

**55° Congresso AINPeNC Associazione Italiana
Neuropatologia e Neurobiologia Clinica**

**45° Congresso AIRIC Associazione Italiana
Ricerca Invecchiamento Cerebrale**

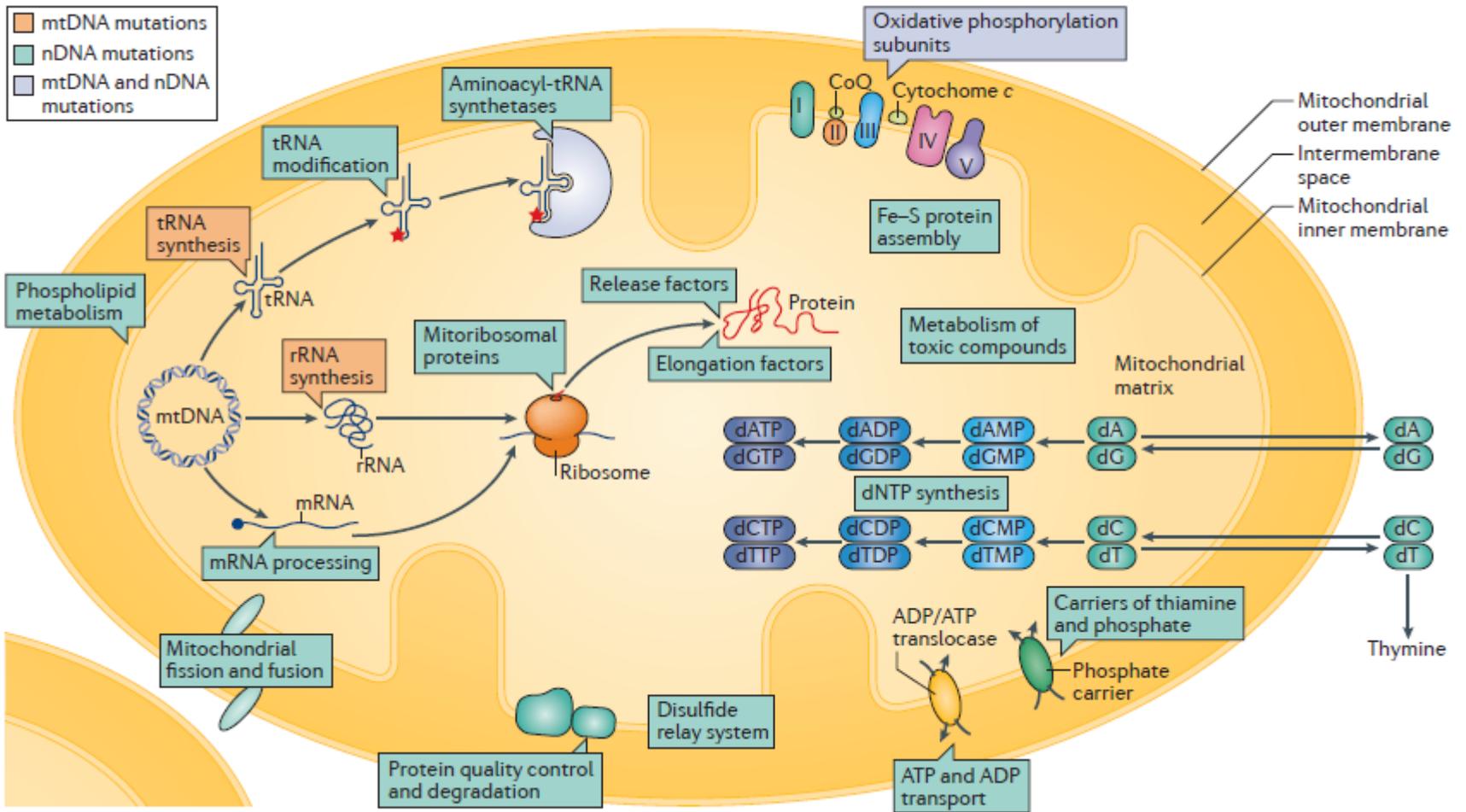
Bologna, 23-25 Maggio 2019



Malattie Mitocondriali

Fenotipi clinici

Michelangelo Mancuso, MD, PhD
University of Pisa



GENETIC CLASSIFICATION

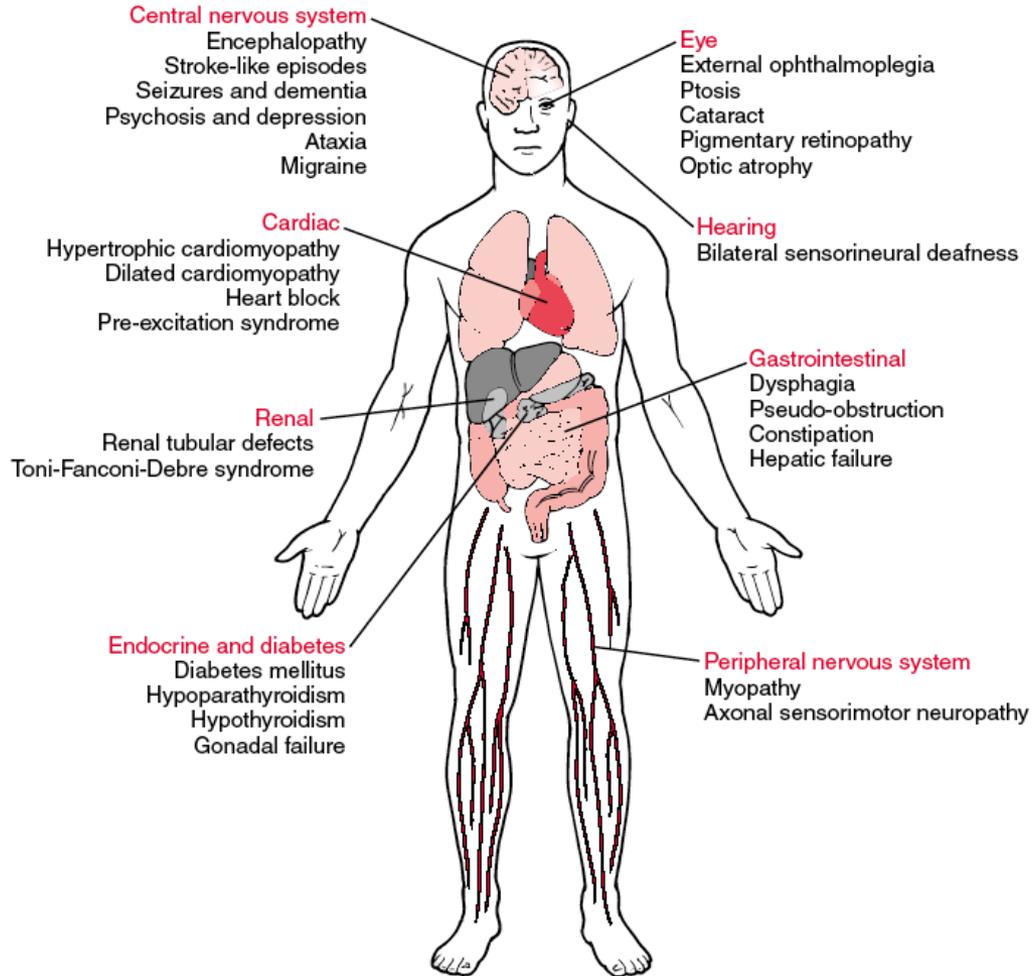
• Defects of **mtDNA**

- Mutations in **protein synthesis** genes
 - tRNA, rRNA, rearrangements
- Mutations in **protein-coding** genes
 - Multisystemic (LHON, NARP/MILS)
 - Tissue-specific

• Defects of **nDNA**

- Mutations in **respiratory chain subunits**
 - Complex I, Complex II
- Mutations in **ancillary proteins**
 - Complex IV, Complex III
- Defects of **intergenomic signaling**
 - AR-PEO with multiple Δ -mtDNA
 - mtDNA depletion
- Defects of the **lipid milieu**
 - Barth syndrome
- Defects of **motility/fusion/fission**
 - Defects of tRNA-synthetases

MITOCHONDRIAL DISORDERS



PRIMARY MITOCHONDRIAL MYOPATHIES

genetically defined disorders leading to defects of oxidative phosphorylation affecting predominantly, but not exclusively, skeletal muscle (see below for methodology). Secondary involvement of mitochondria, frequently observed in multiple neuromuscular diseases (i.e. inclusion body myositis, Duchenne muscular dystrophy, Kennedy disease) are not considered PMM

Workshop report

International Workshop:

Outcome measures and clinical trial readiness in primary mitochondrial myopathies in children and adults. Consensus recommendations.

