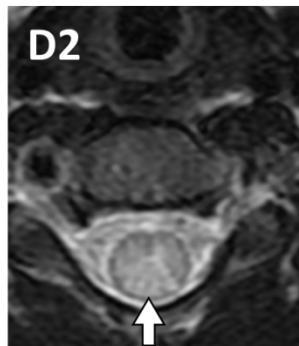
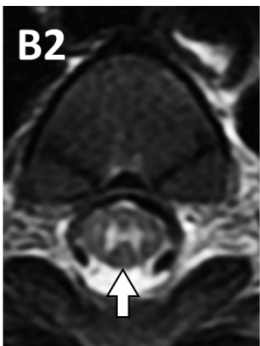
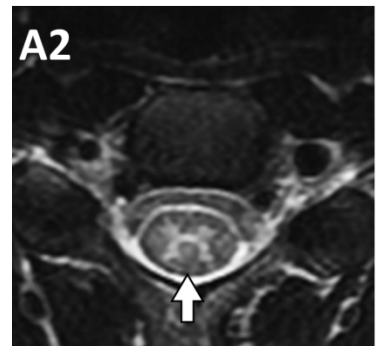
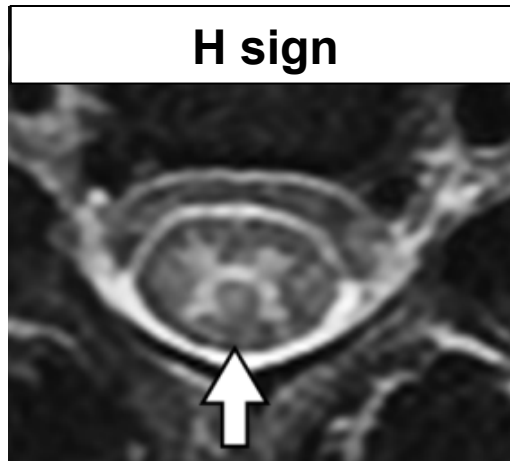
MS

Yokote et al. Acta Neurol Scan 2015

Zalewski et al. JNNP 2017

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MOG-IgG myelitis – may mimic viral post-viral acute flaccid myelitis



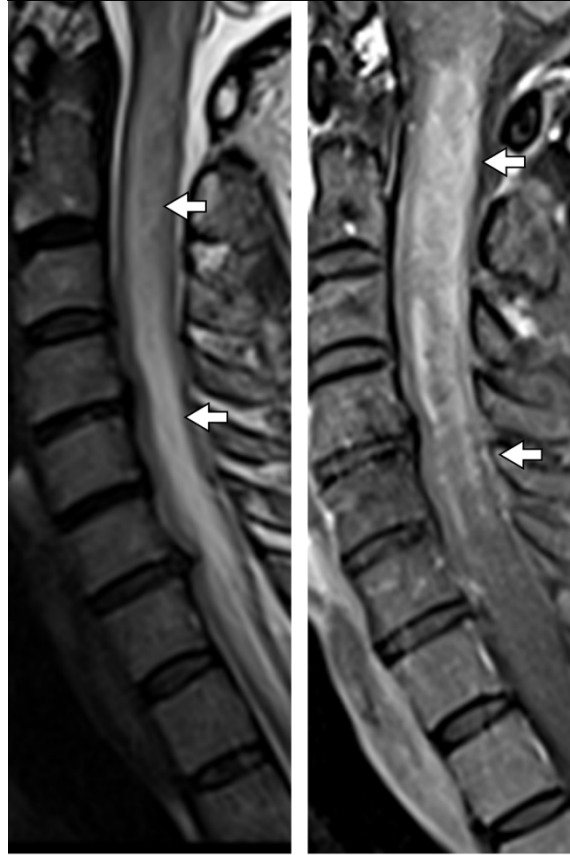
Dubey et al. JAMA Neurol 2019
Kitley et al. JAMA Neurol 2014
Jarius et al. J Neuroinflamm 2016

MRI Comparison: MOG-IgG, AQP4-IgG & MS

MOG-IgG: LETM, central: sagittal line/H sign, non-enhancing



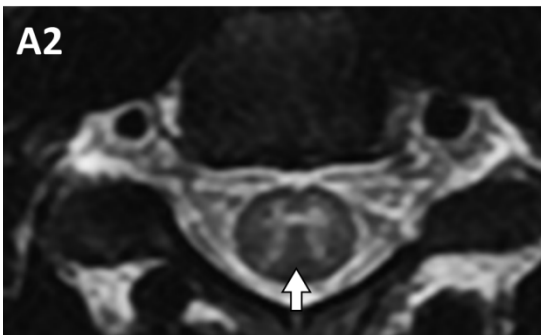
AQP4-IgG: LETM, swollen, central, enhancing



