





• Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral





Autoimmune PUK



• Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral

 It often heralds improvement vs worsening of systemic disease





- Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral
- It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease



• It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease





Autoimmune dz is PUK associated?
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• It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease



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With which connective-tissue diseases (CTDs) and/or vasculitides has PUK been associated?





Autoimmune dz is PUK associated?
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Connective-tissue dz, especially vasculitides

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With which connective-tissue diseases (CTDs) and/or vasculitides has PUK been associated? Pretty much all of them



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Which three conditions are most likely to present with PUK?



With what general category of autoimmune dz is PUK associated?
Autoimmune Connective-tissue dz, especially vasculitides

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With which connective-tissue diseases (CTDs) and/or vasculitides has PUK been associated? Pretty much all of them

Which three conditions are most likely to present with PUK? Rheumatoid arthritis, Wegener's granulomatosis, and polyarteritis nodosa

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Rheumatoid arthritis, Wegener's granulomatosis, and polyarteritis nodosa

Of these three, which is most likely to be associated with PUK?



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> Of these three, which is most likely to be associated with PUK? RA, by a substantial margin



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What percentage of PUK pts have RA as their underlying condition?



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What percentage of PUK pts have RA as their underlying condition? Up to 40

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Is PUK the most common ocular manifestation of RA? Sociated with PUK?

heir underlying condition?





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What is, then? Keratoconjunctivitis sicca heir underlying condition?

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The term 'Wegener's granulomatosis' has fallen out of favor.

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The term 'Wegener's granulomatosis' has fallen out of favor. What term is preferred in its place?



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granulomatosis with polyangiitis



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'Granulomate Why did the name 'Wegener's granulomatosis' fall out of favor?



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'Granulomato Why did the name 'Wegener's granulomatosis' fall out of favor? Because Dr. Wegener was a Nazi

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granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)

If you're having trouble remembering that granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP) is the entity formerly known as Wegener's...

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granulomatosis with polyangiitis ($G\underline{w}P$)

If you're having trouble remembering that granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP) is the entity formerly known as Wegener's... Think of the little 'w' as standing for 'Wegener's'

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What is the classic triad of granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)?



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What is the classic triad of granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)? Necrotizing vasculitis of:

- --the upper and lower respiratory tract
- --the kidneys
- --small and medium-sized arteries and veins

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What is the classic manifestation of the classic triad? That is, with what specific condition do these pts always present?*





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Necrotizing vasculitis of:

- --the upper and lower respiratory tract
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What is the classic manifestation of the classic triad? That is, with what specific condition do these pts always present?* **Sinusitis.** Don't diagnose a pt with GwP without it!*

*On the OKAP and Boards, that is

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What proportion of GwP pts have ophthalmic involvement?



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What proportion of GwP pts have ophthalmic involvement? About half

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What is the most common manifestation of that involvement? (It's not PUK.)


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What is the next most common manifestation?



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What is the next most common manifestation? Scleritis (including PUK)



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Is retinal involvement in GwP a thing?





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Is retinal involvement in GwP a thing? Yes, albeit uncommonly



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What proportion of GWP pts have opininalmic involveme				
For more on GwP, see slide-set U1				
What is the most common manifestation of that involvement? (It's not PUK.) Orbital inflammation				
What is the next most common manifestation? Scleritis (including PUK)				
What form does retinal involvement in GwP typically take? Yes, albeit uncommonly A retinal vasculitis (not surprisingly)				

Q

Concerning PUK

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In a nutshell, what is the pathophysiology of PAN?

sculitides has PUK been associated?



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In a nutshell, what is the pathophysiology of PAN? Subacute episodes of focal necrotizing inflammation of arteries

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Is it a common, or uncommon condition? Uncommon

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- *Is it a common, or uncommon condition?* Uncommon
 - Who is the typical PAN pt?

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Is it a common, or uncommon condition? Uncommon
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Who is the typical PAN pt? A MVF between 40 and 60 years old sculitides has PUK been associated?

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Is it a common, or uncommon condition? Uncommon
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Who is the typical PAN pt? A male between 40 and 60 years old

Is there a racial predilection?