Rome, Italy, 16–18 November 2016

Michelangelo Mancuso ^{a*}, Robert McFarland ^b, Thomas Klopstock ^c, Michio Hirano ^d on behalf of the consortium on Trial Readiness in Mitochondrial Myopathies ¹

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Received 26 June 2017

PMM: clinical presentation

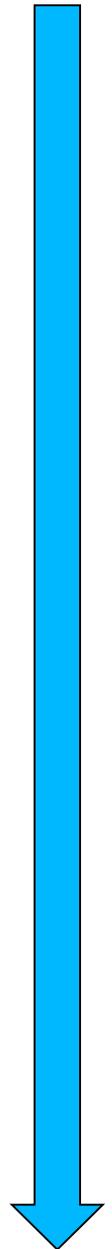
- Fatigue (defined as an overwhelming sense of tiredness, lack of energy and feeling of exhaustion)
- Exercise Intolerance
- Pain/Myalgia
- Weakness
- Wasting
- Dysphagia
- Spasms
- Myoglobinuria, triggered by exercise (cyt b or CoQ10 deficiency)
- Ptosis
- ophthalmoparesis

Italian Network of Mitochondrial Diseases



1800 Patients

| | Patients (1330 tot with full phenotype described) | Percentage |
|--|--|-------------------|
|  Ptosis/ophthalmoparesis | 636 | 47,8 |
|  Muscle weakness | 488 | 36,7 |
| Hearing loss | 330 | 24,8 |
|  Exercise intolerance | 279 | 21 |
| Optic neuropathy | 241 | 18,1 |
|  Muscle wasting | 233 | 17,5 |
| Cerebellar ataxia | 198 | 14,8 |
| Cognitive involvement | 189 | 14,2 |
| Hypotonia | 180 | 13,5 |
| Neuropathy | 163 | 12,2 |
|  Swallowing impairment | 162 | 12,1 |
| Epileptic seizures | 152 | 11,4 |
|  Muscle pain | 152 | 11,4 |
| Diabetes | 121 | 9 |
| Pyramidal involvement | 115 | 8,6 |
|  Respiratory impairment | 115 | 8,6 |
|  Cardiomyopathy | 106 | 7,9 |
| Migraine | 102 | 7,6 |
| Retinopathy | 92 | 6,9 |
| Gastroint. dysmotility | 69 | 5,1 |



PEO

- The commonest phenotype of PMM, observed in about two-thirds of all cases of PMM
- Bilateral eyelid ptosis, often the presenting symptom, associated with a compensatory frontalis muscle contraction and, in severe cases, tilting of the head.
- Ptosis is accompanied by a slowly progressive, usually symmetrical limitation of eye movement (ophthalmoplegia) in all directions of gaze
- Diplopia is sometimes reported by the patients. Intrinsic ocular muscles are not involved.

PEO- II

- PEO is often associated with other signs of skeletal muscle involvement, typically slow progressive axial and proximal limb weakness affecting predominantly the hip and shoulder girdle muscles often with muscle wasting.
- Muscle weakness may also cause difficulty swallowing (dysphagia) and respiratory failure.
- Distal muscle weakness may be present but rarely seen early in the disease.
- From a genetic point of view, PEO may be autosomal dominant or recessive (due to nDNA mutations), sporadic (due to single large-scale deletion of mtDNA), or maternally inherited (due to mtDNA mutation).



Fatigue and exercise intolerance in mitochondrial diseases. Literature revision and experience of the Italian Network of mitochondrial diseases

20% Italian cohort

M. Mancuso^{a,*}, C. Angelini^b, E. Bertini^c, V. Carelli^d, G.P. Comi^m, C. Minetti^f,
M. Moggio^e, T. Mongini^g, S. Servidei^h, P. Toninⁱ, A. Toscano^j, G. Uziel^k,
M. Zeviani^l, G. Siciliano^a, The Nation-wide Italian Collaborative
Network of Mitochondrial Diseases

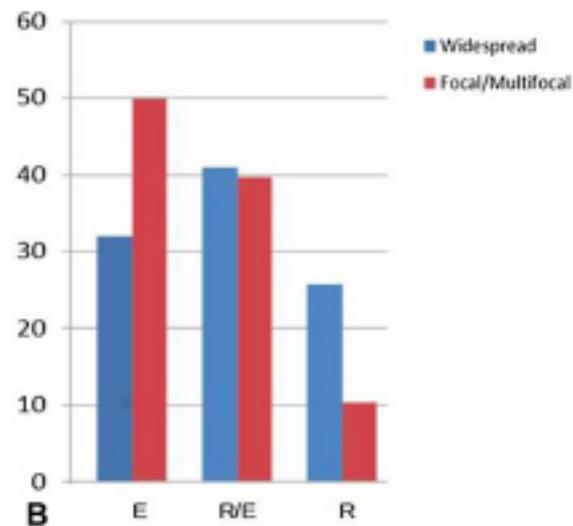
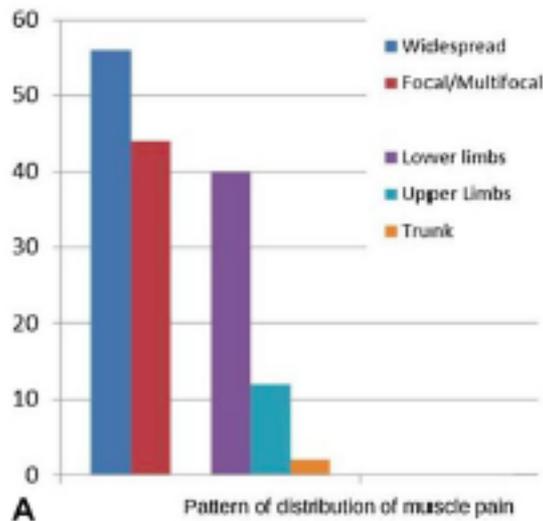
Table 1

Genotype-based approach. The patients have been divided in two groups, with and without exercise intolerance. For more details, see text. n.s., not significant difference. LHON: Leber hereditary optic neuropathy.