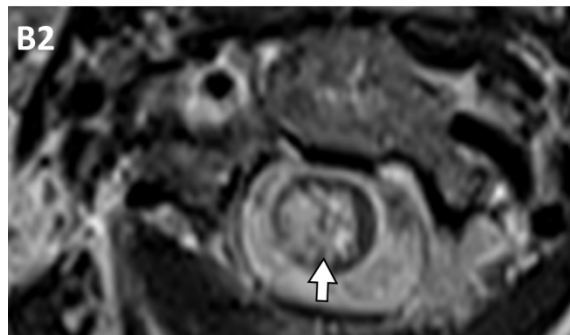
MS: short, peripheral, enhancing



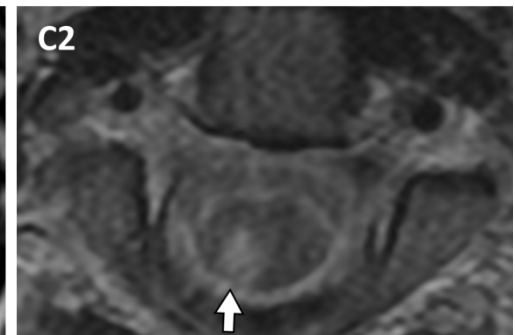
A2



B2

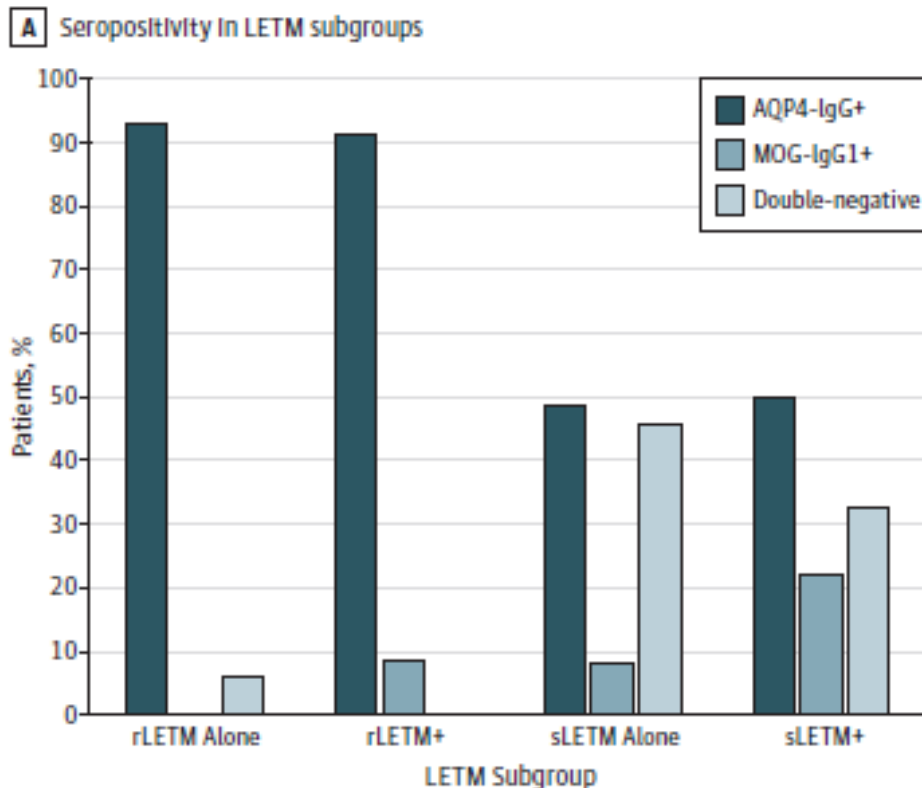


C2



AQP4-IgG much more likely in Recurrent LETM than MOG-IgG

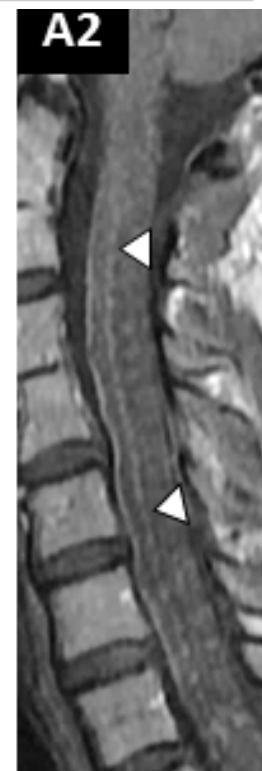
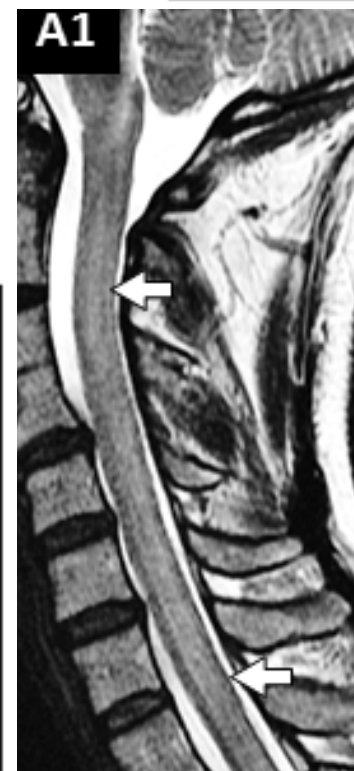
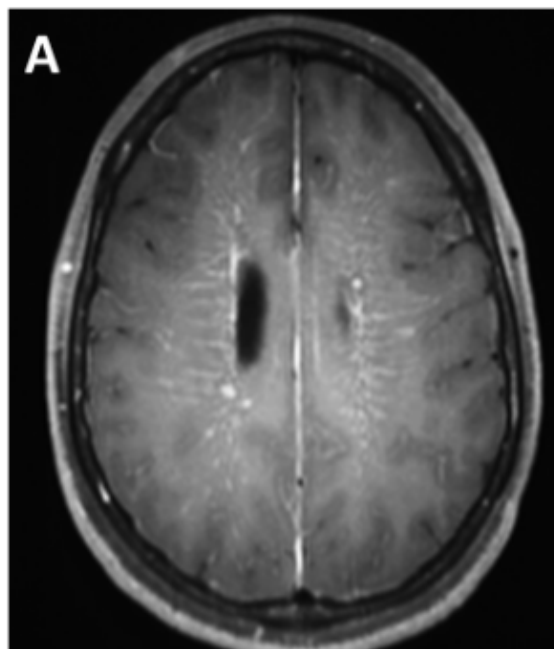
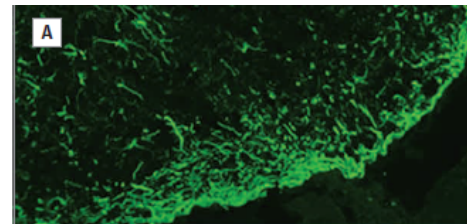
- AQP4-IgG accounts for 93% of patients with recurrent LETM
- MOG-IgG accounts for 3% of recurrent LETM



