

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا
وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً
إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ ﴿٨﴾

Our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate after You
have guided us, and grant us mercy from You.
Truly, You are the Bestower.

[Al-Quran 3:8]

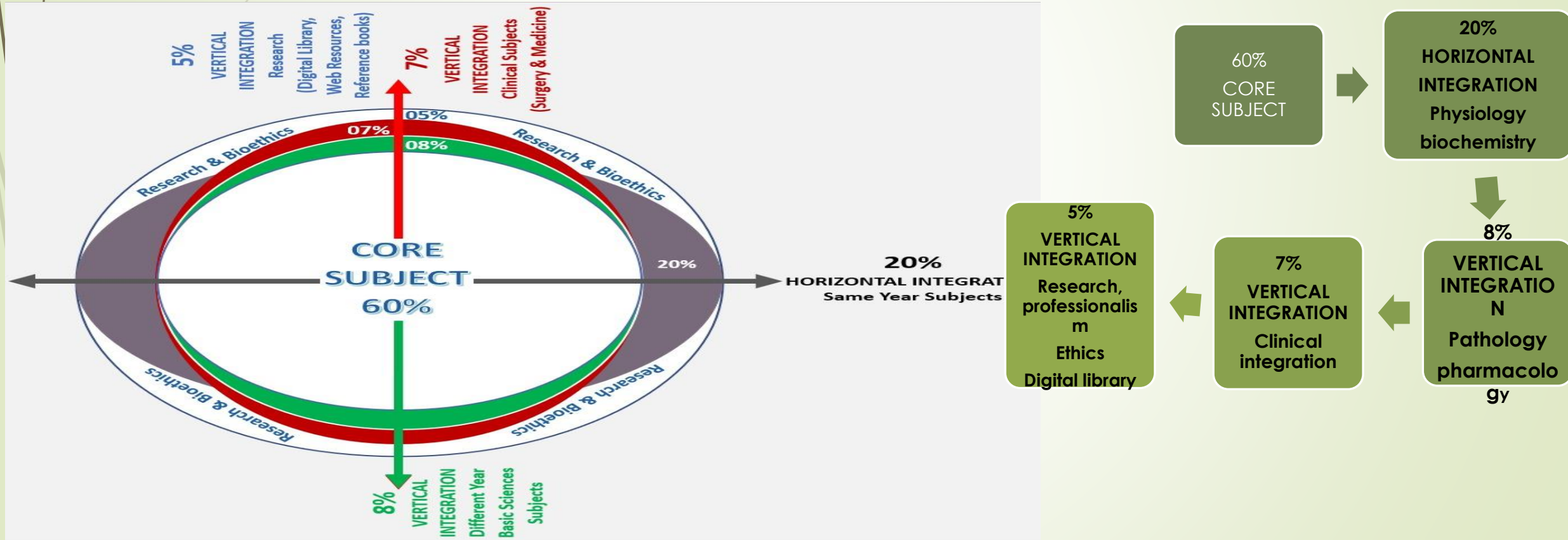
Motto



Vision

- To impart evidence based research oriented medical education
- To provide best possible patient care
- To inculcate the values of mutual respect and ethical practice of medicine

Professor Umar Model of Integrated Lecture





RHEUMATOLOGY

LECTURE:4



“Systemic Auto-immune Diseases”

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Learning Objectives

At the end of this session students will be able to learn:

- How to diagnose “Lupus and related disorders” on the basis of history and examination
- Relevant Investigations
- Guidelines and recent advances



Rheumatological Diseases

- Joint Diseases (Arthritis)
- Soft tissue Rheumatism
- Systemic Diseases (Auto-immune/Vasculitis)
- Bone Disorders



Core Concept

Case Scenario

25-years old lady presented with complaint of fatigue, arthralgias (involving small joints of both hands, with EMS lasting for few minutes) and rash on her face (cheeks) for 3 months.



Case Scenario

Basic labs are notable for a total lymphocyte count of 500, RBC casts and 3+ proteinuria on urinalysis.

Auto-antibody testing is notable for high titers of ANA, anti-dsDNA and anti-smith antibodies.