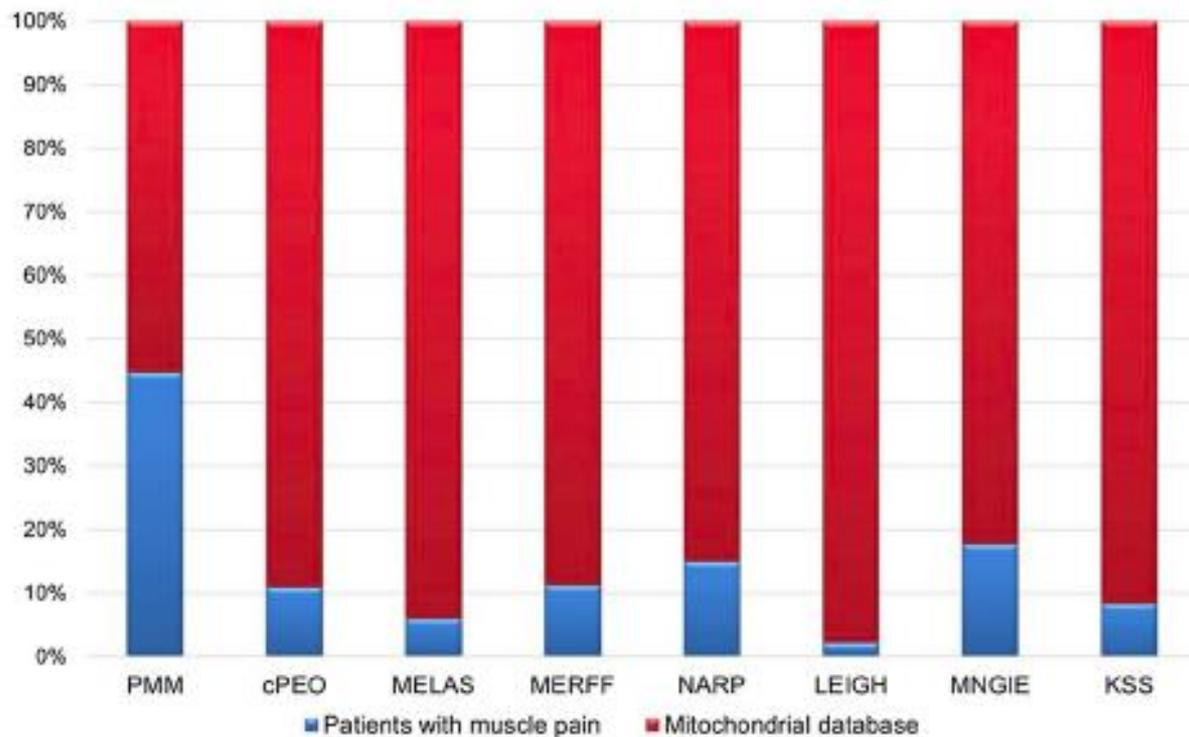
| | Exercise intolerance: No (<i>n</i> = 878) | Exercise intolerance: Yes (222) | <i>P</i> |
|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------|
| mtDNA A3243G mutation | 62 (7.1%) | 33 (14.9%) | <0.0005 |
| mtDNA A8344G mutation | 27 (3.1%) | 9 (4.1%) | n.s. |
| mtDNA T8993C | 19 (2.2%) | 1 (0.5%) | n.s. |
| mtDNA LHON mutations | 98 (11.2%) | 1 (0.5%) | <0.0001 |
| <i>OPA1</i> mutations | 85 (9.7%) | 1 (0.5%) | <0.0001 |
| <i>POLG</i> mutations | 33 (3.8%) | 8 (3.6%) | n.s. |

Muscle pain in mitochondrial d network

Massimiliano Filosto¹  · Stefano Cotti Piccinel
Olimpia Musumeci⁵ · Paola Tonin⁶ · Filippo Mai
Liliana Vercelli³ · Anna Rubegni⁷ · Anna Galvag
Antonio Toscano⁵ · Alessandro Padovani¹ · Gat



Receive
© Sprin



Kearns-Sayre Syndrome

- Clinical:** Onset before age 20
Ophthalmoplegia and ptosis
Pigmentary retinopathy
Heart conduction block
Cerebellar ataxia
Hearing loss
Diabetes
- Biochemistry:** Lactic acidosis
Respiratory chain deficiency
CSF protein >100 mg/dl
- Morphology:** Ragged-red fibers (COX-negative)
- Genetics:** Sporadic large-scale mtDNA deletions
Most common mutation deletes 4,977 bp

- **KSS**

mtDNA single deletion

- **CPEO**

Ptosis

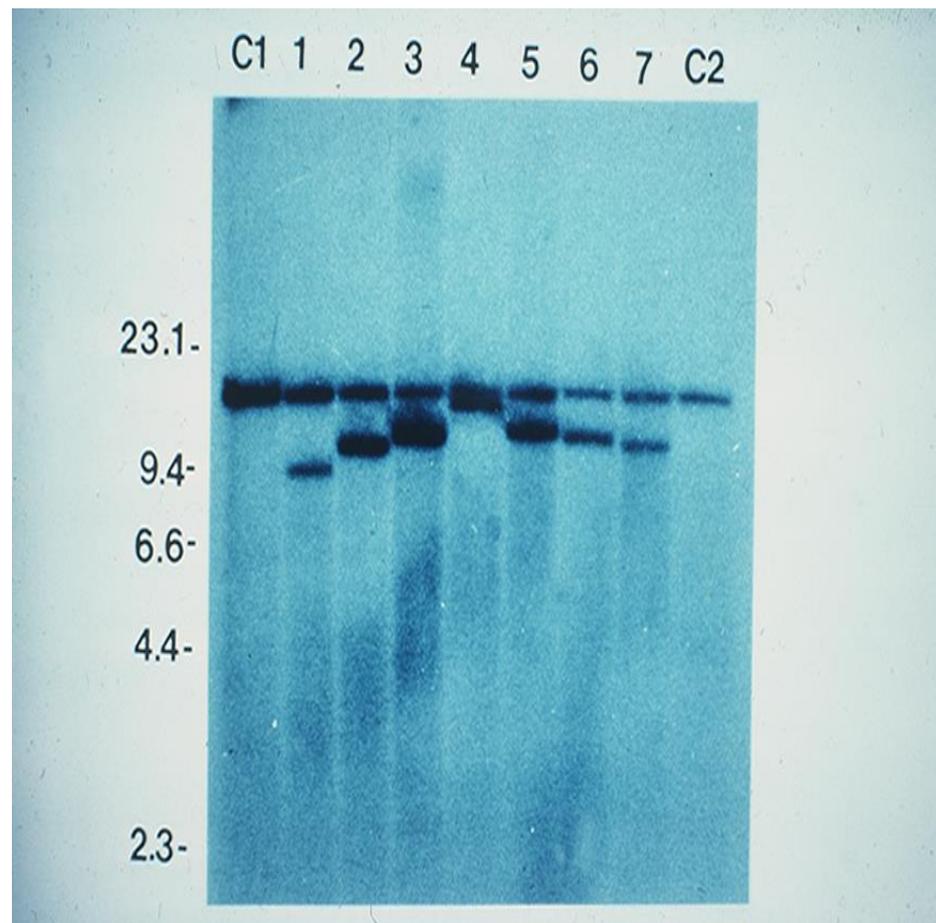
Ophthalmoplegia

Proximal weakness

- **Pearson syndrome**

Sideroblastic anemia

Exocrine pancreas dysfunction



Redefining phenotypes associated with mitochondrial DNA single deletion

Michelangelo Mancuso¹ · Daniele Orsucci¹ · Corrado Angelini² · Enrico Bertini³ · Valerio Carelli⁴ · Giacomo Pietro Comi⁵ · Maria Alice Donati⁶ · Antonio Federico⁷ · Carlo Minetti⁸ · Maurizio Moggio⁹ · Tiziana Mongini¹⁰ · Filippo Maria Santorelli¹¹ · Serenella Servidei¹² · Paola Tonin¹³ · Antonio Toscano¹⁴ · Claudio Bruno⁸ · Luca Bello² · Elena Caldarazzo Ienco¹ · Elena Cardaioli⁷ · Michela Catteruccia³ · Paola Da Pozzo⁷ · Massimiliano Filosto¹⁷ · Costanza Lamperti¹⁶ · Isabella Moroni¹⁵ · Olimpia Musumeci¹⁴ · Elena Pegoraro² · Dario Ronchi⁵ · Donato Sauchelli¹² · Mauro Scarpelli¹³ · Monica Sciacco⁹ · Maria Lucia Valentino⁴ · Liliana Vercelli¹⁰ · Massimo Zeviani¹⁶ · Gabriele Siciliano¹