Autoimmune Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein Astrocytopathy A Novel Meningoencephalomyelitis

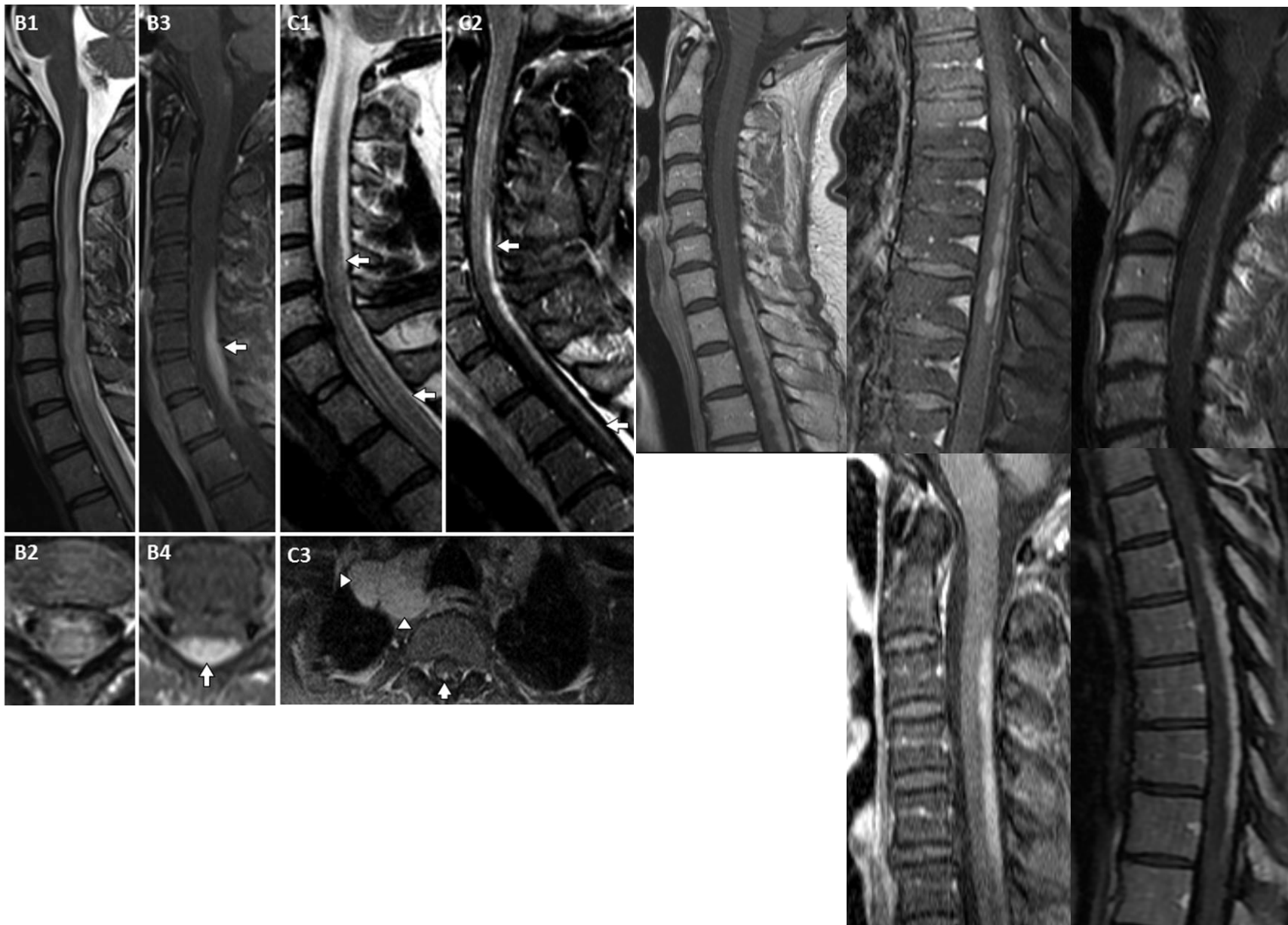
Boyan Fang, MD, PhD; Andrew McKeon, MD; Shannon R. Hinson, PhD; Thomas J. Kryzer, AA; Sean J. Pittock, MD;
Allen J. Aksamit, MD; Vanda A. Lennon, MD, PhD

- Tremor, optic disc edema clinical clues
- CSF testing most sensitive & specific
- NMDA, AQP4 antibodies may coexist
- Myelitis coexists with encephalitis
- Teratoma
- Steroid-responsive



Aksamit et al, ANA 2012
Flanagan et al. Ann Neurol 2017
Sechi et al, JNNP, 2018

Linear dorsal subpial enhancement predicts spinal cord sarcoidosis over AQP4+ NMOSD



Persistent enhancement predicts sarcoid over NMOSD

← Time after initiation of treatment →

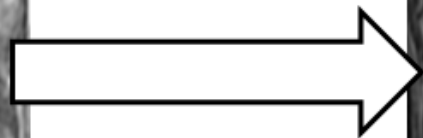
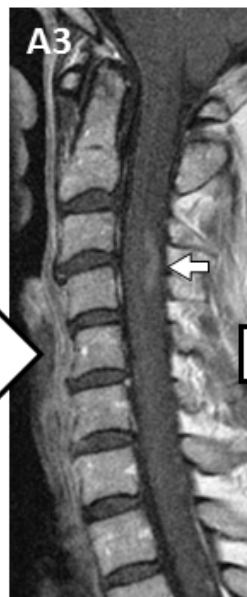
Initial Evaluation

