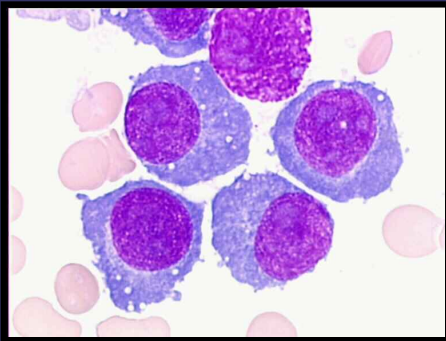


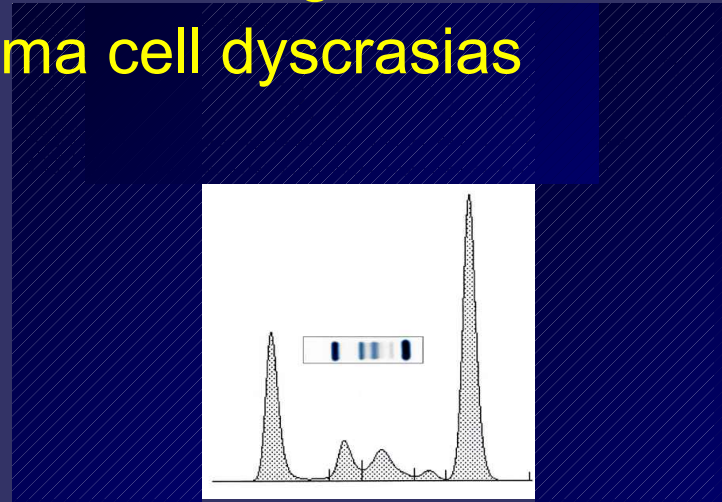
# Cutaneous, renal and neurological manifestations of plasma cell dyscrasias

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# Cutaneous, renal and neurological manifestations of plasma cell dyscrasias



Clonal B cells



Monoclonal immunoglobulin (Mlg)

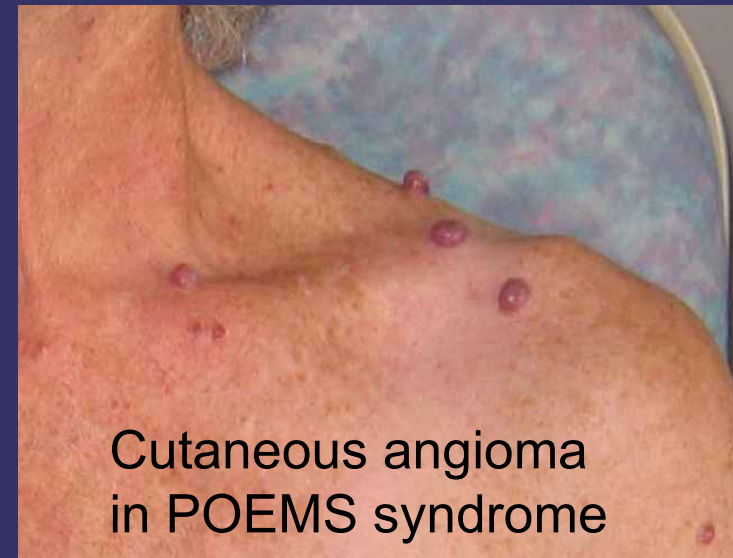
- 1) Related to clonal cells
- 2) Related to Mlg
- 3) Still poorly understood pathogenesis

# The skin

# Cutaneous manifestations and gammopathies

## 1) Related to clonal cells

- direct lympho and/or plasmocytoid infiltration
- adsorption to malignant cells  
*von Willebrand syndrome, acquired angioedema (?)*
- abnormal cytokine secretion  
by the clonal cells or their environment



# Cutaneous manifestations and gammopathies

## 2) Related to MIg

high concentration: hyper viscosity

### Specific physico-chemical properties

deposition

- *along basal membranes: MIg deposition disease*
- *within the dermis (« Ig storage papules»)*

# IgM storage papules: cutaneous macroglobulinosis



(Personal data & Lipsker et al, B.J.Dermatol, 1996)

## Cutaneous manifestations

### 2) Related to MIg

high concentration

Specific physico-chemical

deposition

- along basal membranes: *MIg deposition disease*
- within the dermis (« *Ig storage papules* »)

aggregation

- \* fibrils (*AL amyloidosis*),
- \* crystals (*crystal-storing histiocytosis*)
- \* microtubules (*type I cryoglobulinemia*)





# Cutaneous manifestations and gammopathies

## 2) Related to MIg

High concentration

specific physico-chemical properties

**auto-antibody activity**

- directed to a cutaneous component (usually collagen VII):  
*bullous skin diseases*





# Cutaneous manifestations and gammopathies

## 2) Related to MIg

High concentration

Specific physico-chemical properties

### Auto-antibody activity

- directed to a cutaneous component

- immune complex mediated:

  - \* intra-vascular precipitation/ vasculitis:

    - cold agglutinin disease,*

    - type II mixed cryoglobulinemia*

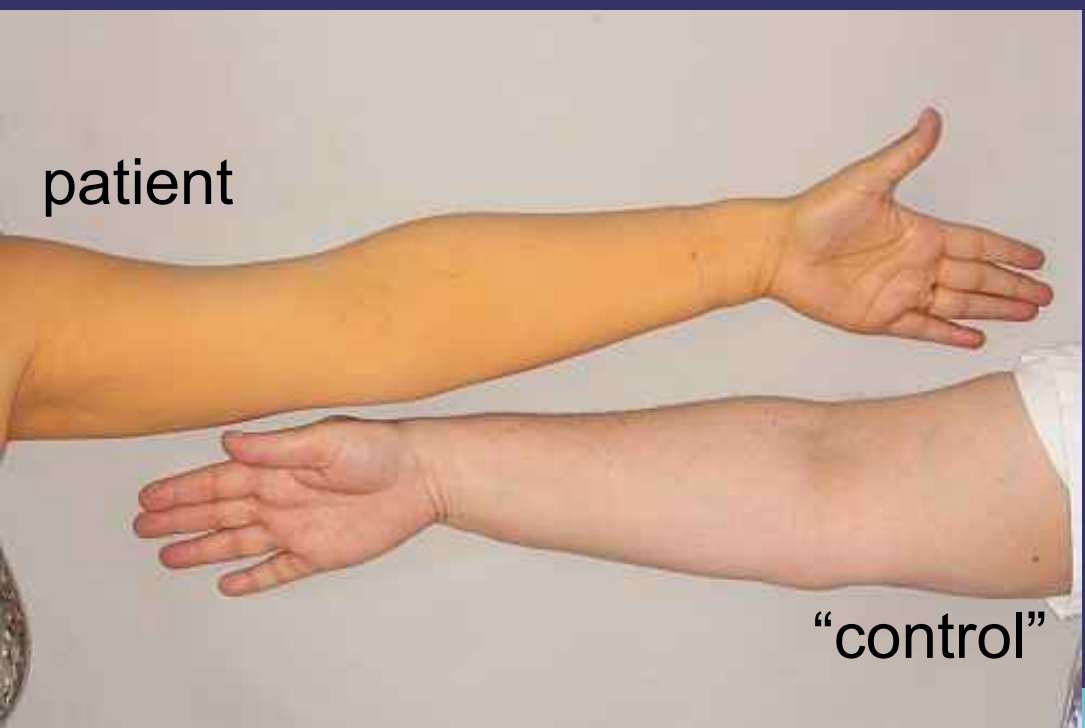
  - \* intra-cellular storage: *xanthomatosis*



Ischemic and ulcerous lesions due to type II cryoglobulinemia

# Xanthomas and Mlg

patient



“control”