RESULTS: Kearns-Sayre syndrome (KSS)

Progressive external ophthalmoplegia plus:

- **pigmentary retinopathy**
- onset before age 20

Neuromuscular Disorders 22 (2012)

Plus at least one of:

- cerebellar ataxia
- cardiac conduction block
- CSF protein > 0.1 g/L

With these criteria: 15 subjects with KSS (6.6%)

M/F 0.88, age at onset 9.4 ± 4.8 years,

last control 29.4 ± 18.0 years, died 2/15 (13.3%)

Table 1 Clinical features of our patients with mitochondrial DN. single deletion (*N* = 228)

| | Onset (22.6 ± 14.6 years) | Last evaluation (41.3 ± 18.8 year) |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Eyelid ptosis | 190 (83.3 %) | 210 (92.1 %) |
| Ophthalmoparesis | 95 (41.7 %) | 192 (84.2 %) |
| Muscle weakness | 29 (12.7 %) | 106 (46.5 %) |
| Exercise intolerance | 16 (7.0 %) | 45 (19.7 %) |
| Hearing loss | 16 (7.0 %) | 42 (18.4 %) |
| Muscle wasting | 5 (2.2 %) | 41 (18.0 %) |
| Swallowing impairment | 12 (5.3 %) | 34 (14.9 %) |
| Increased CK | 5 (2.2 %) | 34 (14.9 %) |
| Ataxia | 11 (4.8 %) | 28 (12.3 %) |
| Retinopathy | 12 (5.3 %) | 24 (10.5 %) |
| Failure to thrive/short stature | 11 (4.8 %) | 22 (9.6 %) |
| Diabetes mellitus | 2 (0.9 %) | 20 (8.8 %) |
| Hypotonia | 3 (1.3 %) | 18 (7.9 %) |
| Muscle pain | 2 (0.9 %) | 13 (5.7 %) |
| Cardiac conduction defects | 3 (1.3 %) | 12 (5.3 %) |
| Increased liver enzymes | 1 (0.4 %) | 12 (5.3 %) |
| Anemia | 6 (2.6 %) | 11 (4.8 %) |
| Respiratory impairment | 2 (0.9 %) | 11 (4.8 %) |
| Neuropathy | 3 (1.3 %) | 10 (4.4 %) |
| Migraine | 3 (1.3 %) | 10 (4.4 %) |
| Cognitive involvement | 4 (1.8 %) | 8 (3.5 %) |
| Tremor | 2 (0.9 %) | 7 (3.1 %) |
| Psychiatric involvement | – | 7 (3.1 %) |
| Cardiomyopathy | – | 6 (2.6 %) |
| Hypothyroidism | – | 6 (2.6 %) |

Among the rare clinical features (1–2.5 %) were: optic neuropathy; vomiting (2.2 %); pyramidal signs, cataract, pancytopenia, kidney involvement, gastrointestinal dysmotility (1.8 %); myoglobinuria; microcephaly, consciousness disturbance and generalized seizure (1.3 %)

Table 6 New criteria defining KSS spectrum and PEO in patients with single deletion

KSS spectrum

Ptosis and/or ophthalmoparesis due to an mtDNA single large-scale deletion and at least one of the following features

Retinopathy

Ataxia

Cardiac conduction defects

Hearing loss

Failure to thrive/short stature

Cognitive involvement

Tremor

Cardiomyopathy

PEO

Ptosis and/or ophthalmoparesis due to a mtDNA single large-scale deletion not fulfilling the new “KSS spectrum” criteria or criteria for Pearson syndrome

With the new clinical definition, we were able to classify almost all (97%) our single-deletion patients:

- 62.7% PEO (141/225), vs 54.6 NMD 2012
- 31.6% KSS (71/225), vs 6.6 NMD 2012
- 2.7% Pearson (6/225), NMD 2.7



“New” KSS: multisystem involvement, more severe muscular impairment (weakness and wasting), MRI frequently abnormal (white matter, brainstem, basal nuclei), mean age at onset 21 years, worst prognosis.

“New” single-deletion PEO: prominent myopathic involvement, MRI frequently normal, mean age at onset 27 years, better prognosis.

MELAS

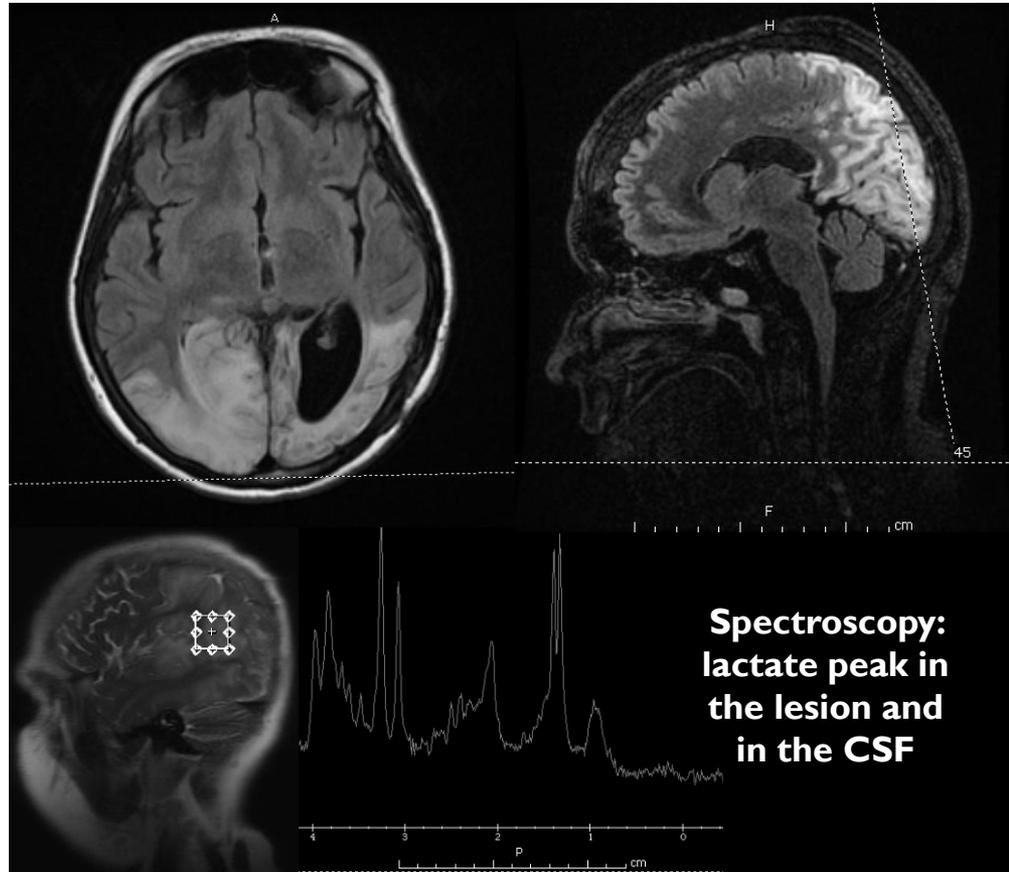
MITOCHONDRIAL ENCEPHALOPATHY, LACTIC ACIDOSIS, AND **STROKE-LIKE** EPISODES

- Acute episodes can present at any age with neurological and/or psychiatric symptoms typically associated with cortical/subcortical MRI changes and EEG abnormalities.
- Stroke-like: **metabolic** stroke driven by SEIZURE activity !
- Recurrent stroke-like episodes: mostly posterior lesions
- **Mutation m.3243A>G tRNA Leu gene** but also other mt mutations and *POLG*