6 weeks

2 months

5 months

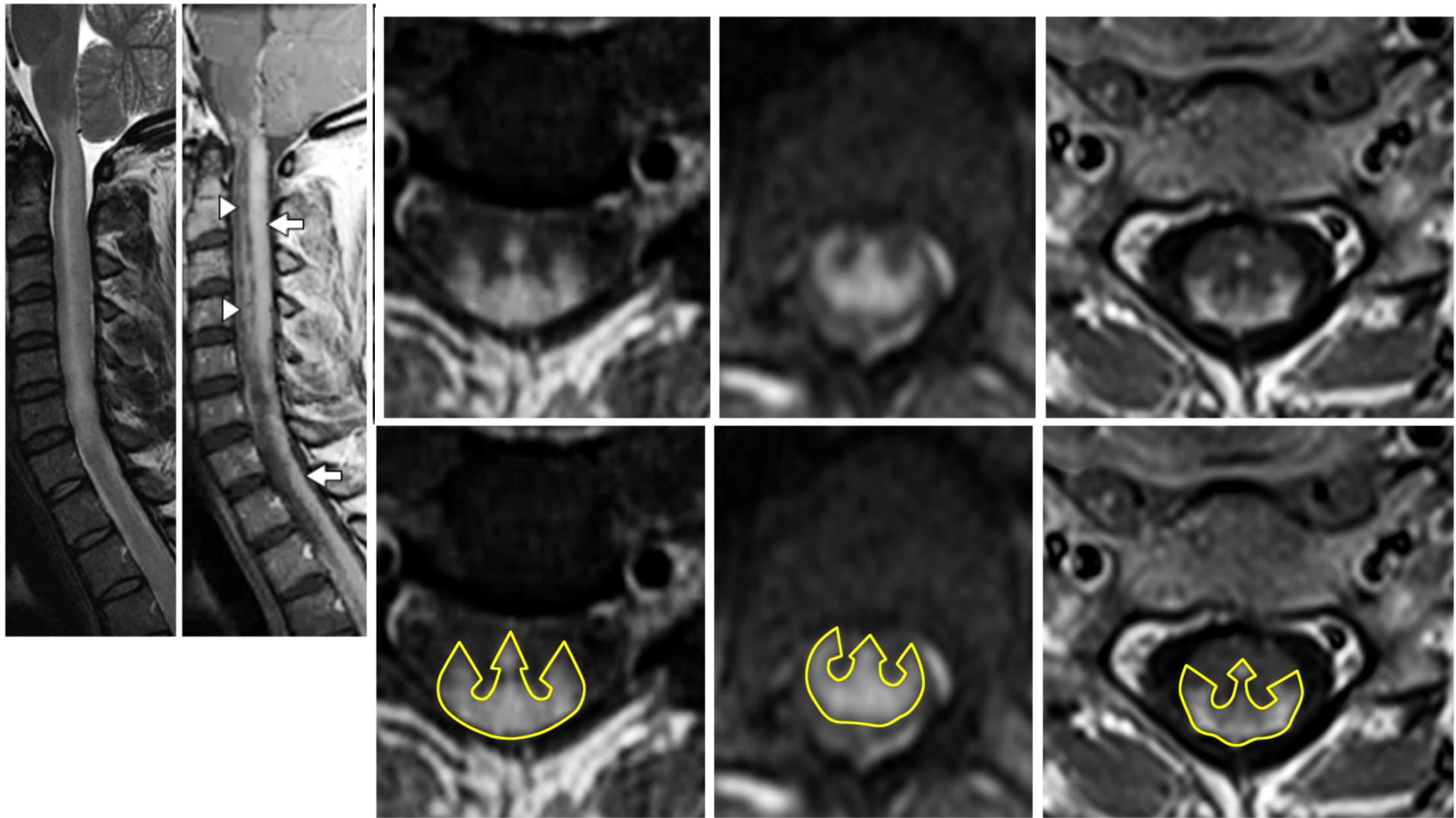
13 months



**AQP4+
NMOSD**

**Sar
coid**

Central canal enhancement in spinal cord sarcoidosis and the 'trident sign' on axial post gad images