# Cutaneous manifestations and gam

3) still poorly understood pathogenesis

Neutrophilic dermatoses

Oedematous red plaque  
of Sweet's Syndrome



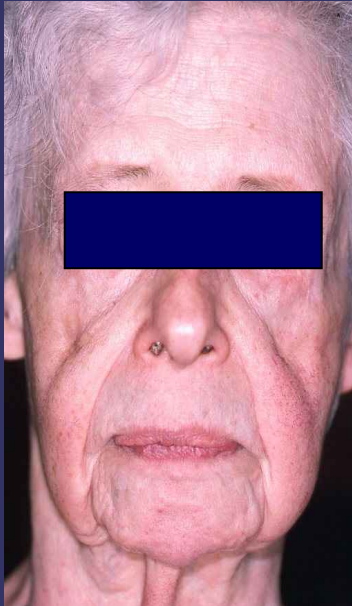
Cutaneous mucinosis  
(papular mucinosis, scleromyxoedema)

Acquired cutis laxa

papular mucinosis



Schnitzler syndrome



# Schnitzler syndrome

Recurrent urticarial rash

+ Monoclonal IgM ( $\kappa$ : 9/10)

usually at low level, without overt

MW

± intermittent fever, fatigue, weight loss

± articular, musculoskeletal  
and/or bone manifestations



histoimmunopathology : mild dermal  
perivascular neutrophilic infiltration,  
Ig or C' deposits # 30%

Hyperleucocytosis, Inflammatory syndrome

➤ ESR, CRP & fibrin, anemia & thrombocytosis, hypoalbuminemia

Treatment: - steroids # always effective on urticaria and fever but corticoddependence

(precise threshold dosage (10-30 mg/d))

- Thalidomide,  $\alpha$ -interferon: effective but tolerability issues

- symptomatic efficacy of the antibiotic pefloxacin



# Schnitzler syndrome: Efficacy of IL-1 receptor antagonist

(Anakinra (Kineret\*) 100 mg/day SC)

n= 23 (literature 15, Saint Louis 8)



Dramatic and complete improvement in urticaria, fever and bone pain

Normalization of all other biologic abnormalities (C-reactive protein, Hb, leukocyte and platelet counts)

No effect on Mlg level



Tapering/cessation of steroids

Sustained but symptomatic efficacy well tolerated

## Schnitzler syndrome

= acquired auto-inflammatory syndrome?

*unregulated secretion of IL-1 via interaction of a clonal product (the Mlg?) with a key component of the IL1 pathway?*

## Genetic “auto-inflammatory” diseases

*Familial cold autoinflammatory syndrome (FCAS),  
Muckle Wells syndrome (MWS) ....*

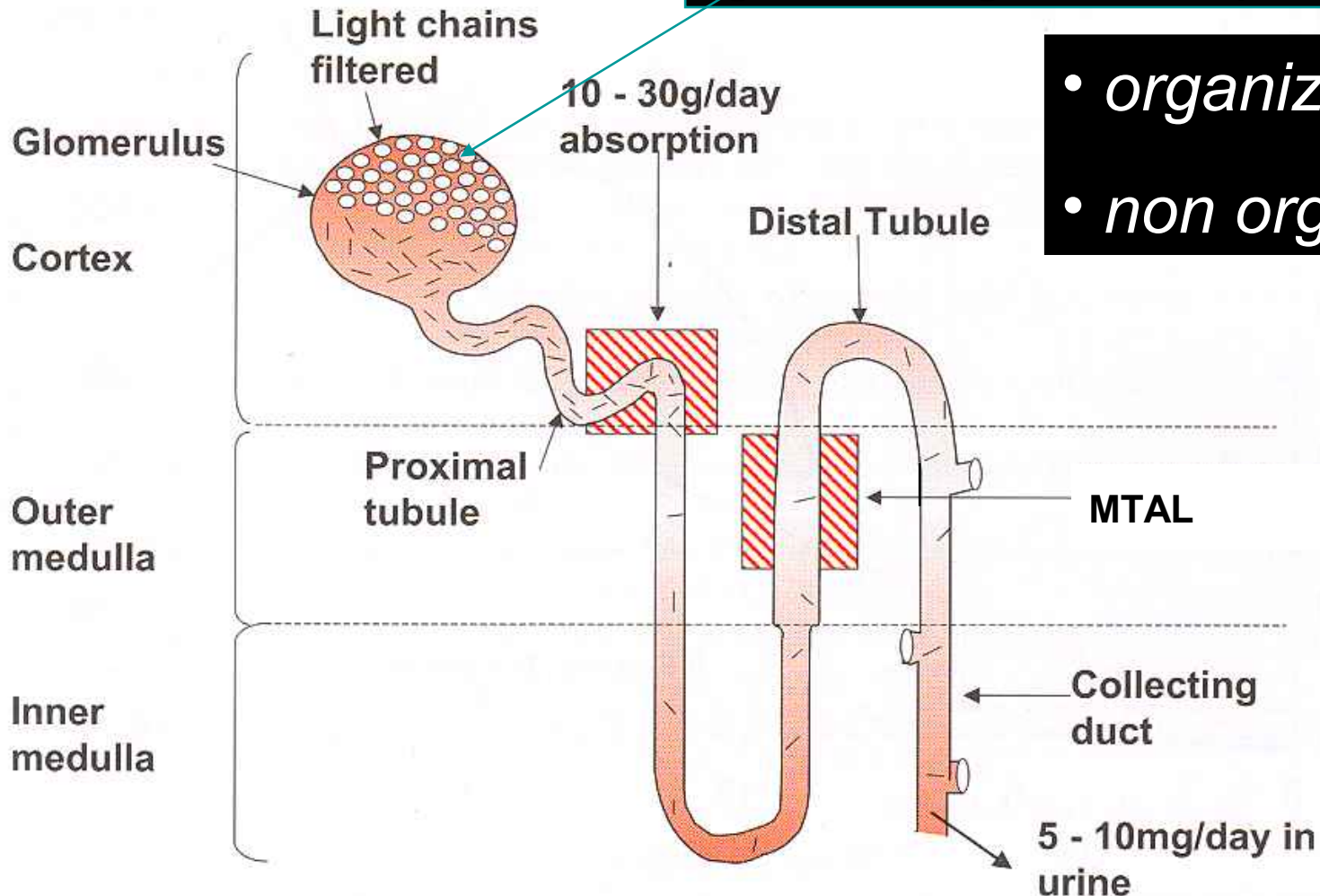
due to mutations in intra-cellular NOD-like receptors (cryopyrin)  
= skin rashes and periodic fever



# The Kidney

# renal metabolism of Ig light chains (LC)

## Ig related glomerulopathies

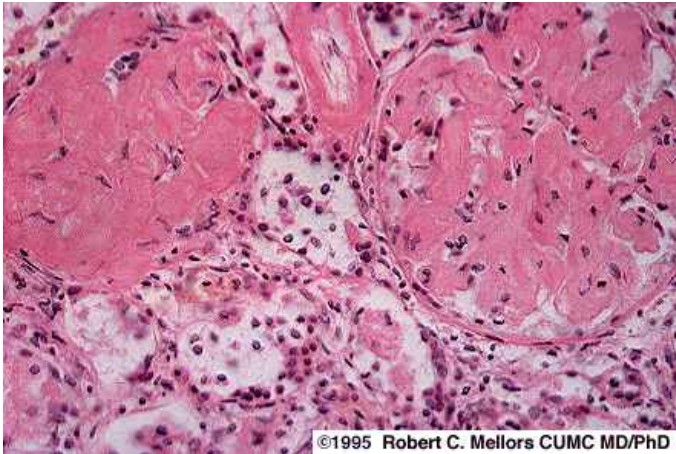


- *organized*
- *non organized*

# Monoclonal immunoglobulin (Ig) related nephropathies: Glomerulopathies

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*organized deposits* (electronic microscopy):