MELAS clinical features

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| • <u>Stroke-like episodes</u> | 100% |
| • Focal or generalized seizures | 85-96% |
| • Migraine-like headaches | 77-92% |
| • Dementia | 65-90% |
| • Mitochondrial myopathy | 87-89% |
| • Short stature | 55-95% |
| • Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy | 7-18% |
| • PEO | 13% |
| • Diabetes | 21% |
| • Hearing loss | 27-75% |
| • Family history consistent | 20-86% |
| • Lactic acidosis | 94-97% |

Age 20: Migraine, cortical blindness and status epilepticus partial

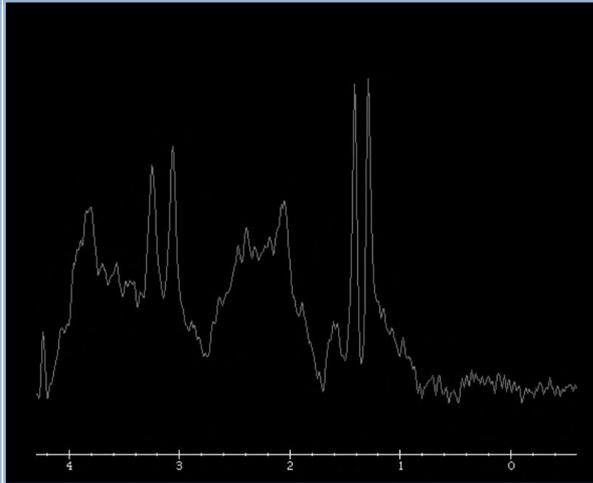
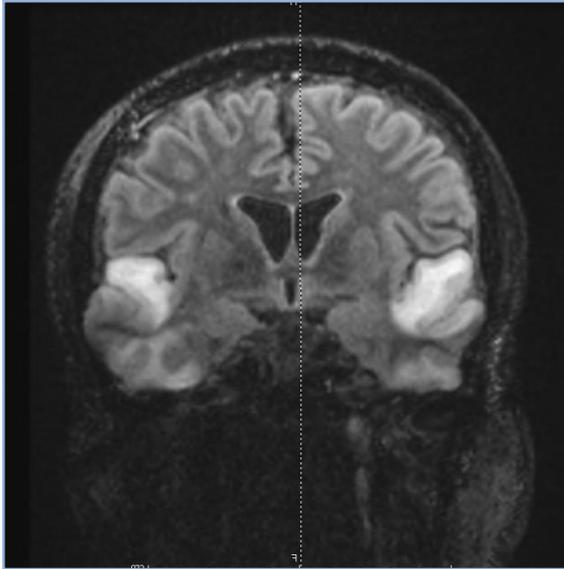
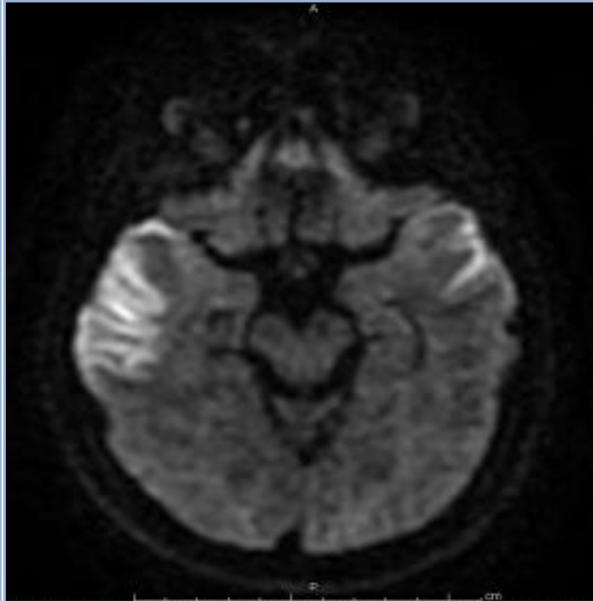
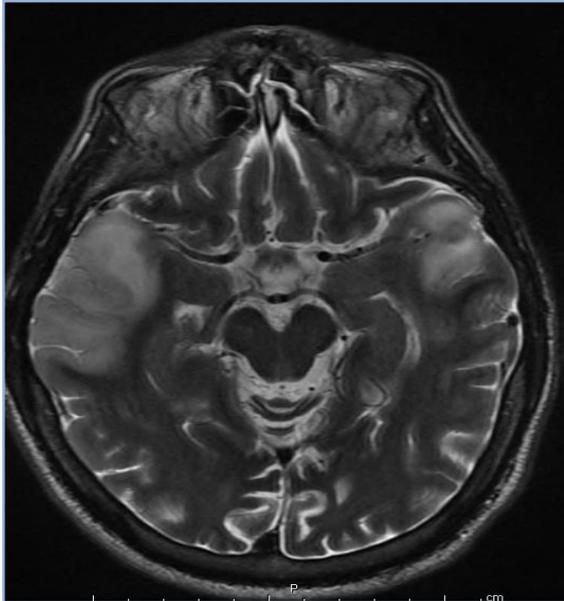


m.15092G>A cyt b p.G116S

MELAS: stroke-like episodes



Atypical case



♂
45 years

ER: episodes of **confusion** and **headache** in last 3 weeks, two **generalised seizures** followed by **coma**

family history: negative for neuromuscular or neurodegenerative disorders
Medical history: **hearing loss**

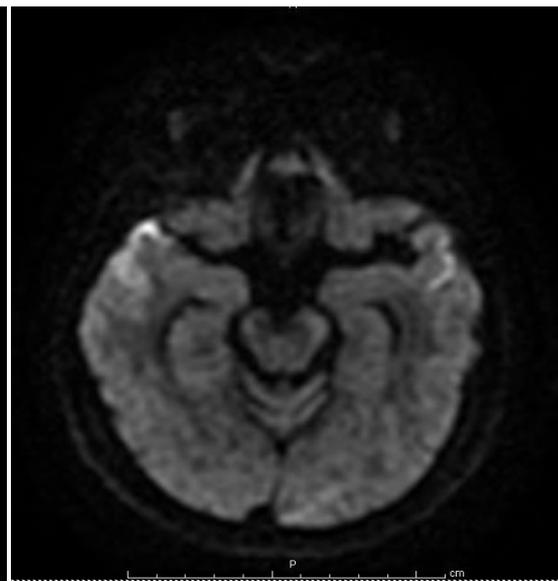
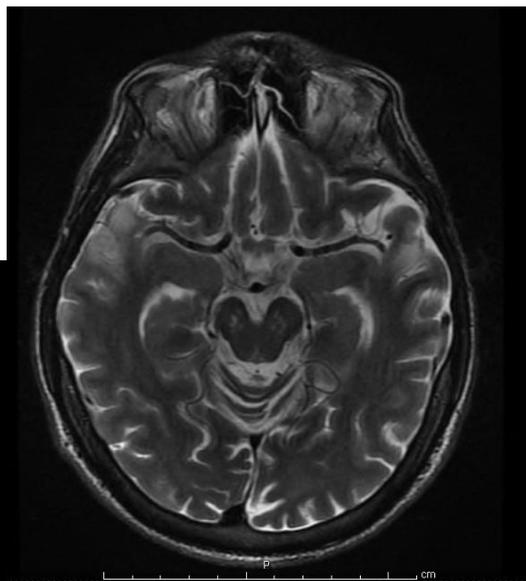
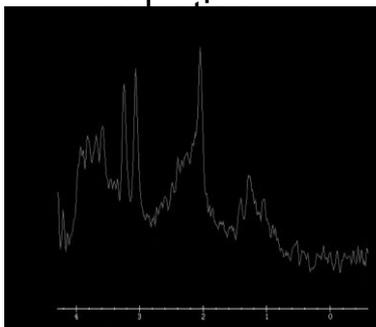
Brain MRI showed temporal lobes T2 hyperintensity with diffusion restriction and contrast uptake and bilateral temporal lobes T1 hyperintensity. Proton spectroscopy showed a lactate peak with reduction of N-Acetyl-Aspartate.