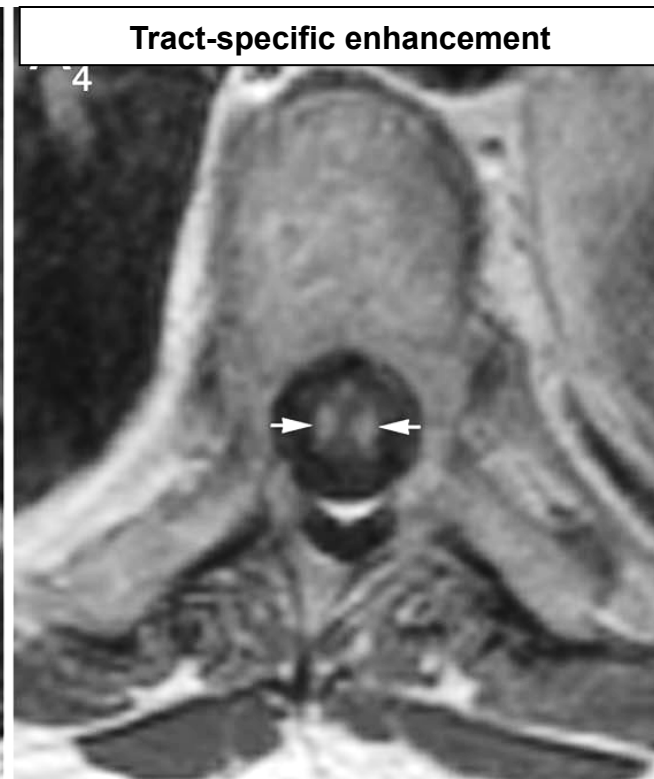
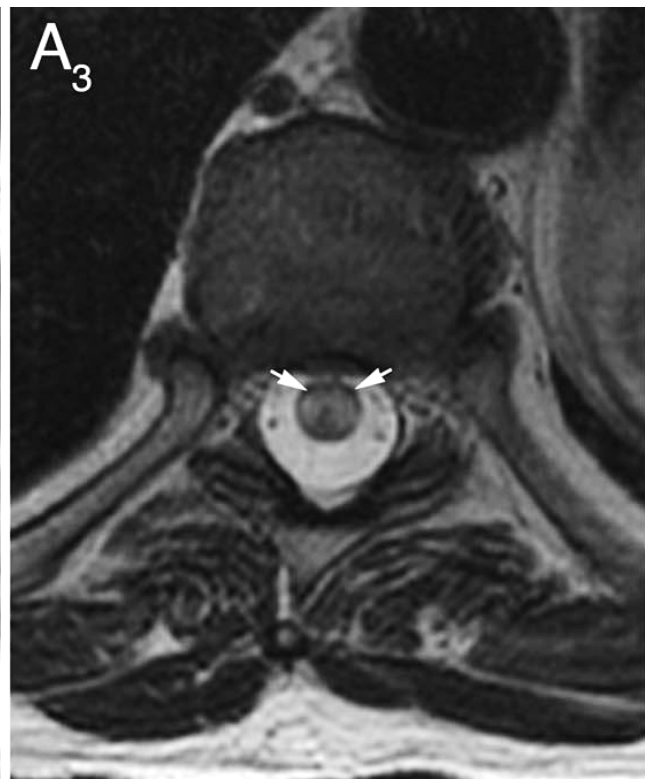


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Paraneoplastic isolated myelopathy

Clinical course and neuroimaging clues

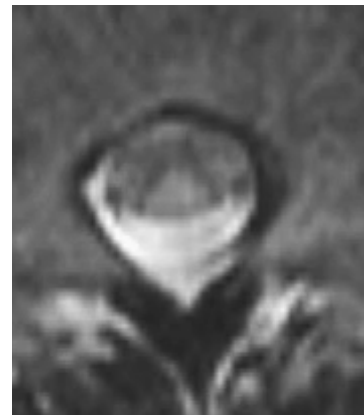
Neurology[®] 2011;76:2089-2095



CRMP5-IgG & Amphiphysin IgG

Tractopathy (dorsal/lateral columns)

- Deficiency Copper/B12 (N₂O), Vit E
- Paraneoplastic myelopathy
- Mitochondrial (DARS2, Leber's, ADLD,)
- Toxic (intrathecal mtx, cytarabine, heroin, pyridoxine excess; Cbl-c deficiency)
- Infectious (syphilis, HIV, HTLV-1)
- Hereditary (Friedreich's, SCA, CTX, HSP Mitofuscin)
- Sensory ganglionopathy (e.g., sjogren's, paraneoplastic)
- Sarcoid, posterior spinal artery infarct



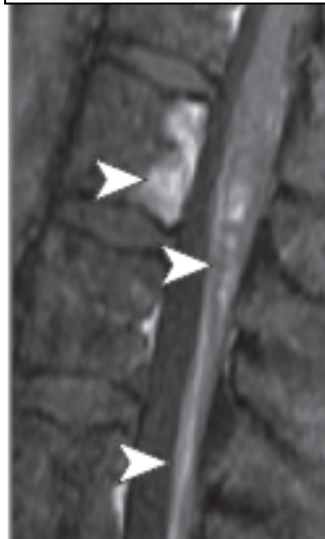
Characteristics of Spontaneous Spinal Cord Infarction and Proposed Diagnostic Criteria

Nicholas L. Zalewski, MD; Alejandro A. Rabinstein, MD; Karl N. Krecke, MD; Robert D. Brown Jr, MD; Eelco F. M. Wijdicks, MD; Brian G. Weinshenker, MD; Timothy J. Kaufmann, MD; Jonathan M. Morris, MD; Allen J. Aksamit, MD; J. D. Bartleson, MD; Giuseppe Lanzino, MD; Melissa M. Blessing, DO; Eoin P. Flanagan, MBBCh