**Fibrillar:**

AL(AH) Amyloidosis



**Microtubular:**

type I and II cryoglobulinemia

GOMMID (GN with organized microtubular monoclonal Ig deposits) or «immunotactoid» GN

# Monoclonal immunoglobulin (Ig) related nephropathies: **Glomerulopathies**

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*Organized deposits (electronic microscopy)*

*Non-organized deposits (amorphous and granular) :*

MIDD (monoclonal Ig deposition disease  
or Randall's diseases) : LCDD, HCDD, LHCDD

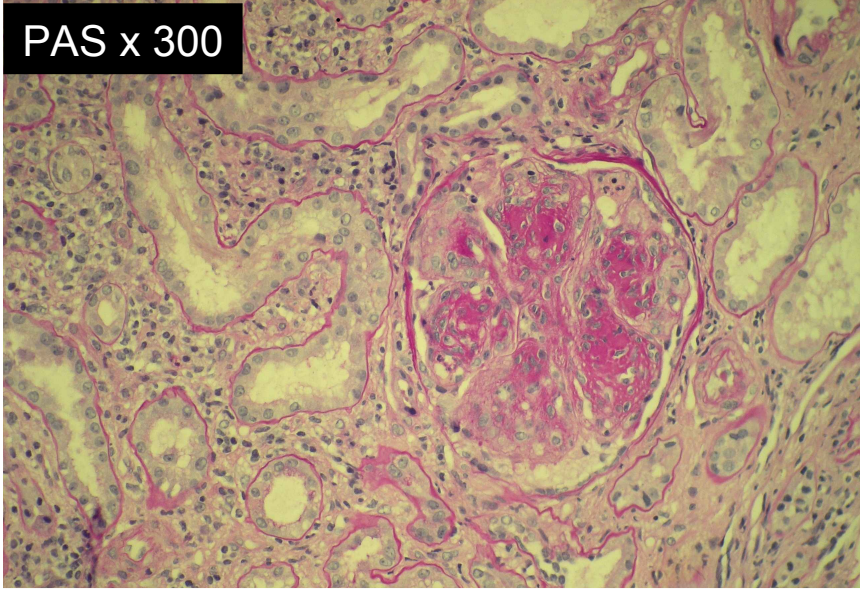
Other



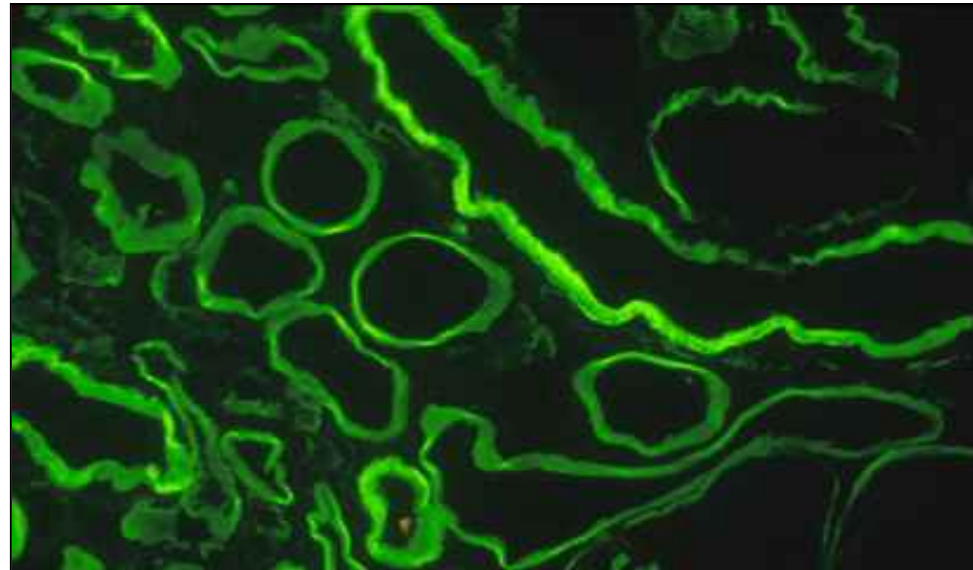
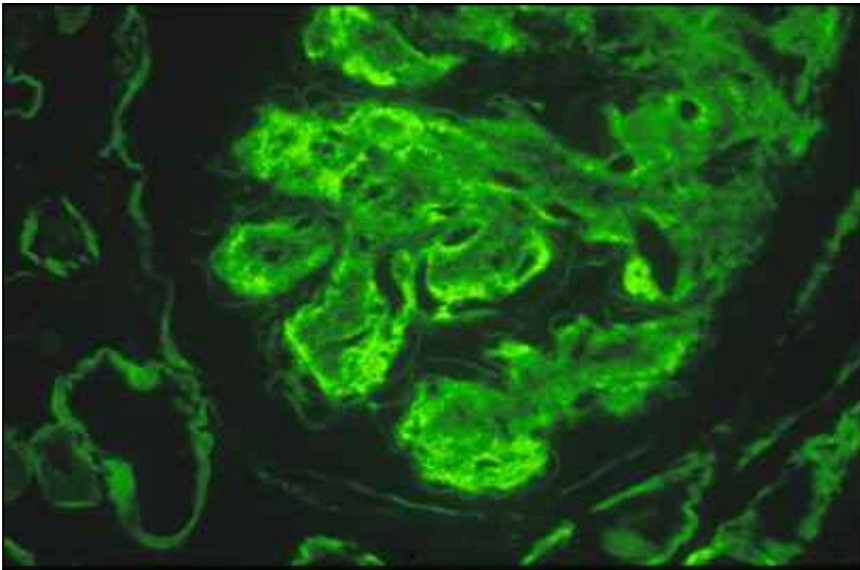
# Non-organized Randall-type deposits

LCDD, (HCDD, LHCDD)