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Who is the typical PAN pt? A male between 40 and 60 years old

Is there a racial predilection? No

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PAN is strongly associated with seropositivity for what virus?

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И R	<i>Is it a common, or uncommon condition?</i> Uncommon	/K? Id polyarteritis nodosa
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	<i>Is there a racial pre</i> No	
	PAN is strongly associated with seropositivity for what virus? Hepatitis B	

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	Is there a racial pre No What proportion of PAN pts develop ophthalmic involvement?		
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If a PUK pt does not carry a CTD/autoimmune diagnosis, what should the ophthalmologist do?





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If the workup is negative, what non-autoimmune diagnosis should you consider?





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If the PUK is associated with copious mucopurulent discharge, what infectious etiology should you consider?





With what general category of autoimmune dz is PUK associated?
 Autoimmune
 Connective-tissue dz, especially vasculitides

• It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease

With which connective-tissue diseases (CTDs) and/or vasculitides has PUK been associated? Pretty much all of them

Which three conditions are most likely to present with PUK? Rheumatoid arthritis, granulomatosis with polyangiitis, and polyarteritis nodosa

If a PUK pt does not carry's CTD/autoimmune diagnosis, what should the ophthalmologist do? Initiate a diagnostic workup or promptly arrange for a rheumatologist to do so)

If the workup is negative, what non-autoimmune diagnosis should you consider? Infectious PUK

If the PUK is associated with copious mucopurulent discharge, what infectious etiology should you consider? Gonococcal disease



- Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral
- It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease
- The treatment goal is to stop K melting through 3 maneuvers:
 - 1) Improve

 2) Promote

 via

3) Suppress





- Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral
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- The treatment goal is to stop K melting through 3 maneuvers:
 1) Improve wetting
 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching, glue

(bandage contact lens)

3) Suppress systemic inflammation



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 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization

Of these three maneuvers, which is paramount?

3) Suppress systemic inflammation





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Of these three maneuvers, which is paramount? Controlling the underlying disease process-without this, the other maneuvers are akin to rearranging the deck chairs on the *Titanic*





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How should one improve wetting?




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manon n looal

A) Dromoto reconitibulialization via lubos. DCL potching club
 How should one improve wetting?
 With frequent dosing of preservative-free artificial tears (PF ATs)



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In addition to improving wetting, what other benefit derives from frequent PF AT use?





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How should one improve wetting? With frequent dosing of preservative-free artificial tears (PF ATs)

In addition to improving wetting, what other benefit derives from frequent PF AT use? They will remove inflammatory cytokines from the ocular surface



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- It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease
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 1) Improve wetting
 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching glue

What specific sort of glue is being referred to here?





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1) 2)



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What specific sort of glue is being referred to here? Cyanoacrylate adhesive

How does glue assist in PUK healing?



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- It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease
- The treatment goal is to stop K melting through 3 maneuvers:
 1) Improve wetting
 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching glue

How does glue assist in PUK healing?
1) It provides tectonic stability, thereby reducing the risk of perforation
2) It acts as a barrier preventing PMNs from reaching (and destroying) corneal stroma





Just prior to perfing



Same eye s/p gluing (and on IMT)

PUK in RA



- Autoimmune PUK is usually unilateral and sectoral
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- The treatment goal is to stop K melting through 3 maneuvers:
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Use of cyanoacrylate adhesive mandates that what other therapeutic maneuver be applied as well?



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Use of cyanoacrylate adhesive mandates that what other therapeutic maneuver be applied as well? A BCL must be placed over the glued cornea



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What bacteria species must you be certain is adequately covered by the antibiotic?



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What bacteria species must you be certain is adequately covered by the antibiotic? Pseudomonas



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 1) Improve wetting
 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching, glue
 - You should also consider stopping common ocular drug, which can delay reepithelialization. As a general rule: If the cornea is significantly thinned, avoid same drug.

3) Suppress systemic inflammation



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- It often heralds exacerbation of systemic disease
- The treatment goal is to stop K melting through 3 maneuvers:
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 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching, glue
 - You should also consider stopping topical steroids, which can delay reepithelialization. As a general rule: If the cornea is significantly thinned, avoid topical steroids.