Case Scenario

- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

(Prototypic auto-immune disease, mostly involving young females)

Case Scenario

- Every lupus patient is different
(Organ system /Severity)
- Unique disease course

Systemic lupus erythematosus



Mouth and
nose ulcers



Skin
butterfly rash
and red patches

Lungs

- pleuritis
- pneumonitis
- pulmonary emboli
- pulmonary hemorrhage

Kidneys

- blood in the urine

Hair loss
High fever
Abnormal
headache

Heart

- endocarditis
- atherosclerosis
- inflammation of
the fibrous sac

Severe
abdominal pain

Blood

- anemia
- high blood
pressure

Muscle and Joints

- pain and
- arthritisesches
- swollen joints

Lupus Work-Up



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Initial Test

Anti-nuclear antibodies (ANA)

If positive

SLE-specific Tests

Anti-double-stranded DNA (dsDNA)

Anti-Smith

Anti-ribonucleoprotein (also in Mixed Tissue Connective Disorder)

Anti-LA/SSB (also in Sjögren's syndrome)

Other Labs

CBC

Chem panel

Complement levels

ESR

Urinalysis

Rule out Drug-Induced Lupus

Procainamide, Methyldopa, Quinidine, and Hydralazine

Antihistone antibodies often positive

New EULAR/ACR criteria for the classification of SLE

Clinical domains	Points
Constitutional domain Fever	2
Cutaneous domain Non-scarring alopecia Oral ulcers Subacute cutaneous or discoid lupus Acute cutaneous lupus	2 2 4 6
Arthritis domain Synovitis or tenderness in at least 2 joints	6
Neurologic domain Delirium Psychosis Seizure	2 3 5
Serositis domain Pleural or pericardial effusion Acute pericarditis	5 6
Hematologic domain Leukopenia Thrombocytopenia Autoimmune hemolysis	3 4 4
Renal domain Proteinuria > 0.5 g/24 hr Class II or V lupus nephritis Class III or IV lupus nephritis	4 8 10

Immunologic domains	Points
Antiphospholipid antibody domain Anticardiolipin IgG > 40 GPL or anti-β2GP1 IgG > 40 units or lupus anticoagulant	2
Complement proteins domain Low C3 or low C4 Low C3 and low C4	3 4
Highly specific antibodies domain Anti-dsDNA antibody Anti-Sm antibody	6 6

REFERENCE: Aringer et al. Abstract #2928. 2018 ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting

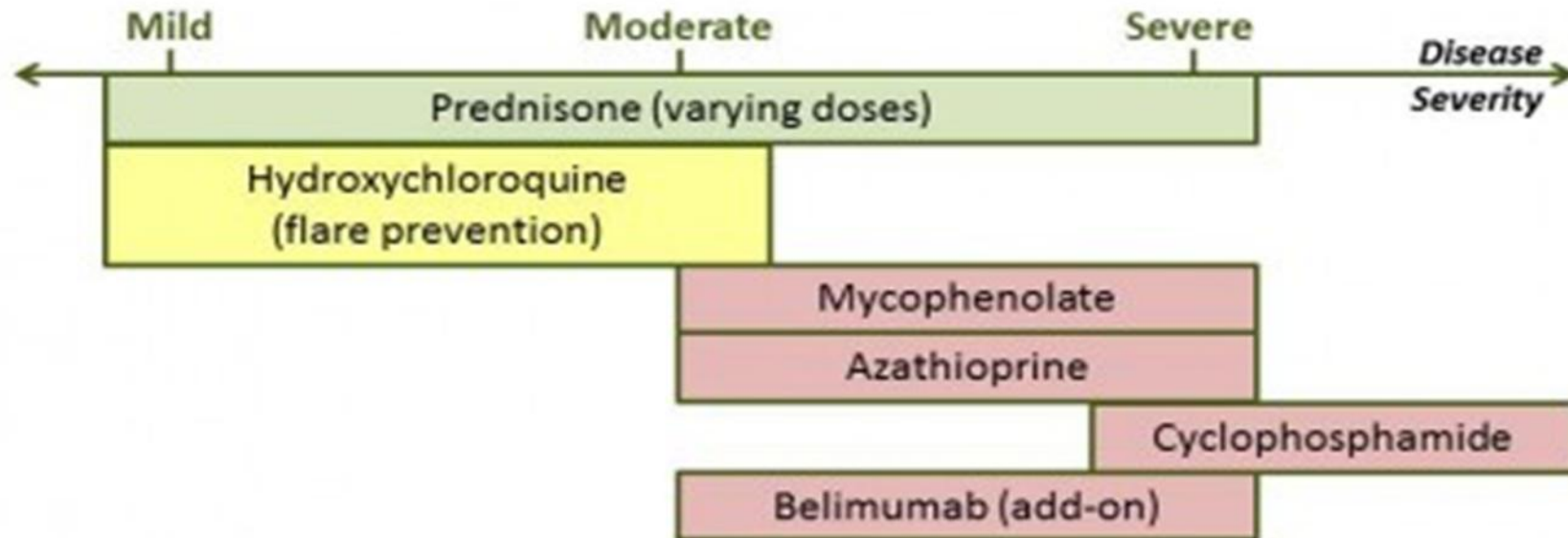
- ✓ Classification criteria are not diagnosis criteria
- ✓ All patients classified as having SLE must have ANA ≥ 1:80 (entry criterion)
- ✓ Patients must have ≥ 10 points to be classified as SLE
- ✓ Items can only be counted for classification if there is no more likely cause
- ✓ Only the highest criterion in a given domain counts
- ✓ SLE classification requires points from at least one clinical domain