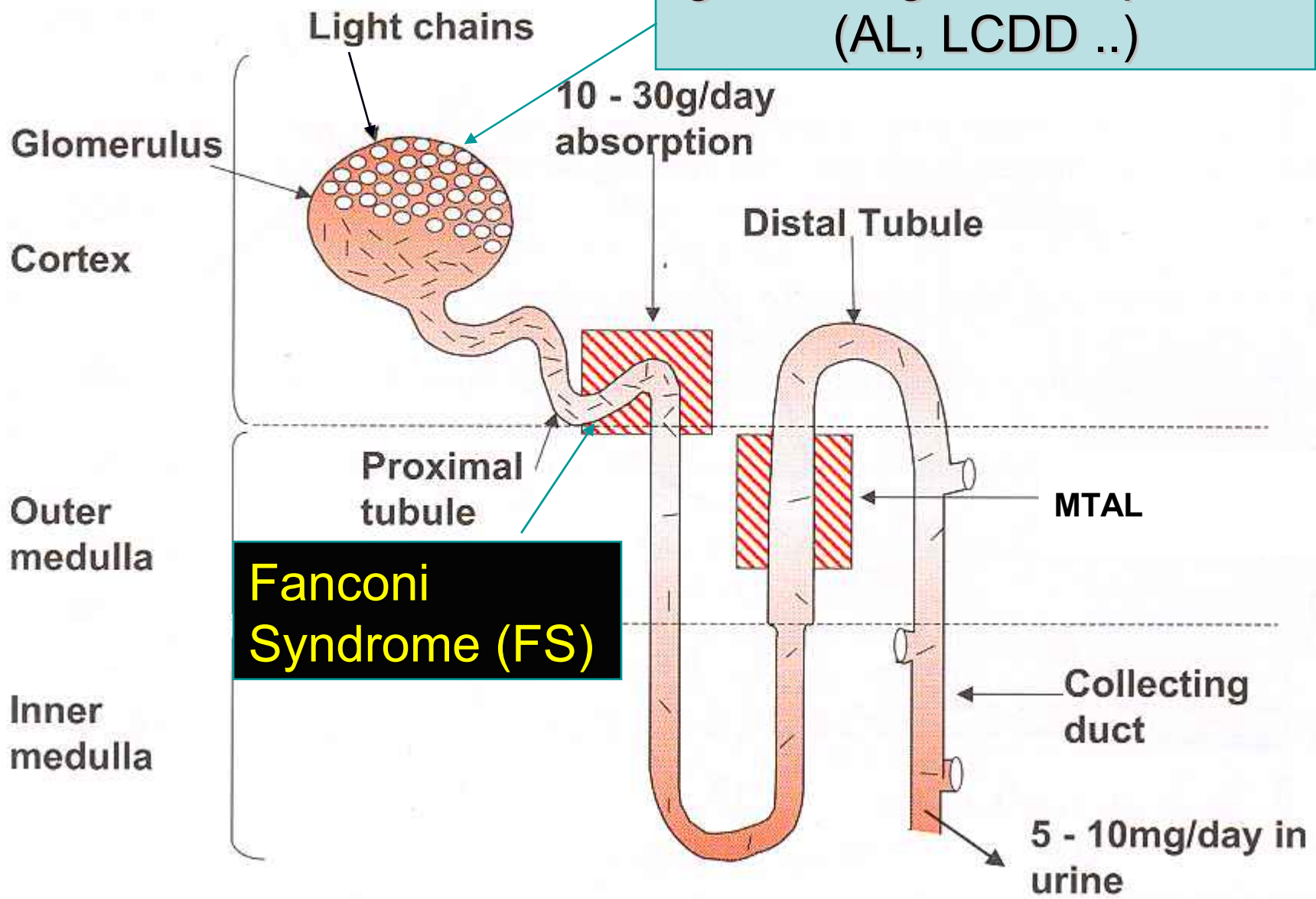
PAS x 300



Marinozzi x 125



Ig related glomerulopathies  
(AL, LCDD ..)



**Fanconi Syndrome (FS)**

MTAL

Collecting duct

5 - 10mg/day in urine

10 - 30g/day absorption

Light chains

Glomerulus

Cortex

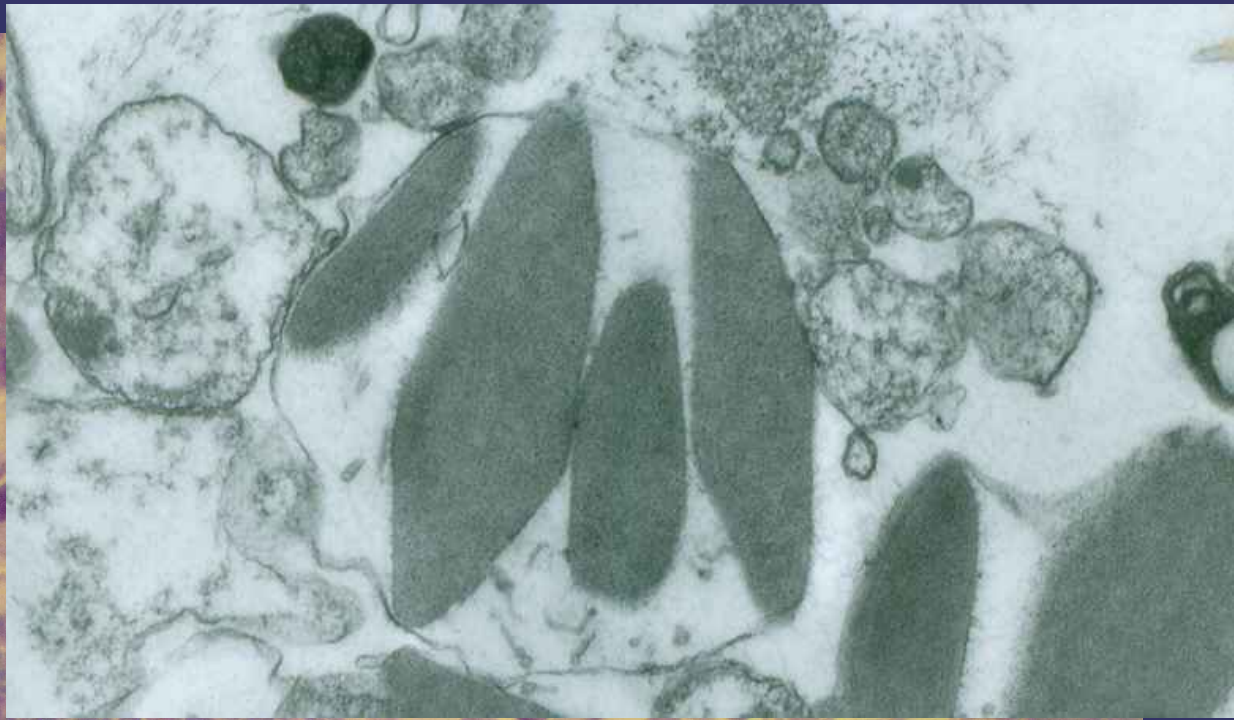
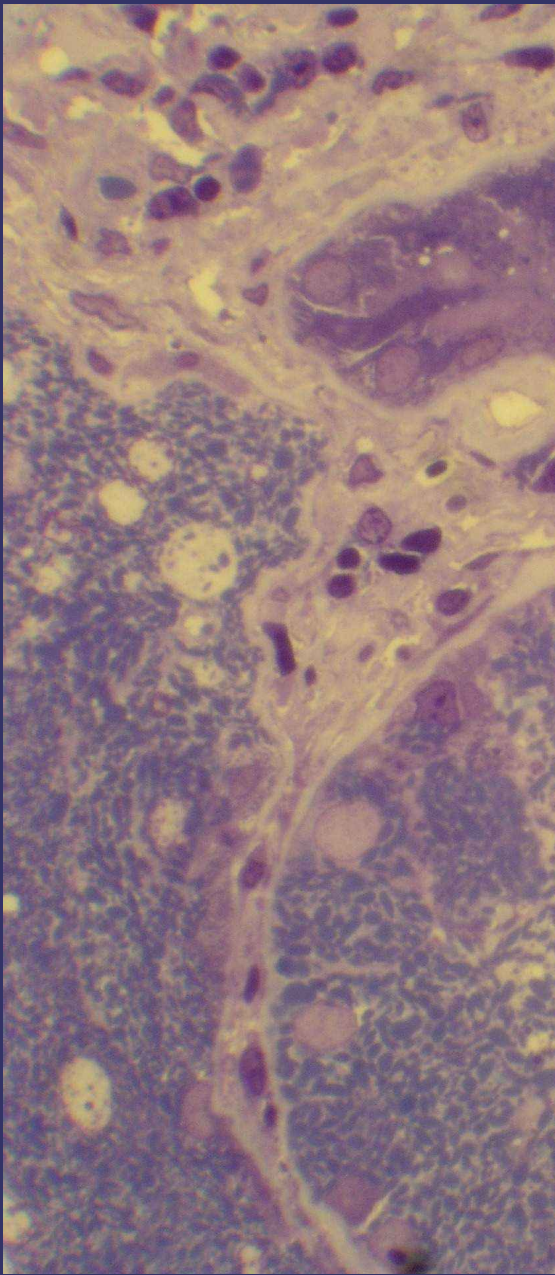
Outer medulla