CSF presented increased proteins, glucose and **lactate** but not white cells. Increased **lactate** was also present in serum.

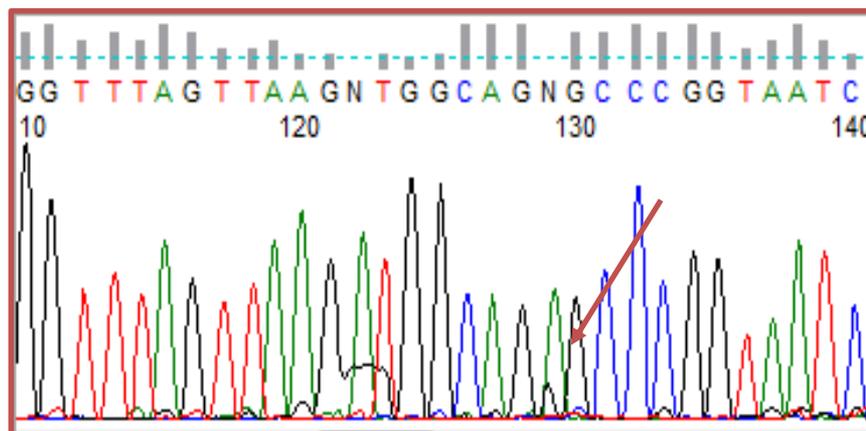
LEV, BDZ carnitine and 600
mgs of coenzyme Q10
NO ARGININE!!!

Rapid clinical
improvement (GCS 13)
and regression of the
lactic acidosis

A one-month later
brain MRI showed
regression of
cerebral edema and
marked lactate



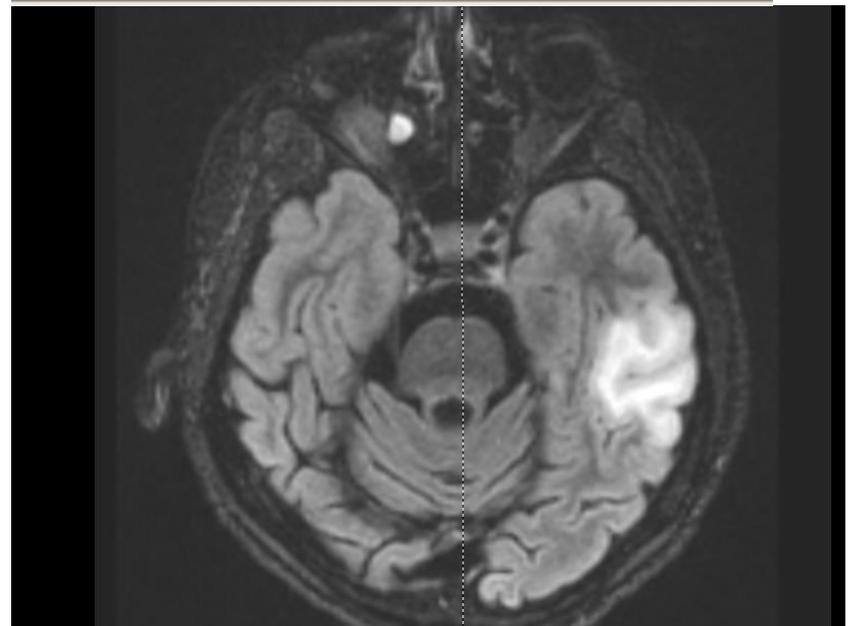
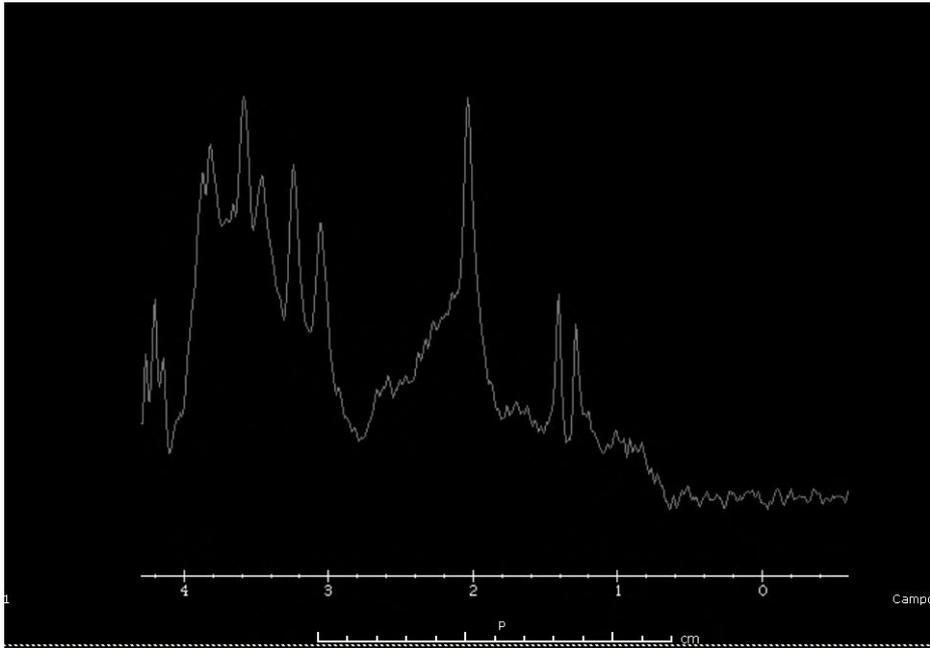
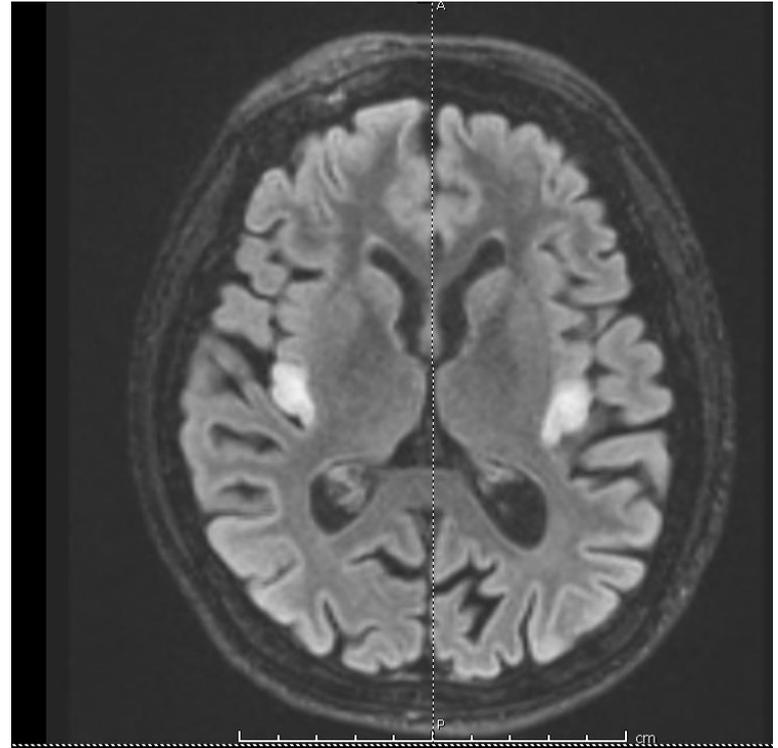
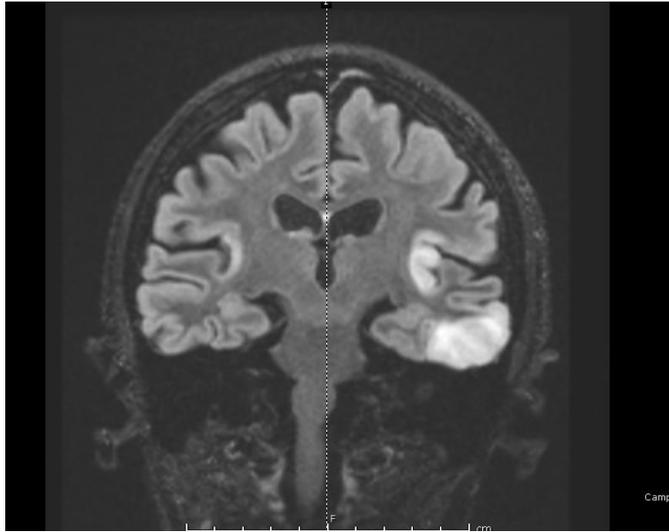
Genetic testing showed the
m.3243A> G mtDNA
mutation in urine



