# Wake Up and Look Around: Early Recognition, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Cardiac Amyloidosis

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### **DISCLOSURES**

### **Research Support**

- Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC)
- Pfizer Inc.

### **Application Reviewer**

• Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC)

**Speakers Bureau:** Pfizer Inc., Alnylam

**Advisory Board:** Pfizer Inc., Alnylam, BridgeBio

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1) Describe amyloidosis, including specific types, cardiac features, and disease burden.

2) Identify barriers to patient identification and understand the "red flags" to optimize early detection.

**3)** Discuss varying disease presentation and the role of multimodality imaging, genetics, and screening.

4) Summarize the diagnostic evaluation for cardiac amyloidosis including the differential diagnosis.

5) Recognize the benefits of disease modifying therapies on amyloid specific heart failure outcomes.

## **Cardiac Amyloidosis and Its Clinical Features**

- Deposition of abnormal protein fibrils in the myocardium
- Deposits are resistant to proteolysis
- Restrictive cardiomyopathy/diastolic dysfunction
- Under recognized cause of HFpEF



## **Pathogenesis of Cardiac Amyloidosis**

Light Chain Amyloidosis (AL)



### Transthyretin Amyloidosis (ATTR)

Fibrils are resistant to proteolysis
Restrictive cardiomyopathy/diastolic dysfunction

Donnelley and Hanna, Cleve Clin J Med., 2017



## Cardiac Amyloidosis Types of Amyloidosis

Table. Classification of the Subtypes of Cardiac Amyloidosis

>95% of all
Amyloidosis

Amyloidosis Type	Protein	Cardiac Involvement	Median Survival, mo	Extracardiac Manifestations
Primary (AL)	Light chain	22%-34%	13 (4 mo if heart failure present at diagnosis)	Renal failure, proteinuria, hepatomegaly, autonomic dysfunction, macroglossia, purpura, neuropathy, carpal tunnel syndrome
Hereditary (ATTR) Wild-type	Mutant TTR	Variable	70	Severe neuropathy, autonomic dysfunction, renal failure, blindness
Senile cystemic (ATTR)	TTR	Common	75	Diffuse organ involvement
Isolated atrial (AANF)	Atrial natriuretic factor	Limited to heart		None
Reactive (AA)	Amyloid A	<10%	241/2	Renal failure, proteinuria, hepatomegaly associated with chronic inflammatory conditions
Dialysis-related (β <sub>2</sub> -microglobulin)	β2-Microglobulin	Unknown, asymptomatic		Arthralgias, carpal tunnel syndrome, arthropathies, bone cysts, pathologic fractures

Shah et al, Arch Int Med, 2006



# **ATTR Cardiac Amyloidosis**



### **Characteristics of Wild-type and hATTR Cardiac Amyloidosis**

Mutation	Origin	Prevalence	Male:Female Ratio	Onset	Organs
Wild-type	Worldwide	25% >85 y	25:1 to 50:1	>60 y	Heart, ST
V122I/V142IU	nited States, Caribbean, Africa	4% Black	1:1 Gene (+) 3:1 Disease	>65 y	Heart, PNS, ST
V30M	Portugal, Sweden, Japan	1:1000	2:1	>50 y	PN/ANS, heart
T60A	United Kingdom, Ireland	1% Northwest Ireland	2:1	>45 y	Heart, PNS/ANS
SSA indicates senile systemic amyloidosis, wild-type (no mutation); ST, soft tissue; PNS, peripheral nervous system; and ANS,					
autonomic nervous system.					

- Wild type ATTR more often seen in elderly men
- wtATTR and hATTR have significant clinical overlap
- Knowledge of population mix is important

### **Mutations Influence Age Dependent Disease Penetrance**



## hATTR Cardiac Amyloidosis is Inherited in an Autosomal Dominant Fashion



Think Amyloid Patient Guide, ASNC Amyloidosis Toolkit



### **Cardiac Amyloidosis: Rare Disease?**

### **Increasing Prevalence of Amyloidosis**





**Prevalence of Cardiac Amyloidosis in Contemporary Clinical Practice** 

- ▶ 85 years (Autopsy study)
  ▶ 25% (n=256)
- ➤ Carpal Tunnel release
  > 10% (n=98)
- > HFpEF and LVH > 13% (n=120)
- $\blacktriangleright \text{Severe AS} \qquad \qquad \triangleright 5\% \text{ (n=112)}$
- > TAVR population

**≻**16% (n=151)



# **Cardiac Amyloidosis: A Rare Disease?**



**AL Amyloid** 

ATTRv/hATTR

ATTRwt (SSA)

**Incidence/Prevalence** 

~2500 cas have ually 50% with Rare ac involvement

4% Af Not so rare ses

10-2<sup>4</sup> Not rare at all! ears (M>F) ~ 1 minion

## **Cardiac Amyloidosis:** Classic Presentation



### HFpEF

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Left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH) Speckling pattern on echo