Inner medulla

Distal Tubule

Proximal tubule

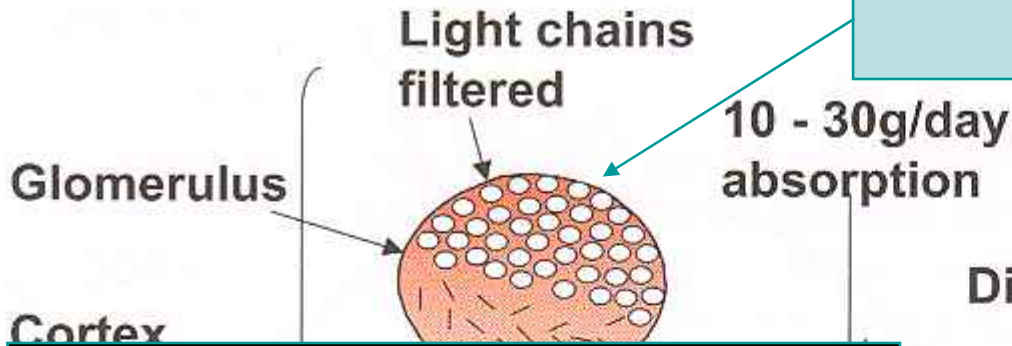




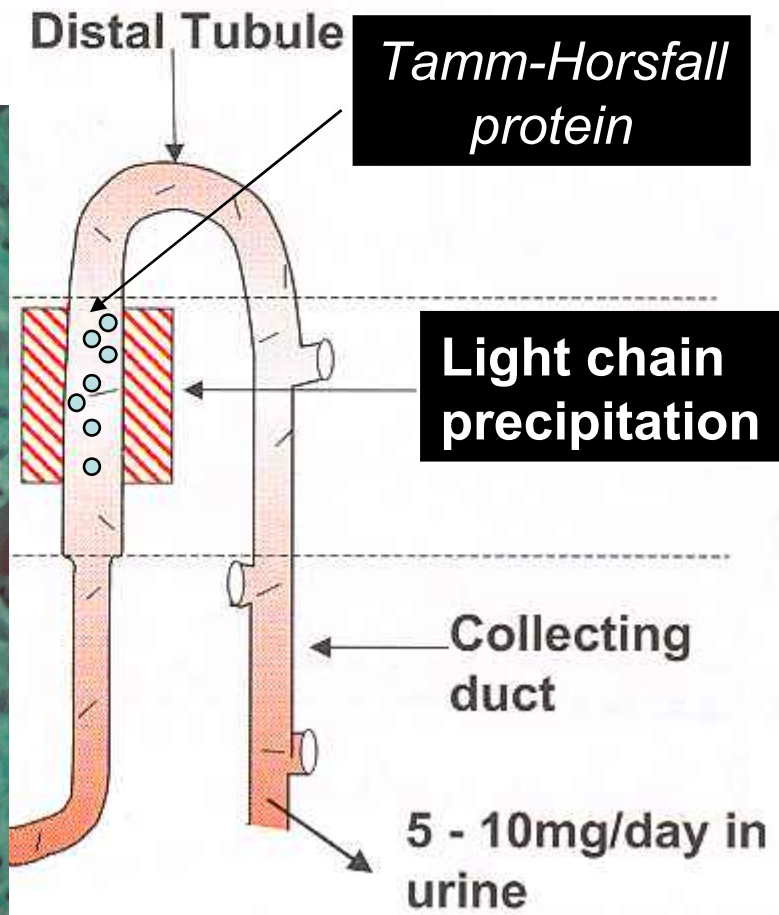
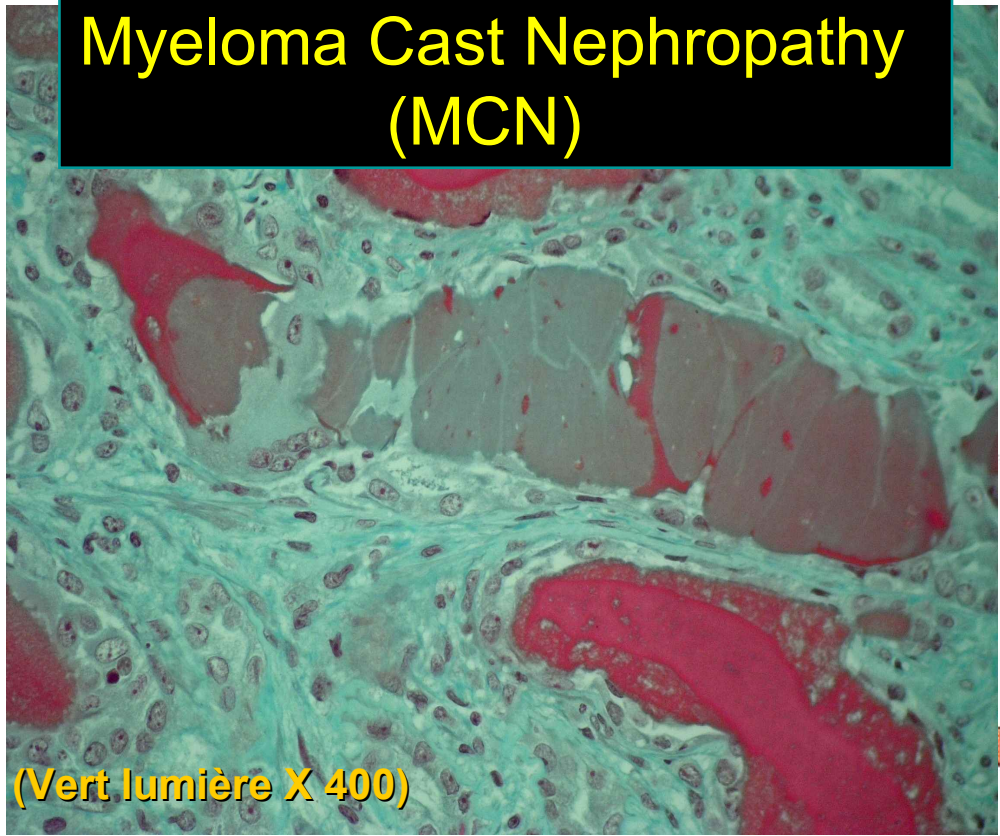
Bleu de Toluidine X 1.000



Ig related glomerulopathies  
(AL, LCDD ..)



**Myeloma Cast Nephropathy (MCN)**



# Renal impairment and monoclonal Ig : glomerulopathy or tubulopathy?

---

Key component of proteinuria?

If albuminuria > 1g/d → Ig glomerular deposits? → Which kind?

other renal features

extra-renal symptoms

characteristics of the  
monoclonal gammopathy

AL amyloidosis L(H)C deposition disease

proteinuria ± nephrotic syndrome,  
frequent extra-renal symptoms,  
MGUS or stage I MM,  $\kappa > \lambda$

proteinuria ± nephrotic syndrome,  
hematuria, hypertension, renal failure  
± extra-renal symptoms  
overt MM,  $\kappa > \lambda$

## Non-organized Randall-type deposits: LCDD, (HCDD, LHCDD)

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mean age # 55 yrs,

prominent renal manifestations :

proteinuria (> 1 g/d : 75 %) ± nephrotic syndrome

hypertension (#50 %)

microscopic hematuria (30-60 %)

renal failure > 90 %

symptoms of chronic interstitial nephritis (25%)

± extra renal deposits:

basement membranes of most tissues

liver (involvement virtually constant by IF), heart, ....

overt MM # 50%, “primary” forms # 50%,

CLL, WM & B-cell lymphoma exceptional

detectable serum and/or urine monoclonal component : 70- 95 %

κ isotype # 65%

LCDD : over-representation of the VkIV subgroup

HCDD (rare): systematic deletion of CH1

circulating truncated HC, either alone or associated with LC

frequent serum complement activation

# Renal impairment and monoclonal Ig : glomerulopathy or tubulopathy?

Key component of proteinuria?