Case II

A 41-year-old woman –teacher- complained of subacute afasia, followed by one focal motor seizure

Clinical and family history both negative



Case II

m.3243 in urine

Tp: l-arg, coq10, carnitene, riboflavine
and delorazepam, aloperidol, cbz

Four months after..

- **Acute negative symptoms.**

ADL, hypersomnia, negative symptoms, depressed mood, psychomotor retardation, refuse of food and liquid, bedridden

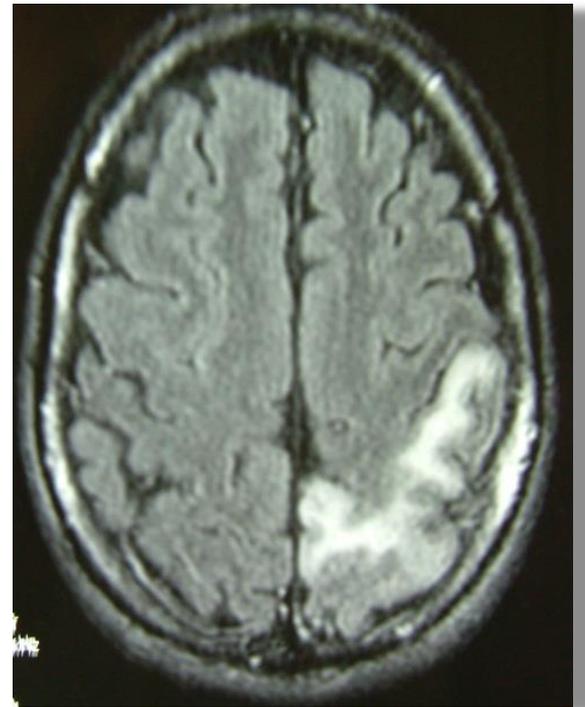
- Diagnosis: catatonia

- Tp: aloperidol, BDZ (lorazepam, delorazepam, diazepam, promazine)



Case III

- 48-yrs
- Acute aphasia and partial motor seizures
- Mild eyelid ptosis
- Previous medical history negative



m.3243 in urine

Tp: l-arg, coq10, LEV, cbz

One year after.....

- **Acute visual hallucination**

- ER-> ophthalmologist (sic) -> discharged at home

- Few days after also confusion.....

EEG POSTERIOR STATUS EPILEPTICUS

take home message

- **Visual hallucination** very typical but: WHO KNOWS??
- Stroke like episode driven by SEIZURE activity
-> potentially treatable??

MANAGEMENT

There is **no specific consensus approach for treating individuals with MELAS syndrome.**

All patients suspected to be suffering a stroke-like episode due to underlying mitochondrial disease should be discussed or referred to a mitochondrial disease specialist in the acute setting.

Monitoring for the development of arrhythmia

Gastroparesis and small bowel intestinal pseudo-obstruction

MERRF (myoclonic epilepsy with RRF)

Clinical: Onset in childhood

Myoclonus

Epilepsy

Ataxia

Neuropathy

Multiple lipomas

Biochemistry: Lactic acidosis

Respiratory chain deficiency

Morphology: Ragged-red fibers (COX-negative)

Genetics: Maternally-inherited mtDNA point mutations

Most common mutation in tRNA^{Lys} at nt-8344

Neurology® 2013;80:1-6

Table e-2. Clinical features of the 8344A>G carriers.

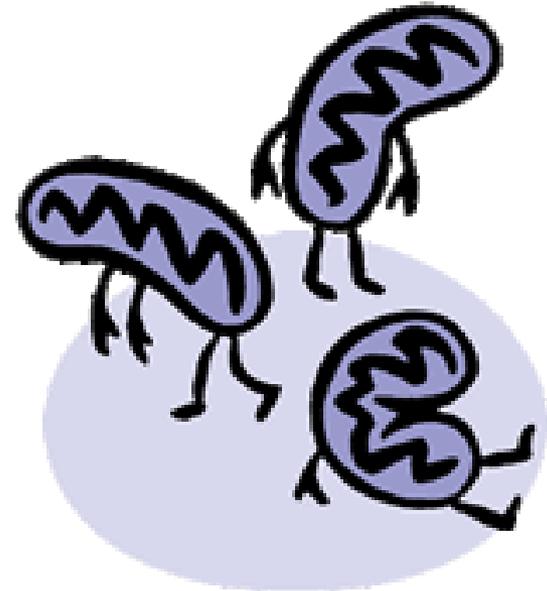
| | Our cohort (n = 39) | Literature revision (n = 282) | Total (n = 39 + 282 = 321) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Muscle weakness | 20 (51.3%) | 118 (41.8%) | 138 (43.0%) |
| Increased CK | 15 (38.5%) | 30 (10.6%) | 45 (14.0%) |
| Exercise intolerance | 15 (38.5%) | 40 (14.2%) | 55 (17.1%) |
| Seizures | 12 (30.8%) | 94 (33.3%) | 106 (33.0%) |
| Hearing loss | 12 (30.8%) | 87 (30.9%) | 99 (30.8%) |
| Multiple lipomatosis | 11 (28.2%) | 50 (17.7%) | 61 (18.9%) |
| Ptosis/ophthalmoparesis | 10 (25.6%) | 19 (6.7%) | 29 (9.0%) |
| Ataxia | 8 (20.5%) | 129 (45.7%) | 137 (42.7%) |
| Myoclonus | 8 (20.5%) | 134 (47.5%) | 142 (44.2%) |
| Muscle wasting | 7 (17.9%) | 17 (6.0%) | 24 (7.5%) |
| Muscle pain | 6 (15.4%) | 13 (4.6%) | 19 (5.9%) |
| Arrhythmia | 6 (15.4%) | 7 (2.5%) | 13 (4.0%) |
| Neuropathy | 5 (12.8%) | 52 (18.4%) | 57 (17.8%) |
| Cardiomyopathy | 4 (10.3%) | 20 (7.1%) | 24 (7.5%) |
| Diabetes | 4 (10.3%) | 16 (5.7%) | 20 (6.2%) |
| Cognitive involvement | 3 (7.7%) | 64 (22.7%) | 67 (20.9%) |
| Migraine | 3 (7.7%) | 14 (5.0%) | 17 (5.3%) |
| Swallowing impairment | 2 (5.1%) | 8 (2.8%) | 10 (3.1%) |
| Hypothyroidism | 2 (5.1%) | 2 (0.7%) | 4 (1.2%) |



**THE MITOCHONDRIAL
DISORDER NOT TO MISS:
WHICH ARE THE RED
FLAGS?**

Neurologist in trouble..