JAMA Neurol. doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2018.2734



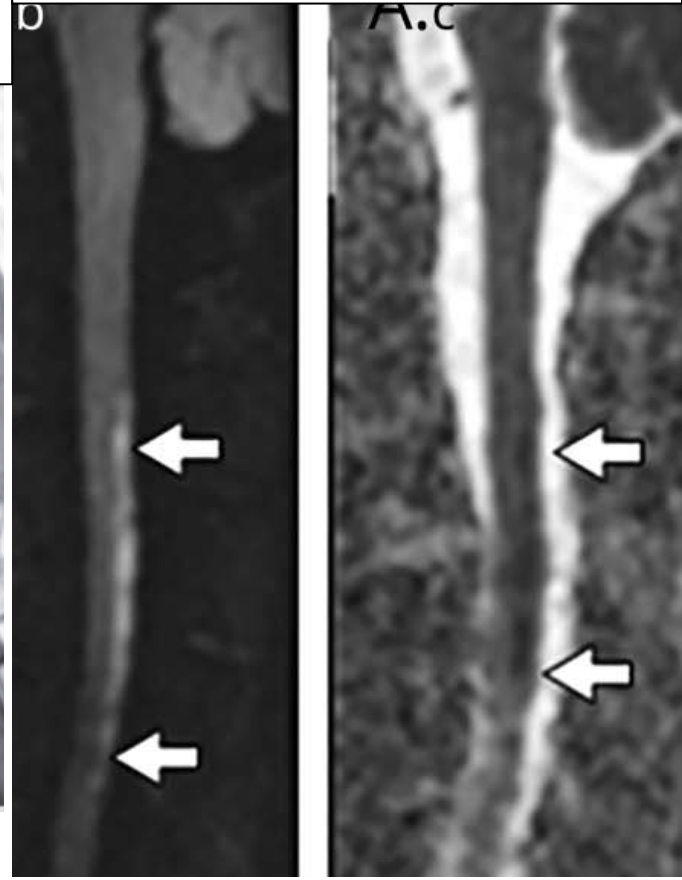
Vert body infarct



Linear strip of enhancement in anterior cord



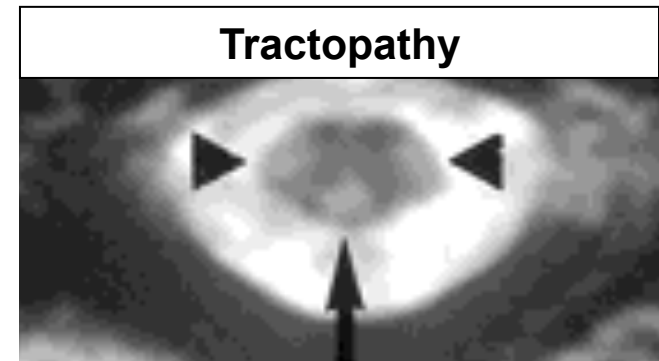
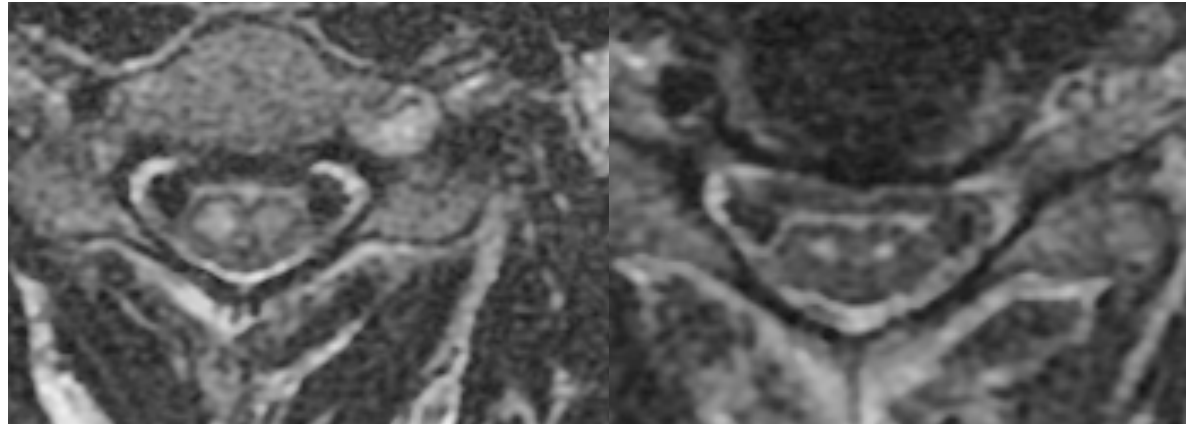
Restricted Diffusion



Owl or snake eyes?

Causes

- Vascular (primary or secondary)
- Inflammatory/ autoimmune (eg, AQP4, MOG)
- ALS
- Hirayama's disease
- Hopkins syndrome
- Infectious (polio, west nile virus, enterovirus)

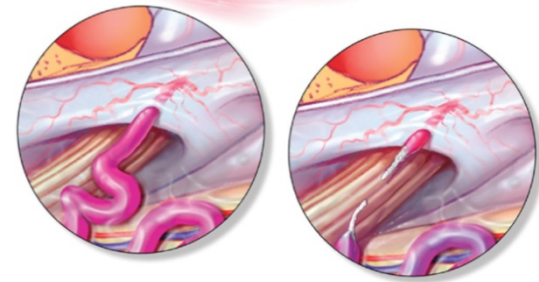
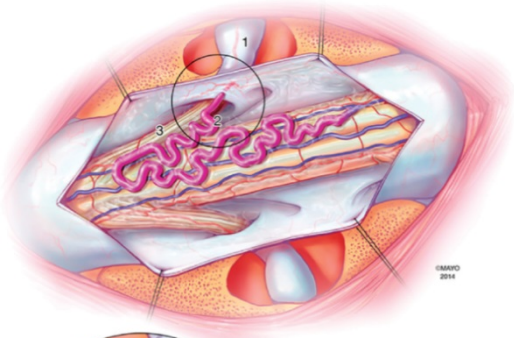


A cluster of acute flaccid paralysis and cranial nerve dysfunction temporally associated with an outbreak of enterovirus D68 in children in Colorado, USA



Dural AV fistula

- Progressive or stepwise myelopathy
- Valsalva/exertion
- Worse with steroids
- Dx: spinal angio



Rabinstein. Continuum 2015
McKeon et al. Neurology 2011
Zalewski et al. JAMA Neurol 2018