If albuminuria > 1g/d → Ig glomerular deposits? → Which kind?

other renal features

extra-renal symptoms

characteristics of the  
monoclonal gammopathy

AL amyloidosis L(H)C deposit cryoglobulinemia

proteinuria ± hematuria  
frequent extra-renal  
MGUS or stage

extra-renal biopsy and/or histologic renal examination

hematuria, hypertension  
± extra-renal symptoms  
overt MM,  $\kappa > \lambda$

suggestive extra-renal symptoms  
(e.g., purpura)  
Type I or type II cryoglobulinemia

CCMMID

CCMMID (N)

# Renal impairment and monoclonal Ig : glomerulopathy or tubulopathy?

---

Key component of proteinuria?

If LC > 70%, albuminuria < 1g/d

Fanconi syndrome

Myeloma cast nephropathy

always  $\kappa$  LC  $\pm$  mild chronic renal failure

## Proximal tubular abnormalities

hypouricemia, hypophosphatemia, hypokaliemia,  
aminoaciduria, glycosuria without hyperglycemia,  
LMW proteinuria, hypercalciuria

# Renal impairment and monoclonal Ig : glomerulopathy or tubulopathy?

---

Key component of proteinuria?

Not always so easy ...

Intercurrent pathology  
(hypertension, diabetes... )

Association (MCN +  
LCDD, AL + LCDD .... )



histologic renal examination

# Randall-type MIDD: Treatment

---

## Conventional chemotherapy (MP, VAD, VAMP)

- Median renal survival ~ 2 years
- Median patient survival ~ 4 years

## High dose chemotherapy and autotransplantation

- low treatment related mortality ( $\neq$  AL)
- frequent improvement in the function of involved organs
  - \* including withdrawal of chronic haemodialysis in some case

## Novel anti-myeloma agents (bortezomib)

## Kidney transplantation

- after (high-dose) chemo to reduce LC(HC) production
- carefully monitoring LC(HC) levels
- frequent recurrence

(median time post transplant # 3 yrs, back to haemodialysis # 4 yr)



# The peripheral nerve

# Peripheral neuropathy and monoclonal Ig

in all cases

- direct lympho and/or plasmocytoid infiltration
- Ig deposits (AL amyloidosis, Ig deposition disease)
- intra-vascular precipitation/ vasculitis (type II cryoglobulinemia)
- drug neurotoxicity