- 100s of different mtDNA-related diseases
- 100s of different nDNA-related diseases
- Even in individuals with the same mutation, there are different symptoms
- Change over time
- Challenging to diagnose
- Challenging to treat



Diagnostic approach

The diagnostic process **is no different from that employed for other diseases** and includes patient and family history, physical and neurologic examination, routine and special laboratory tests, exercise physiology, muscle biopsy for morphology and biochemistry, and molecular genetic screening



You see Watson, but you do not observe

Diagnosis: assessing involvement

- Brain MRI
- EEG
- Sleep Study
- PFTs
- Echocardiogram
- EKG
- Abdominal Ultrasound
- Swallow Evaluation
- Nutrition Assessment
- Developmental Assessment
- Vision Test
- Ophthalmologic Examination
- Hearing Test
- Labs:
 - Liver Function Tests
 - Fasting Serum Glucose
 - Ammonia
 - CK
 - Amino Acids (alanine, citrulline..)
 - Lactic Acid
 - Free/Total Carnitine
 - Organic aciduria
 - Blood anemia...

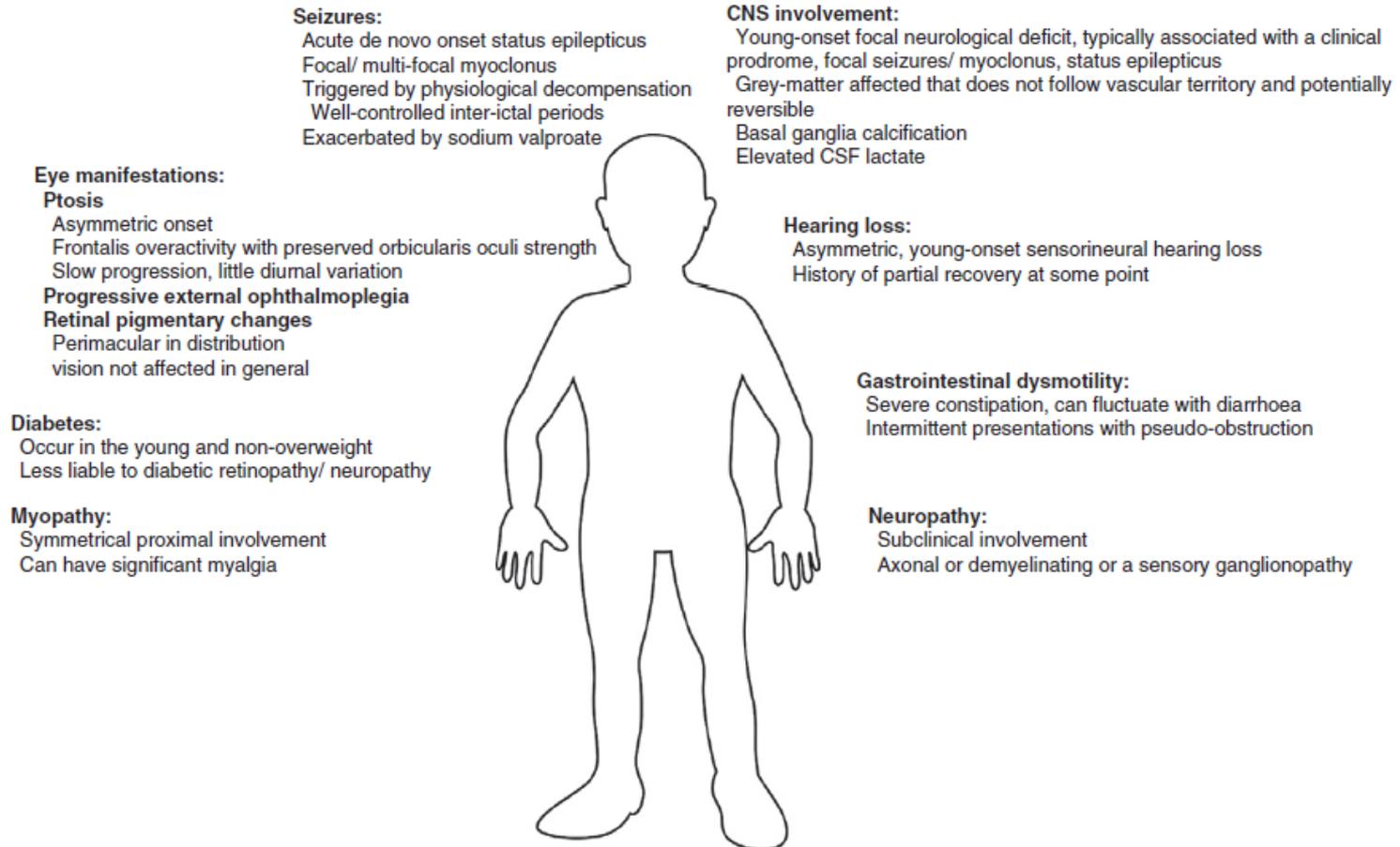
Family history

A family history must be taken meticulously, with special attention to minimal and **apparently unspecific** signs in the maternal lineage, including short stature, diabetes, migraine, hearing loss, exercise intolerance and psychiatric disorders (depression, BP, autism, schizophrenia)



The little things are infinitely the most important

Clinical symptoms and signs



As a general hint, **the apparently unrelated involvement of two or more tissues** should suggest the possibility of mitochondrial disease, including the cases where the family history is unremarkable

LABORATORY TESTS

- Labs:
 - LFTs
 - CPK
 - Fasting Serum Glucose
 - Ammonia
 - Amino Acids
 - Lactic Acid
 - Free/Total Carnitine
 - UOA
 - Sideroblastic Anemia
 - FGF21, GDF15

When hypothesize a mitochondrial disorder?



Mitochondrial disorders in neurology are either underdiagnosed : “what is this bizarre syndrome?” or overdiagnosed: “this syndrome is so bizarre that it must be mitochondrial”



It is a mistake to confound strangeness with mystery. The most commonplace crime is often the most mysterious because it presents no new or special features from which deductions may be drawn.
The strange details, far from making the case more difficult, have really had the effect of making it less so.”



Details

Mild signs-symptoms

Multidisciplinary approach

Observe (ie lipomas)!

Associations (i.e.)

- NSHL&DM

- myoclonus&ataxia

- PEO&Parkinsonism

- liver f. &encephalopathy

Deep inside

Lab tests (lactate,aa..)

Radiology





BEYOND NEUROLOGY

- cardiopathy
- liver imp.
- diabetes
- lactic acidosis

SNC

- seizures & myoclonus
- ataxia
- cognitive imp.
- stroke like ep.
- mov. Disorders
- optic atrophy
- NSHL
- psicomotor imp.

NEUROMUSCULAR

- PEO
- Exercise intolerance
- Weakness, fatigue, ex.int.
- wasting
- dysphagia
- numbness
- paresthesia