## **Cardiac Amyloidosis Diagnostic Challenges**



- Disease of the elderly

- **Long standing HTN**
- LVH is common
- AS is common

### **Amyloid deposits on biopsy**

- ~25% over 80 years
- ~50% over 90 years
- 10-30% patients have CA
- No difference in prevalence

Shah et al, Arch Int Med, 2006

### No Cardiac Amyloidosis if Significantt Aortic Stenosis?

# 84 yo Caucasian male with severe symptomatic aortic stenosis, with no improvement after TAVR.



## HFpEF as the Characteristic Phenotype of Cardiac Amyloidosis?

### Echocardiogram

#### **Cardiac MRI**

#### **Cardiac PYP Scan**



### **Coronary Angiogram**













# **Cardiac Amyloidosis**

High Prevalence of HFrEF in Patients with TTR Amyloidosis



- n=108
- Mean age 78 years
- Mean EF at diagnosis 52%
- 37% with low EF
- 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of patients had prior misdiagnosis (HTN/HCM/AS)
  - >30% with HFrEF

Lopez et al. European Heart Journal, 2017



### **Amyloidosis is a Systemic Disease!** Amyloidosis Red Flags

### Neurology

Cardiology Head & Neck Lightheadedness on standing Bulging neck veins Enlargement of tongue

#### Ortho/Neurology Arms

Biceps tendon rupture Numbness, burning or tingling (peripheral neuropathy)

#### GI Stomach & Intestines

Poor appetite Feeling of fullness in the stomach after eating a small meal Diarrhea/constipation Weight loss

#### Neurology Cardiology

Swelling of feet or legs Numbness, burning and/or tingling (peripheral neuropathy) Muscle weakness Difficulty walking

Legs

Eyes Opacities Floaters Optic neuropathy Glaucoma

#### Back

Ο

8

MMN

Back pain and difficulty walking (spinal stenosis)

#### Cardiology/EP Heart & Lungs

Neurology

Shortness of breath and fatigue Chest pain Dizziness or passing out Slow heart beat or heart block, Irregular heart beat (atrial fibrillation)

### Hands Neurology/Ortho

Think Amyloid Patient Guide, ASNC Amyloidosis Toolkit



74/M admitted to the hospital with atrial fibrillation and LE edema with DOE. Patient used to be a painter by occupation, and used both hands for painting. History of b/l CTS and release in 2013 with continued peripheral neuropathy.

Papoutsidakis et al., J Card Failure 2018

# **Amyloidosis Patients are Hiding in Plain "Sight"**

A) 52/M with worsening vision. Reports fam. h/o amyloidosis.



**Vitreous Opacity** 

+ Congo RED



**Focal PYP Uptake** Asif/Malhotra et al., JNC 2021



**MRI Confirms Focal Amyloid Infiltration** 

B) 76/M with blindness from glaucoma for several years. New HF in 2021. Family h/o glaucoma and blindness. pV142I mutation



C) 80/F with LS, low back pain. No HF symptoms.



**Lumbar Stenosis** 2016





**Pre-op echo Positive PYP** 2020 2020 pV142I mutation

### Varied Distribution of Amyloidosis in the US

### **Racial and Ethnic Disparities are Barriers to Diagnosis**



BUT...lowest prevalence in the South: 50% of US Black population

Gilstrap, Circulation HF, 2019

## Prevalence of Co-morbid Conditions Among Patients with Cardiac Amyloidosis



Gilstrap, Circulation HF, 2019

## **Genetic Mutations Cause Disease Heterogeneity**



Rapezzi, et al. European Heart Journal, 2013

# Suspecting Cardiac Amyloidosis C Think Amyloid!

### Patients >60 years with clinical HF, and:



African American descent 4% prevalence of hereditary transthyretin amyloidosis; V1421 mutation

#### Elderly

"Red Flags":

Prevalence of wild-type ATTR-CA increases with age

Increased LV wall thickness





Apical Sparing Strain Pattern

- Low voltage ECG
   Apical sparing strain pattern (cherry on top) echocardiography
   Dented LVH
- Repeat heart failure (HF) admissions
- Chronic low-level troponin elevation
- Bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome 🗲
- Atrial fibrillation/bradycardia/heart block
- Gastroparesis/vomiting/constipation
- Autonomic dysfunction (orthostatic hypotension or syncope)
- Polyneuropathy ┥

ASNC Amyloidosis Toolk

### **Pathway to Confirmation of Cardiac Amyloidosis**

Echocardiography: often the 1<sup>st</sup> test

**Strain Imaging** 



Wall thickness, Myocardial speckling and Diastolic dysfunction

Singh, Soman and Malhotra, JASE, 2020

## Pathway to Confirmation of Cardiac Amyloidosis Cardiac Magnetic Resonance

Diffuse late gadolinium enhancement (LGE) Increased native T1 and Extracellular volume (ECV)