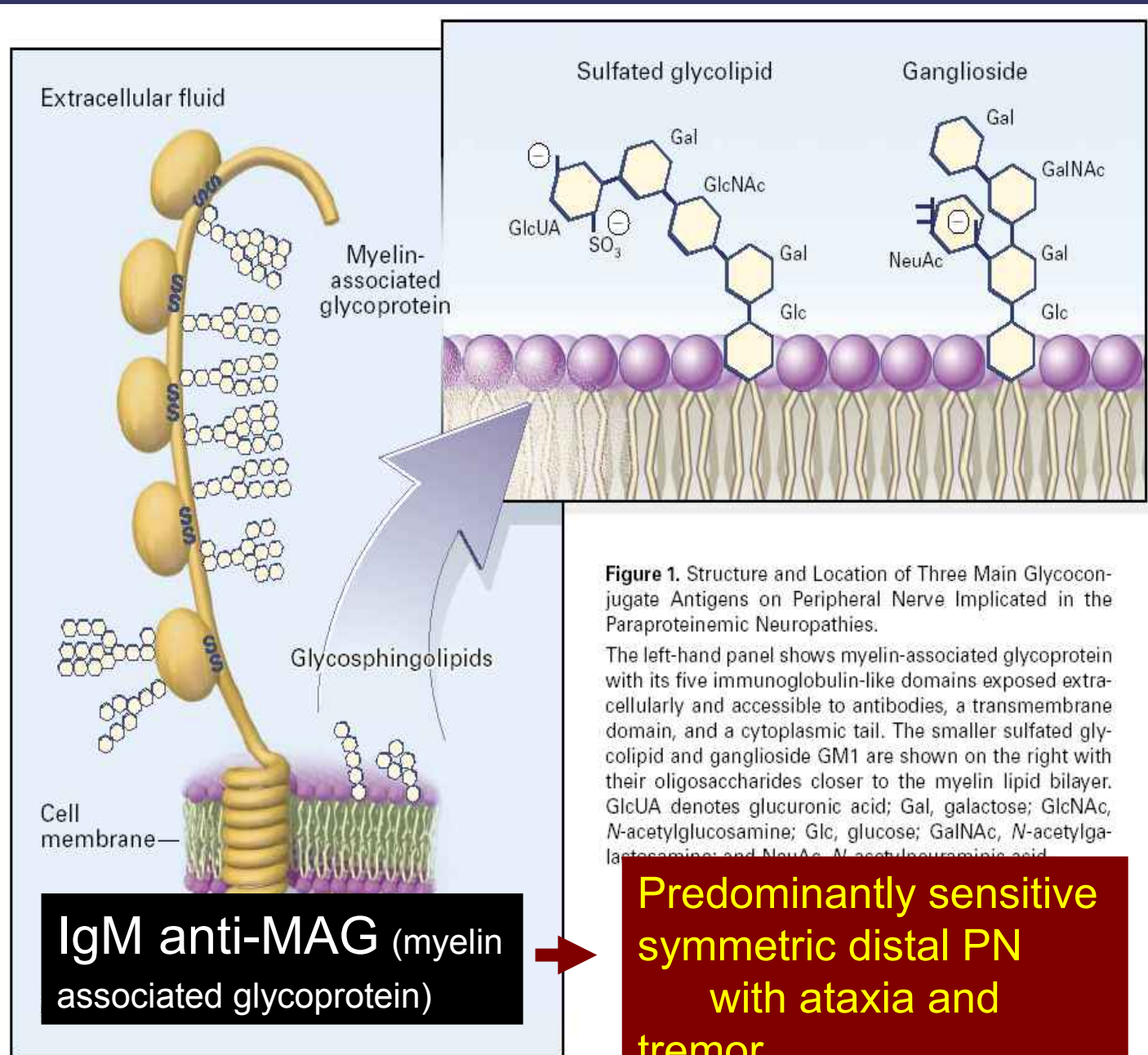
monoclonal IgM

- auto-antibody activity

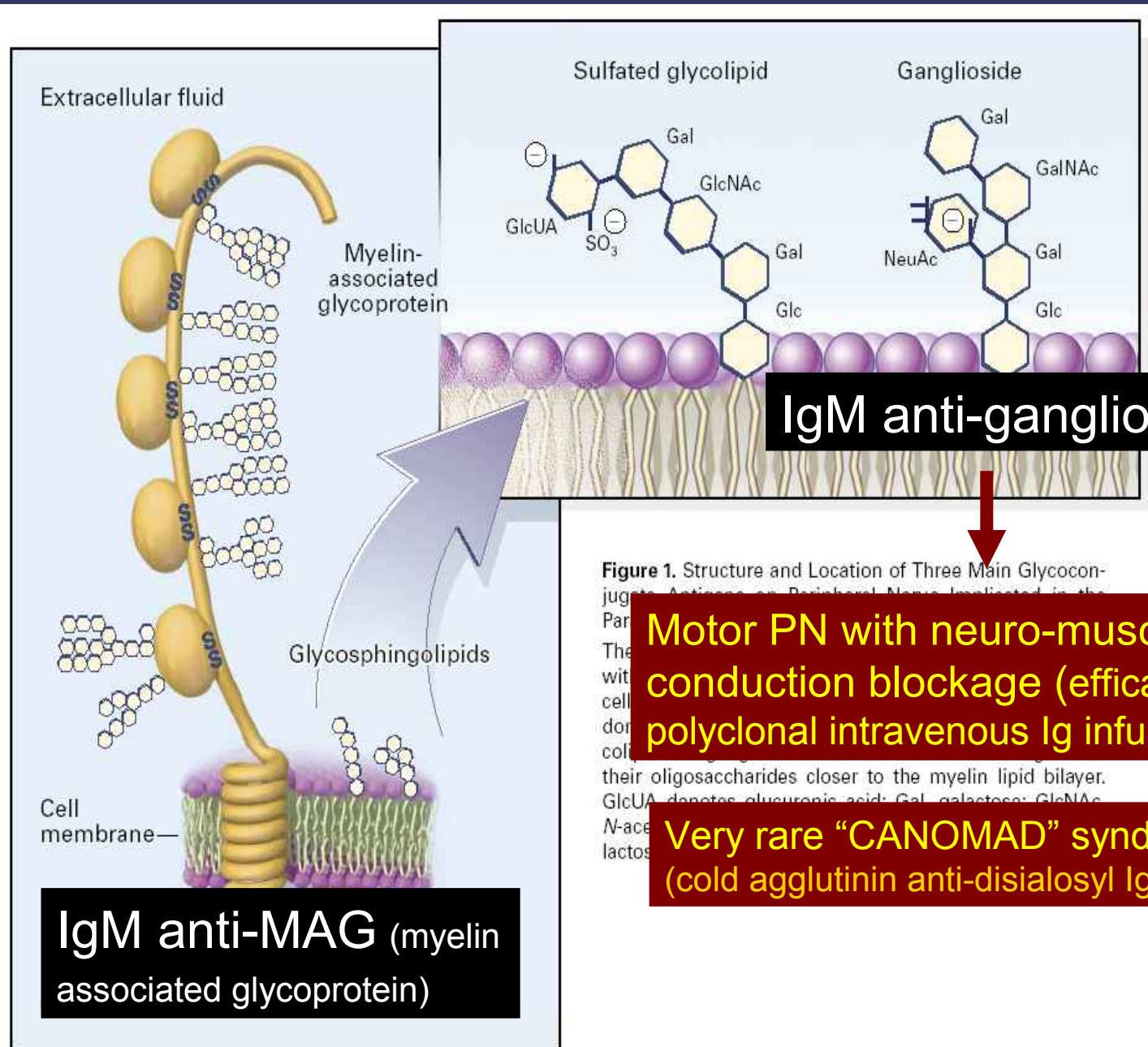
monoclonal IgG, IgA or LC only

- POEMS syndrome

# Peripheral neuropathy (PN) and monoclonal IgM



# Peripheral neuropathy (PN) and monoclonal IgM



**Figure 1.** Structure and Location of Three Main Glycoconjugate Antigens on Peripheral Nerve. Illustrated in the Par... The... with... cell... dor... col... their oligosaccharides closer to the myelin lipid bilayer. GlcUA denotes glucuronic acid; Gal, galactose; GlcNAc, N-acetylglucosamine; NeuAc, N-acetylneuraminic acid; lactos...

**Motor PN with neuro-muscular conduction blockage (efficacy of polyclonal intravenous Ig infusion)**

**Very rare "CANOMAD" syndrome (cold agglutinin anti-disialosyl IgM)**

# Peripheral neuropathy and monoclonal IgG/A

## POEMS syndrome

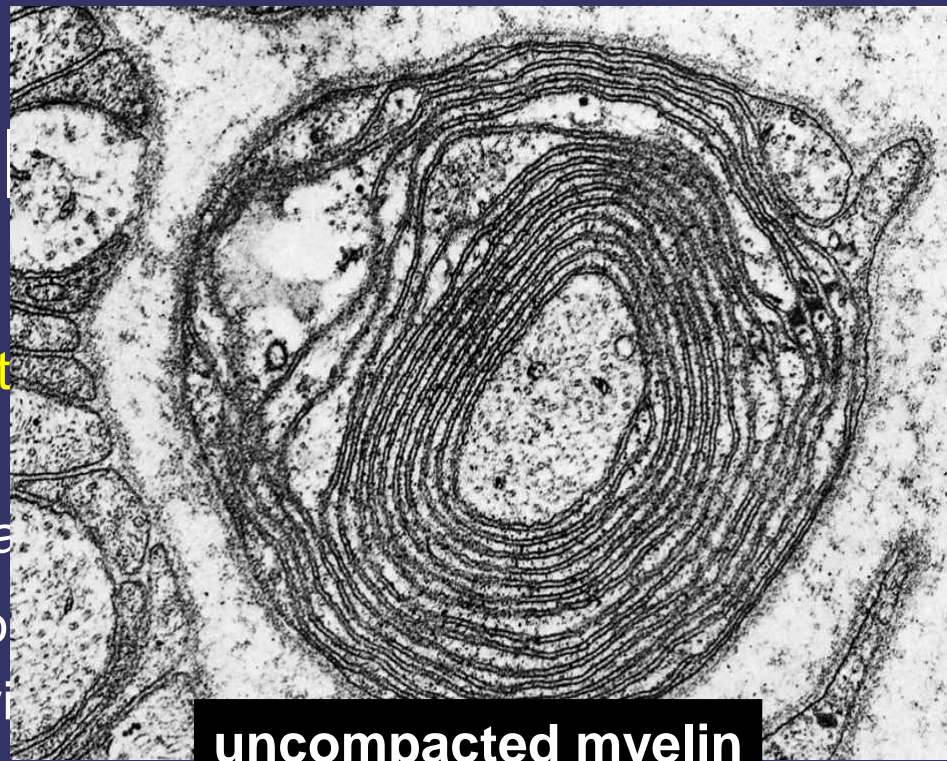
- Polyneuropathy
- Organomegaly
- Endocrinopathy
- Monoclonal gammopathy
- Skin changes

rare (<1/100 myeloma), Asia > Europe/U.S.

mean age # 50 yrs, M/F 2/1



# POEMS : poly

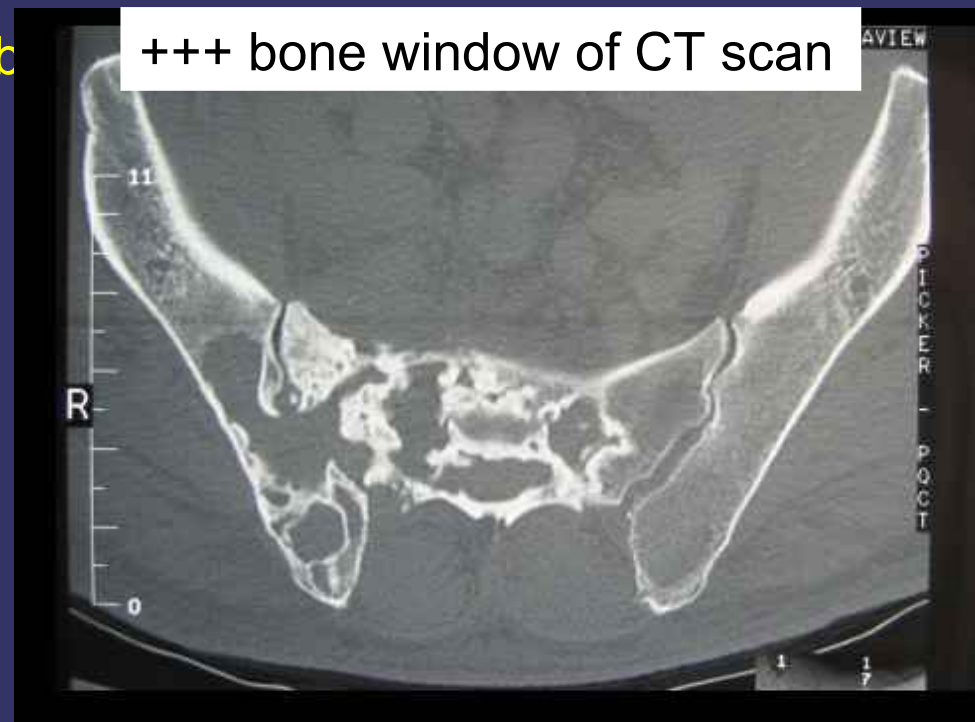


**uncompact myelin**

- 100 % (No POEMS without neuropathy)
- Usually first and prominent manifestation
- Sensory symptoms preceding motor symptoms, distal, symmetric and progressive, with weakness
- Severe weakness (>50%) → inability to climb stairs, wheelchair
- Associated with
  - papilledema
  - elevated protein level in cerebrospinal fluid
  - without hypercytosis
- Electromyography (EMG): most often axonal degeneration & demyelination