3) Suppress systemic inflammation



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 - 3) Suppress systemic inflammation

```
4) Conj flap over the peripheral defect?
```

What about using a conj flap to cover the peripheral defect?



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```
4) Conj flap over the peripheral defect? NO!
```



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 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching, glue
 - You should also consider stopping topical steroids, which can delay re-

In what clinical scenario might a conj flap over a PUK defect be an appropriate treatment maneuver?

3) Suppress systemic inflammation

4) Conj flap over the peripheral defect? YES!





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In what clinical scenario might a conj flap over a PUK defect be an appropriate treatment maneuver? In **infectious** PUK, especially when the organism is type of bug

3) Suppress systemic inflammation

4) Conj flap over the peripheral defect? YES!



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In what clinical scenario might a conj flap over a PUK defect be an appropriate treatment maneuver? In **infectious** PUK, especially when the organism is **fungal**

3) Suppress systemic inflammation

4) Conj flap over the peripheral defect? YES!



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 1) Improve wetting
 - 2) Promote re-epithelialization via lubes, BCL, patching, glue
 - You should also consider stopping topical steroids, which can delay reepithelialization. As a general rule: If the cornea is significantly thinned, avoid topical steroids.
 - 3) Suppress systemic inflammation

4) Conj surgery:

What about using a conj flap to cover the peripheral defect?

Conj flaps are contraindicated in autoimmune PUK because they bring the conj vasculature (and thus all those nasty blood-borne inflammatory mediators) even closer to the melt

What conj surgery is very helpful in autoimmune PUK?



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 - 3) Suppress systemic inflammation