@Lupusreference

SLE Treatment



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Hydroxychloroquine use requires annual ophthalmology visits due to risk of retinopathy

Case Scenario

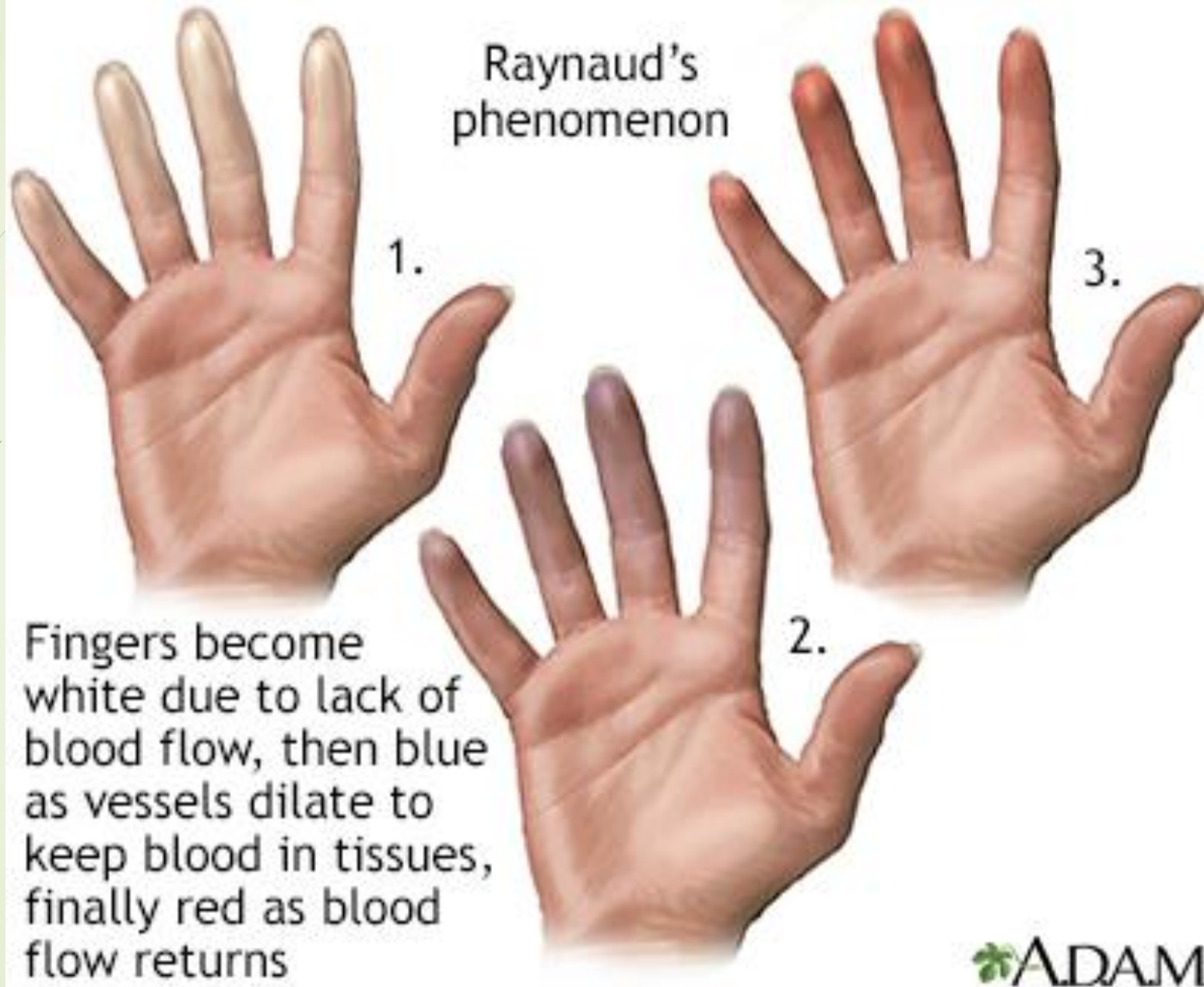
- 35-years old lady presented with complaints of Raynaud's phenomenon and gastroesophageal reflux for 2 years. Her GPE revealed sclerodactyly, narrow oral aperture and diffuse thickening of skin involving both hands extending upto elbows.