Specific Pattern of Gadolinium Enhancement in Spondylotic Myelopathy

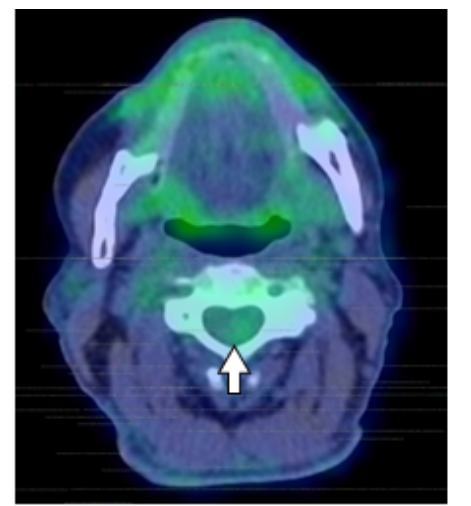
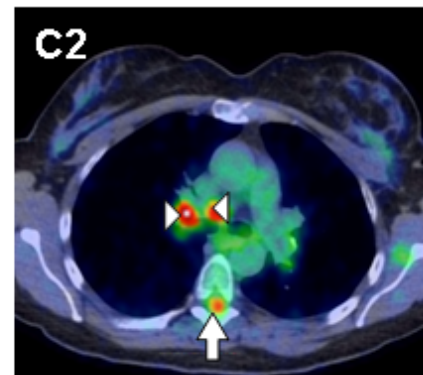
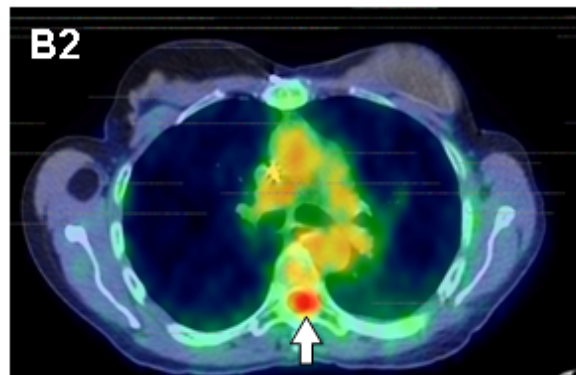
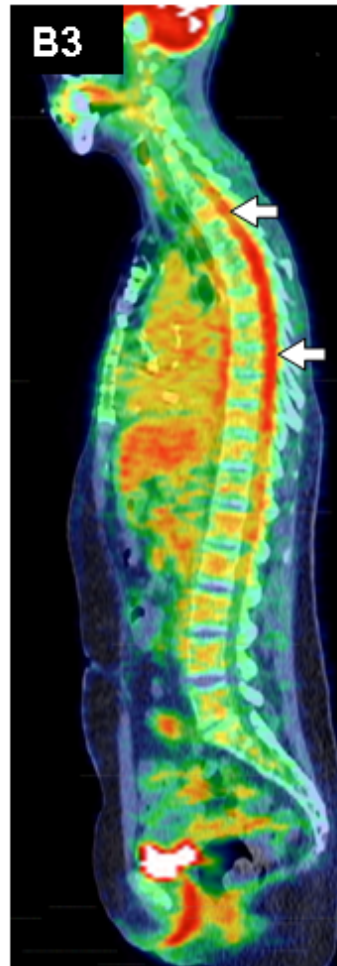
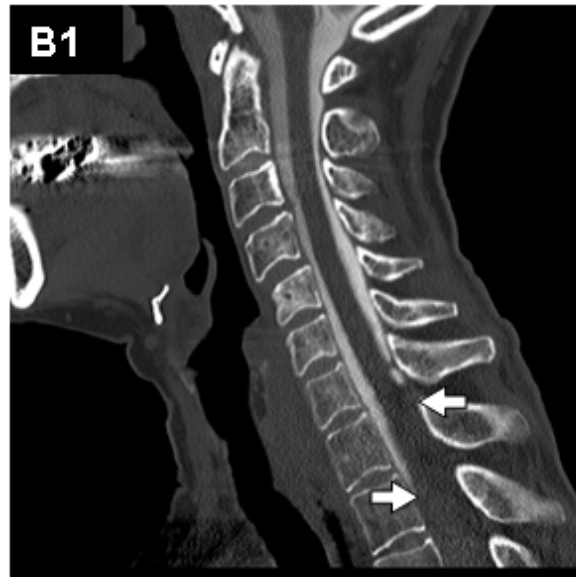
Eoin P. Flanagan, MBBCh,¹ Karl N. Krecke, MD,² Richard W. Marsh, MD,³
Caterina Giannini, MD, PhD,⁴ B. Mark Keegan, MD,¹ and
Brian G. Weinschenker, MD¹

ANN NEUROL 2014;76:54-65

1. Pancake like or transverse band (width > height)
2. Location:
 - Just below max stenosis
 - Middle of T2-lesion
3. Axial circumferential sparing gray matter
4. Persists months up to 2 yrs after successful surgery



Neoplastic & Sarcoid have greater PET-FDG uptake than other inflammatory myelitis