```
4) Conj surgery: Sectoral conj resection
```

What about using a conj flap to cover the peripheral defect? Conj flaps are contraindicated in autoimmune PUK because they bring the conj vasculature (and thus all those nasty blood-borne inflammatory mediators) even closer to the melt

What conj surgery **is** *very helpful in autoimmune PUK?* Sectoral conj resection (ie, cutting the conj **away** from the PUK zone) can be very effective For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Relapsing polychondritis (RP)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

• Saddle-nose deformity (2):



For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Relapsing polychondritis (RP)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

• Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP

Д





Saddle-nose deformity



Q

For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)



• Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP

If a pt with a saddle nose had interstitial keratitis rather than PUK, what diagnosis should you consider?

Α

For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)



• Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP

If a pt with a saddle nose had interstitial keratitis rather than PUK, what diagnosis should you consider? Congenital syphilis For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Relapsing polychondritis (RP)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia:



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Д



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- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae:



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- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS

Д

• Deformed auricular pinnae: RP





Auricular damage in RP

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- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2):



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- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS

- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN





Mooren's ulcer. Note the overhanging edge.


- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN

What is the classic description regarding the pattern of progression for PUK in both Mooren's and PAN?



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN

What is the classic description regarding the pattern of progression for PUK in both Mooren's and PAN?

- 1) Starts then
- 2) progresses then
- 3) progresses



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN

What is the classic description regarding the pattern of progression for PUK in both Mooren's and PAN?

- 1) Starts **sectoral**, then
- 2) progresses circumferentially, then
- 3) progresses centrally



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved:



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
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- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN

Sclera <u>never</u> involved: MU

Take note! This is a key factor differentiating between Mooren's and other forms of PUK.



Concerning PUK



Mooren's ulcer. Note the adjacent sclera is totally quiet



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU
- ANCA positive (2):



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
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- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
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- ANCA positive (2): GwP; CS (Hey, what about PAN??!! Un momento, por favor)



For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Relapsing polychondritis (RP)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

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- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU
- ANCA positive (2): GwP; CS

What does ANCA stand for?



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU
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What does ANCA stand for? Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies



Q

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What does ANCA stand for? Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies

What are they?



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What does ANCA stand for? Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies

What are they? Autoantibodies against antigens found within the cytoplasm of neutrophils



Q

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What does ANCA stand for? Antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies

What are they? Autoantibodies against antigens found within the cytoplasm of neutrophils

With which specific ANCA pattern is each condition associated? Granulomatosis with polyangiitis: Churg-Strauss:



- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
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With which specific ANCA pattern is each condition associated? Granulomatosis with polyangiitis: Cytoplasmic (c-ANCA) Churg-Strauss: Perinuclear (p-ANCA)



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- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU
- ANCA positive (2): GwP; CS; PAN?

What about PAN? I thought it was ANCA-positive as well.



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This is a sticky widget. In the 1990s, rheumatologists determined that the label PAN was being applied to conditions that were actually separate disease entities. Thus, PAN was subdivided into several conditions: which affects only medium- and small-sized 'muscular' arteries; and word + abb. two words

which affects smaller arteries, arterioles, capillaries and venules.

- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
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- --Classic PAN, which affects only medium- and small-sized 'muscular' arteries; and
- --Microscopic polyangiitis, which affects smaller arteries, arterioles, capillaries and venules.



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- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
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It turns out microscopic polyangiitis is strongly ANCA-positive, but classic PAN is not. (Because of its ANCApositivity, microscopic angiitis is now considered to be more closely related to Churg-Strauss, and especially granulomatosis with polyangiitis, than it is to PAN).



Q

For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

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It turns out microsco positivity, microscopi granulomatosis with What's the difference between a 'small-sized' artery and a 'smaller' artery? specially



For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUK is/are associated (some will more than one answer) **Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN) Relapsing polychondritis (RP) Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)** Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP) **Churg-Strauss (CS)** Mooren's ulcer (MU)

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- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
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It turns out microsco positivity, microscopi granulomatosis with

ts ANCA-What's the difference between a 'small-sized' artery and a 'smaller' artery? Rule of thumb: Classic PAN only affects arteries large enough to be named, whereas microscopic angiitis only affects vessels smaller than that.



specially

Q

For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUKis/are associated (some will more than one answer)Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN)Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)Mooren's ulcer (MU)Churg-Strauss (CS)

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--Classic PAN, which affects only medium- and small-sized 'muscular' arteries; and

--Microscopic polyangiitis, which affects smaller arteries, arterioles, capillaries and venules.