Lee Chuy and Malhotra, Cardio-oncology, Atlas

## Nuclear Imaging Clarifies the Etiology of Cardiac Amyloidosis Noted on CMR

CMR: Sensitivity=85% and Specificity=92% Subendocardial or Transmural LGE; Elevated native T1 and ECV Patient A: T1=1128 ms; ECV=54% Patient B: T1=1194 ms; ECV=54%



ATTR-CA



AL-CA







## **Nuclear Imaging for Cardiac Amyloidosis: Pyrophosphate (PYP) Imaging**





Worsley et al, *JNM*, 1993

- Sporadic case reports on cardiac uptake on bone scans
- Extra cardiac soft tissue uptake of bone tracers among patients with amyloidosis
- Renewed interest

- Increasing prevalence (?bias or increasing life expectancy/treatment of valvular heart disease)

- Ease and accuracy of imaging
- Novel drug therapies

## Pathway to Confirmation of Cardiac Amyloidosis PYP Imaging



- Sing	000	ofic	ntona

- Image at 1 hour (3 hours)
- NPO not needed
- No stress involved
- Most labs can perform
- No special cameras needed

Grade	Myocardial <sup>99m</sup> Tc-PYP Uptake
Grade 0	no uptake and normal bone uptake
Grade 1	uptake less than rib uptake
Grade 2	uptake equal to rib uptake
Grade 3	uptake greater than rib uptake with mild/ absent rib uptake

Widely Available Labs doing nuclear stress test Easy to perform "Easy" to interpret

American Society of Nuclear Cardiology, PYP-SPECT, Practice Points, 2016.

## **High Accuracy of PYP Imaging for Cardiac Amyloidosis**







Ruberg et al., Circulation, 2012

### **Pathway for Diagnostic Evaluation of Cardiac Amyloidosis**



Gillmore.....Ruberg et al., Circulation, 2016







## Treatment of Cardiac Amyloidosis: The Past





## Novel ATTR Therapies Target Crucial Steps in Amyloidogenesis


# **TTR Silencers**





# **TTR Stabilizers**





Tafamidis Reduces All-cause Mortality and CV Hospitalizations: ATTR-ACT

Maurer MS, et al. NEJM Sept 2018

# **Early Therapy is Associated with Better Outcomes**





#### No RCT data; Not FDA approved

## **Treatment of Cardiac Amyloidosis: The Future**

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE June 2021

#### CRISPR-Cas9 In Vivo Gene Editing for Transthyretin Amyloidosis

Julian D. Gillmore, M.D., Ph.D., Ed Gane, M.B., Ch.B., Jorg Taubel, M.D.,

# NTLA 2001 given to 6 patients with hereditary amyloid polyneuropathy







## **Conventional HF Therapy is Poorly Tolerated**



- HR dependent to maintain cardiac output
- Bradycardia: fatigue, syncope
- Autonomic dysfunction: ACEi & ARB use can worsen orthostatic hypotension
  Digoxin: binds to amyloid fibrils; increased toxicity

# **There is a Sprint in this Marathon!**

- ? Comfort Care
- ? Palliative Care

#### Non-targeted Symptomatic Management

- reduction or discontinuation of beta blockers
- reduction or discontinuation of ACEi/ARBs
- avoid Digoxin
- Diuretic therapy is mainstay
- Treatment of orthostatic hypotension
- Prokinetic agents for gastroparesis
- Management of arrhythmias: A fib
- Pacemakers for heart blocks; ?CRT

# **Cardiac Amyloidosis** The Future is Wild! (or Mutant)



# **CARDIAC AMYLOIDOSIS**

- Cardiac amyloidosis is a disease of the masses.
  - Knowledge of at risk population (hATTR)
- It is no longer a rare disease.
  - Prevalence increases with age
  - wtATTR: no known RF
- Early disease recognition is critical
  - Do not ignore non-cardiac signs/symptoms
- Many patients may not have HFpEF
  - HF GDMT is poorly tolerated

# **CARDIAC AMYLOIDOSIS**

- Diagnostic pathway is easier
  - Must rule out light chain disease/myeloma
- Accurate diagnostic tests are available
  - PYP imaging has high specificity/widely available
  - Must perform genetic testing in all with ATTR
- Novel targeted therapies are now available
  - Stabilizer vs. Silencer: CMP vs. PN
  - Loop diuretics for HF
- Need for multidisciplinary collaboration



American Society of Nuclear Cardiology

### Masterclass in Cardiac Amyloidosis: Disease Spectrum, Diagnosis and Management

June 2-4, 2023

Live Virtual Complimentary Registration

www.asnc.org/masterclass