Astrocytoma

Sarcoid

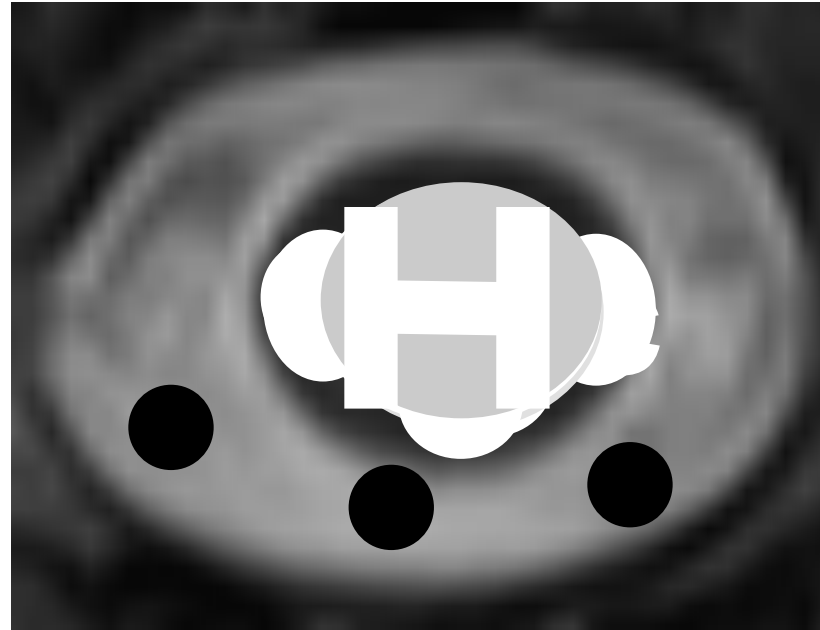
NMOSD

Other antibody associated myelopathy

- GAD 65 & Glycine receptor antibody
 - MRI may be normal
 - May occur:
 - In isolation
 - As a component of PERM
 - As a component of stiff person syndrome

Eoin Flanagan MD, Mayo Clinic

Summary of T2 patterns



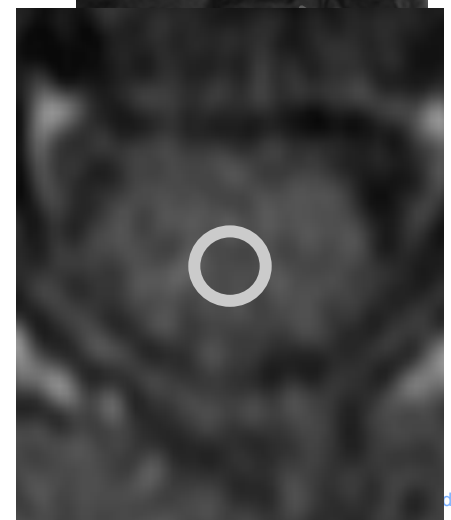
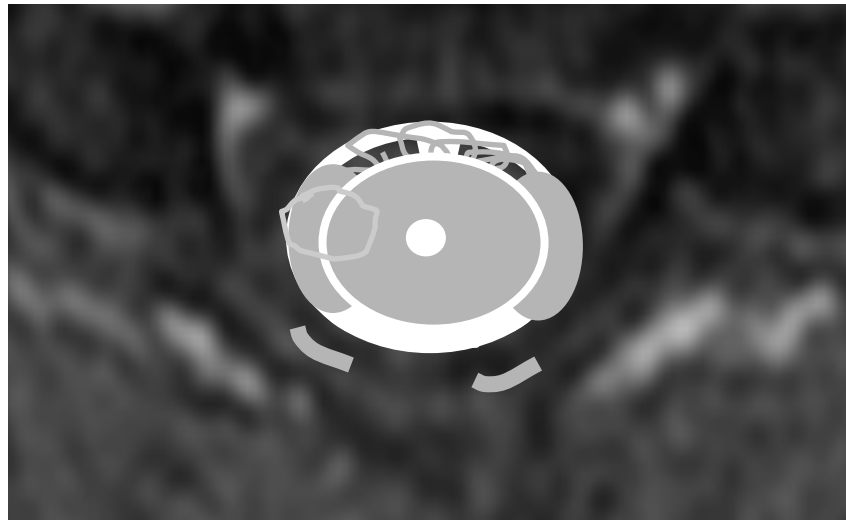
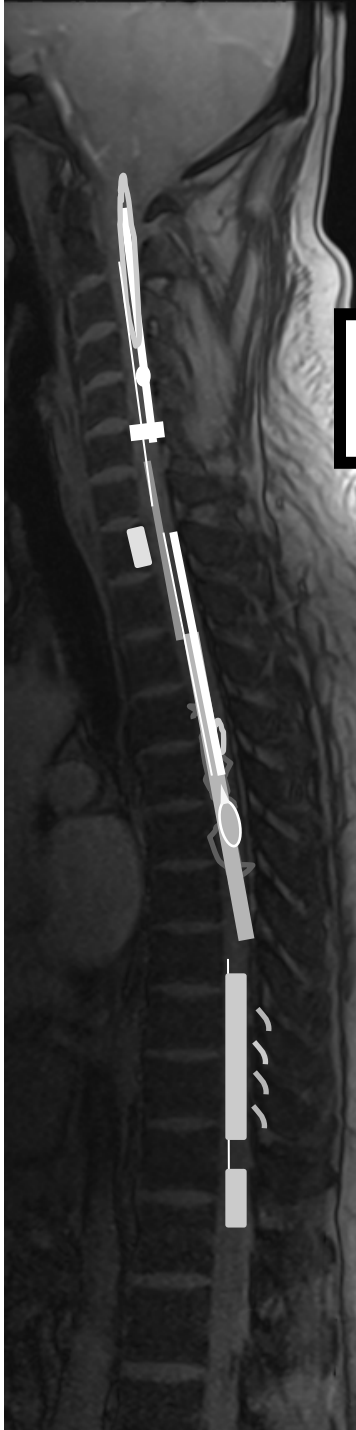
PMO (Central T2 Pattern)
Ischemic (stroke)
other tractopathy

Eoin Flanagan MD, Mayo Clinic

Summary of Enhancement Patterns

Persistence >3 months

- Spondylosis
- ~~Asymptomatic vertebral metastases~~
- Dural AVF
- Intramedullary metastasis
- Paraneoplastic myelopathy



**Special thanks to Dr
Eoin Flanagan MD:
Director Mayo Clinic
Autoimmune
Myelopathy Study
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