It turns out microscopic polyangiitis is strongly ANCA-positive, but classic PAN is not. (Because of its ANCApositivity, microscopic angiitis is now considered to be more closely related to Churg-Strauss, and especially granulomatosis with polyangiitis, than it is to PAN).

Got it. So if it's ANCA+ it's not PAN, right?



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- Saddle-nose deformity (2): RP; GwP
- Asthma and eosinophilia: CS
- Deformed auricular pinnae: RP
- Ulcer has overhanging edge (2): MU; PAN
- Sclera never involved: MU
- ANCA positive (2): GwP; CS; PAN (10% of cases)

What about PAN? I thought it was ANCA-positive as well.

This is a sticky widget. In the 1990s, rheumatologists determined that the label *PAN* was being applied to conditions that were actually separate disease entities. Thus, PAN was subdivided into several conditions:

--Classic PAN, which affects only medium- and small-sized 'muscular' arteries; and

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Unfortunately, no. Per the BCSC Uveitis book, ~10% of PAN pts will be c- or p-ANCA positive.

For each statement, identify which of these causes of PUK is/are associated (some will more than one answer) **Polyarteritis nodosa (PAN) Relapsing polychondritis (RP) Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)** Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GwP) **Churg-Strauss (CS)** Mooren's ulcer (MU)

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--Microscopic polyangiitis

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- Chest X-ray likely abnormal (3):



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- Chest X-ray likely abnormal (3): GwP; CS; RP
- Associated with hepatitis seropositivity:



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Which hepatitis virus is definitely associated with PAN?

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Which hepatitis virus is definitely *associated with PAN?* Hepatitis B

What percent of PAN pts test positive for are Hep B surface Ag ?

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Which form is probably associated, but the evidence is not as strong as for B?

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Which hepatitis virus is definitely *associated with PAN?* Hepatitis B

Which form is probably *associated, but the evidence is not as strong as for B?* Hepatitis C



Q

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- Associated with helminthic seropositivity:



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- Renal function may be impaired (4):



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- Chronic, tx-resistant sinusitis common:



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- *Extremely* painful:



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- Extremely painful: MU

(All forms of inflammatory PUK are painful, but Mooren's is exceptionally so.)





- With respect to manifesting PUK, which of the following doesn't belong, and why?
 - RA, Mooren's, Behçet, IBD (IBD = Inflammatory bowel disease)





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- With respect to manifesting PUK, which of the following doesn't belong, and why?
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Why is Mooren's the oddball in this group? PUK in the others is due to a systemic condition, whereas Mooren's is, by definition, ocular only



- With respect to manifesting PUK, which of the following doesn't belong, and why?
 - RA, Mooren's, Behçet, IBD
- And in this group?
 - Mooren's, Terrien's marginal, Sarcoid, SLE





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Why is Terrien's the oddball in this group? Two reasons: --PUK in the others is an process; Terrien's is





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Two reasons:

--PUK in the others is an inflammatory process; Terrien's is noninflammatory





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V If the epithelium is intact, what is going on that puts Terrien's on the DDx for PUK?
--PUK in the others is an inflammatory process; Terrien's is noninflammatory
--As implied by the word 'ulcerative' in the name, the corneal epithelium is disrupted in PUK. In contrast, the epithelium is intact in Terrien's.





- With respect to manifesting PUK, which of the following doesn't belong, and why?
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If the epithelium is intact, what is going on that puts Terrien's on the DDx for PUK?
Progressive peripheral for thinning makes the limbal region in Terrien's resemble PUK
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If the epithelium is intact, what is going on that puts Terrien's on the DDx for PUK?
Progressive peripheral stromal thinning makes the limbal region in Terrien's resemble PUK
PUK in the others is an inflammatory process: Terrien's is popinflammatory.























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Two reasons:

Α	Concerning PUK	
	Speaking of Terrien's Is it a common, or an uncommon condition? Uncommon	
• Wi	<i>Does it have a gender predilection?</i> While once thought to be more common in males, it is now considered equal	f
the	<i>Is it unilateral, or bilateral?</i> Bilateral (although involvement can be strikingly asymmetric)	
	Which sector of the cornea is involved first, and how does it progress from there? It starts superonasally, then spreads circumferentially	
• Ar	Does it affect vision? If so, how? Yes, by inducing high astigmatism	
•	Mooren's, Terrien's marginal Sarcoid, SLE	

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Why is Terrien's the oddball in this group?

Two reasons:



in PUK. In contrast, the epithelium is intact in Terrien's.


in PUK. In contrast, the epithelium is **intact** in Terrien's.







--As implied by the word 'ulcerative' in the name, the corneal epithelium is disrupted in PUK. In contrast, the epithelium is **intact** in Terrien's.







Terrien marginal degeneration. Note the leading lipids and the trailing pannus

Speaking of Terrien's...

Is it a common, or an uncommon condition? Uncommon

The key to diagnosing Terrien's is its classic appearance: --The epithelium is intact, as noted earlier --The leading edge of the thinned area is characterized by the presence of...Lipid --The trailing portion is characterized by the presence of a...Vascular pannus

Remember this!!! Consider it your tl;dr for Terrien's

Does it affect vision? If so, how? Yes, by inducing high astigmatism

Mooren's, Terrien's marginal Sarcoid, SLE

Why is Terrien's the oddball in this group?

Two reasons:



















Why is Terrien's the oddball in this group?

Two reasons:



Fuchs' superficial marginal keratitis







- All of the following are true concerning Mooren's ulcer *except* (could be more than one):
 - Cause is unknown
 - One clinical type presents as a unilateral PUK in the elderly
 - The other type presents as bilateral disease in young African women
 - Patients with the 'African' variety often have a history of systemic helminth infection
 - Mooren's responds readily to aggressive local therapy







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Mooren's ulcer is a chronic, progressive PUK. By definition, the cause is unknown. It starts sectorally, progresses circumferentially, then finally centrally. The leading edge is undermined and de-epithelialized. Two clinical varieties are recognized: Unilateral disease in the elderly, and rapidly progressive, severe bilateral disease that strikes young African men. These men usually are seropositive for helminthic disease.

The plethora of treatments stands as gloomy testimony to the relative ineffectiveness of each. Ocular modalities include topical steroids, BCL, *n-acetylcysteine* drops, topical cyclosporine and conjunctival resection. Quite often, systemic immunosuppressives are needed: steroids, MTX, and/or cyclophosphamide.