Case Scenario



➡ Systemic Sclerosis

Raynaud's phenomenon



In scleroderma, the abnormal build-up of fibrous tissue in the skin can cause the skin to tighten so severely that the fingers curl and lose their mobility





Box 1 - American college of rheumatology diagnostic criteria for systemic sclerosis.

Major criterion

- Proximal sclerodermatous skin changes (proximal to the metacarpophalangeal joints)

Minor criteria

- Sclerodactyly
- Digital pitting scars of fingertips or loss of substance of the distal finger pads
- Bibasilar pulmonary fibrosis

* The patient should fulfill the major criterion or two of the three minor criteria.

Management

- Raynaud's
- Skin tightness
- Lung fibrosis
- Scleroderma renal crisis

Case Scenario

- 55-years old lady with no co-morbid, has noted difficulty in getting up from chair and reaching for items above her head.
- On proximal muscle testing, she can raise her thighs and arms against gravity but cant hold them there even against slight resistance. Distal muscle strength, reflexes and sensations are intact

Case Scenario

- The laboratory tests are remarkable for an elevated **creatinine kinase** of 3000U/L.
- Further work up revealed evidence of inflammation in bilateral thigh muscles on STIR **MRI** and **EMG** consistent with inflammatory myopathy and normal NCS.



Case Scenario

Inflammatory myopathy
(Polymyositis & Dermatomyositis)

Polymyositis / Dermatomyositis

□ Diagnostic criteria

1. Proximal muscle weakness
2. Elevated serum CK
3. Myopathic changes on EMG
4. Muscle biopsy demonstrating lymphocytic inflammation
5. Dermatomyositis: Skin rash as well as criteria above
 - Definitive diagnosis with four criteria having been met
 - Probable with three
 - Possible with two

1st Line Therapy

Steroids

- Prednisolone: 1mg/kg/day PO for 4-6 wks then slow taper
- Severe cases: IV Methylprednisolone 1g/d for 3 days followed by oral prednisolone



Steroid-sparing agent

- MTX or AZA or MMF
- Tacrolimus/cyclosporin in cases with associated ILD

If treatment resistant: Re-visit diagnosis and confirm IMIM

2nd Line Therapy

Add-on Options

- Consider dual immunosuppressive therapy or
- IV Immunoglobulin (especially for DM and NAM) or
- Rituximab (especially for DM and NAM)

3rd Line Therapy

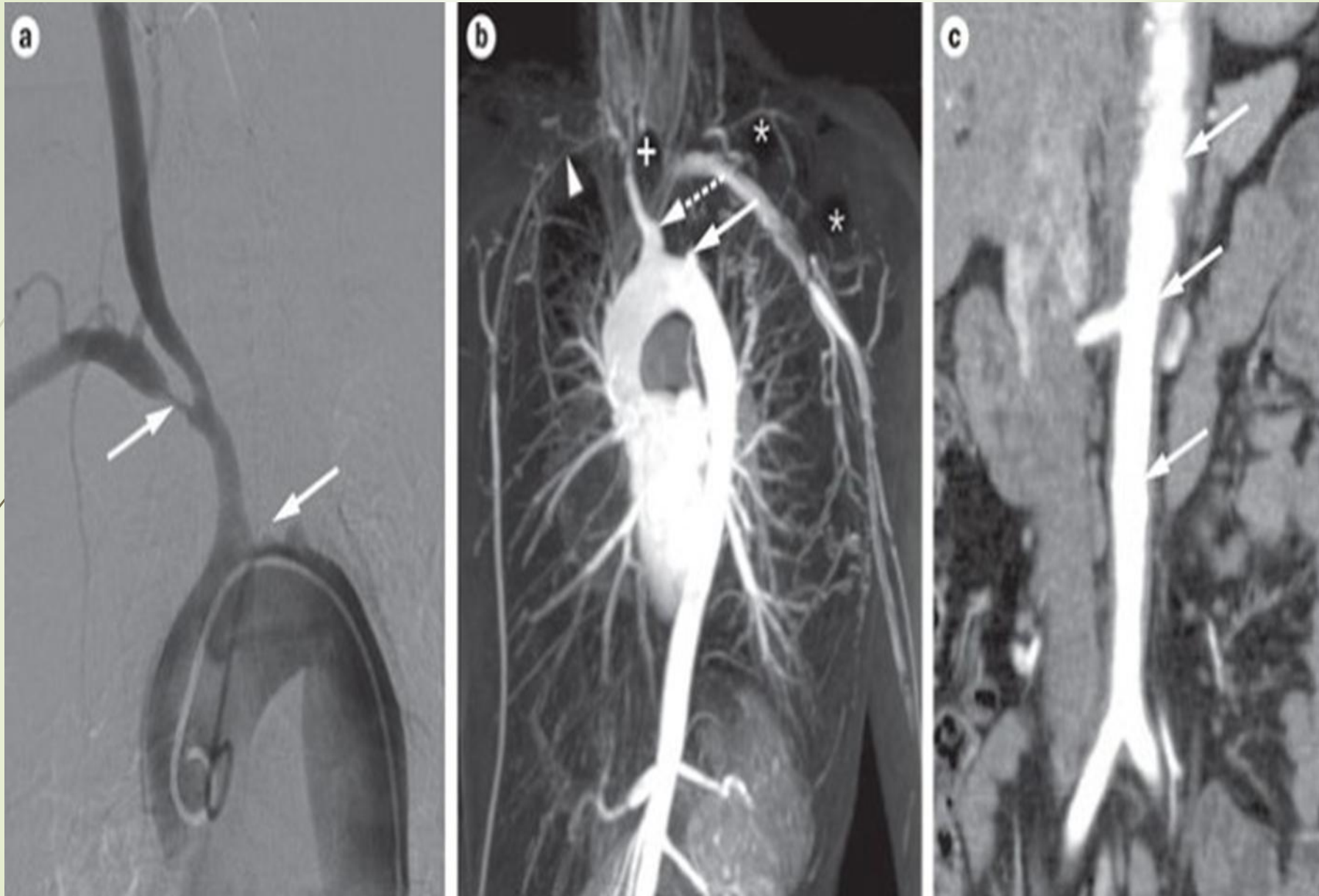
Biological Therapies

- B/T-cell therapies
- Anti-cytokine therapies



Case Scenario

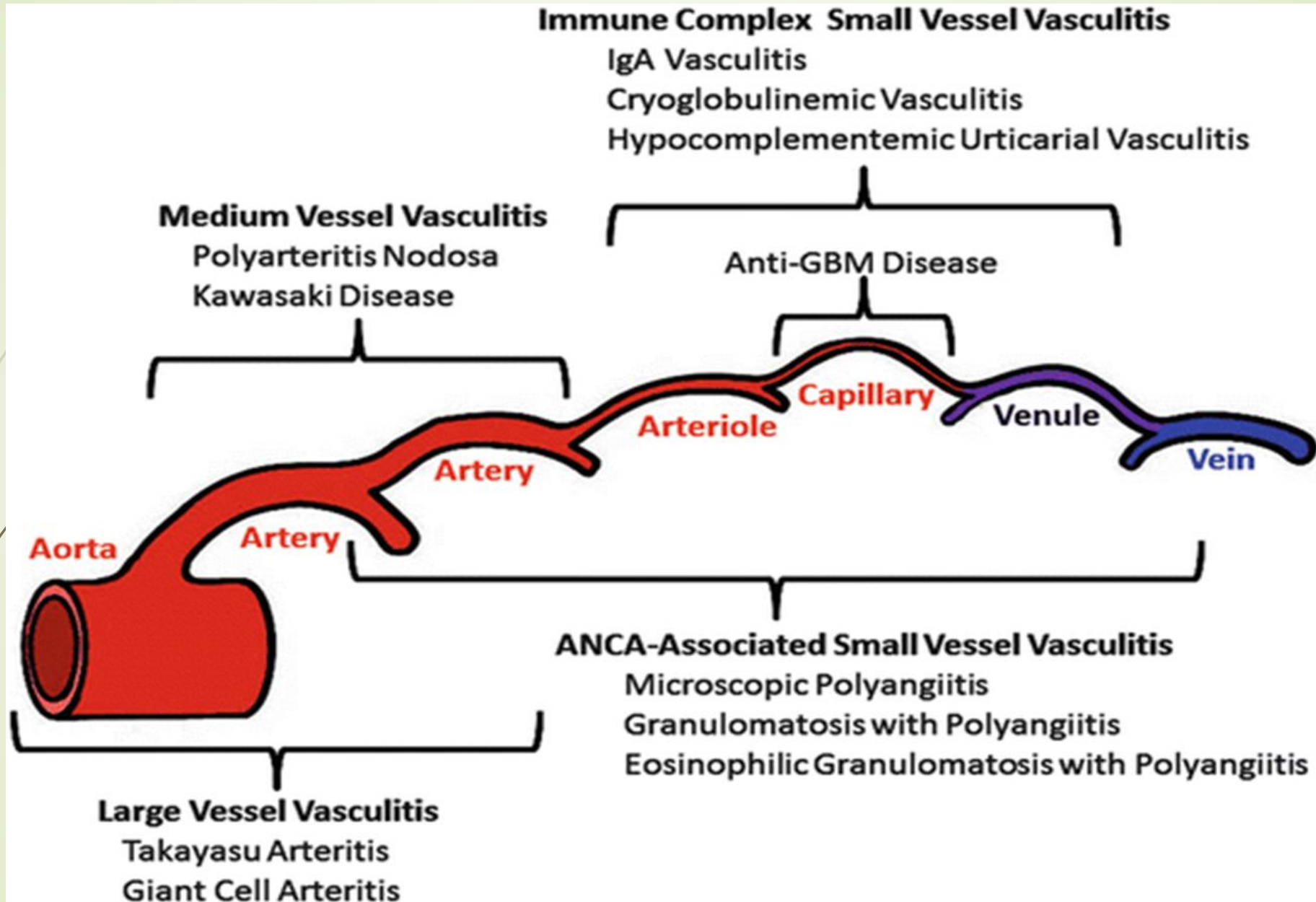
24-years old lady presented with complaints of feverish feeling and fatigue for last 1 year. On GPE, her **right radial and brachial pulses were not palpable**. She had audible **bruits** over bilateral sub-clavian and renal arteries.





Case Scenario

Takayasu's Arteritis (Large vessel Vasculitis)



Take home message

- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus is a prototypic autoimmune disease with multi-system involvement.
- Every lupus patient is different in terms of organ system involvement and severity and needs multi-disciplinary care (rheumatologist, dermatologist, neurologist and nephrologist as indicated).

Recent Advances

- **Belimumab** is novel biologic which was initially approved for management of non-renal, non-neurological lupus has now been approved for management of '**Lupus Nephritis**'



References

- Davidson's textbook of Internal Medicine
- American College of Rheumatology guidelines for management of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

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