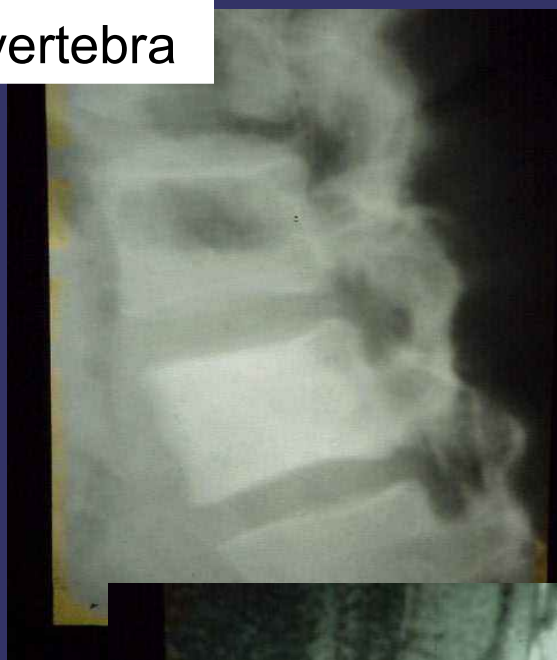
# POEMS: Monoclonal plasma cell proliferation

- Asymptomatic
- Bone lesions (54-97%)
  - sclerotic (40-98%), diffuse or mixed
  - unique (50%) or multiple
  - pelvis +++, rachis and/or ribs





« ivory » vertebra



MRI



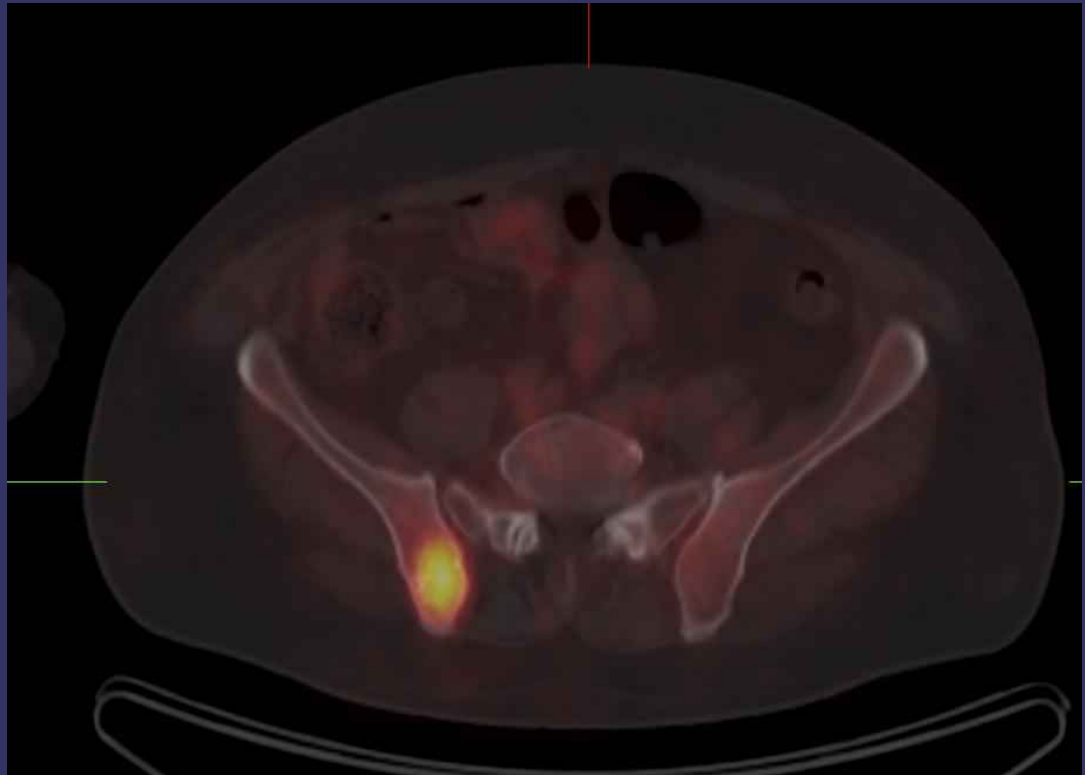
Hypo-signal T1



Hypo-signal T2



**PET scan**  
(variable FDG-avidity)



# POEMS: Monoclonal plasma cell proliferation

- Asymptomatic
- Bone lesions (54-98%)
  - sclerotic (40-98%)
  - lytic (50%) or mixed (50%)
  - pelvis, rachis and/or rib

monoclonal Ig : 75-100%

IgA (45%), IgG (35%),  
sometimes IgM or light chain (LC) only  
median serum level  $\neq$  10g/L  
usually normal polyclonal Ig level

LC : (almost) always  $\lambda$

- Usually  $<$  5% plasma cells (PC) in bone marrow
  - rarely, PC or lympho-PC infiltration and no bone lesion

# POEMS : Organomegaly

- hepatomegaly (24-78%)

normal hepatic tests or cholestasis

- splenomegaly (22-52%)

- lymphadenopathy (26-61%)

Histology: angiofollicular hyperplasia (Castleman disease) (60%),  
Polyclonal plasma cell proliferation

# POEMS : Endocrinopathy

frequent (up to 85%), often multiple

- hypogonadism (50-90%),

impotence, gynecomastia, amenorrhea

- hypothyroidism (3-36%), diabetes (14-36%), adrenal insufficiency

central or peripheral, poorly understood mechanism

# POEMS : Skin manifestations

- glomeruloid angiomas  
often rapid accumulation
- hyperpigmentation
- atrophy of the buccal fat pad
- sclerodermiform aspect of extremities  
(skin thickening, acrocyanosis, sclerodactylia)
- clubbing
- hypertrichosis





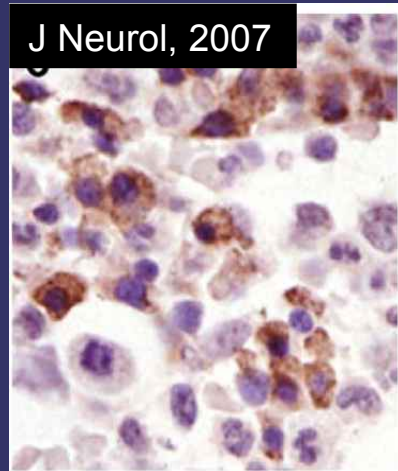
# POEMS : other manifestations

- Systemic symptoms (fever, fatigue, weight loss)
- Edema of extremities  
ascites and pleural effusion
- Vascular manifestations
  - pulmonary hypertension (up to 25%?)
  - arterial and/or venous thromboses
  - vascular glomerulopathy (rare)
- Haematological abnormalities  
Thrombocytosis (60 à 90 %), polycythemia (10 à 15 %)

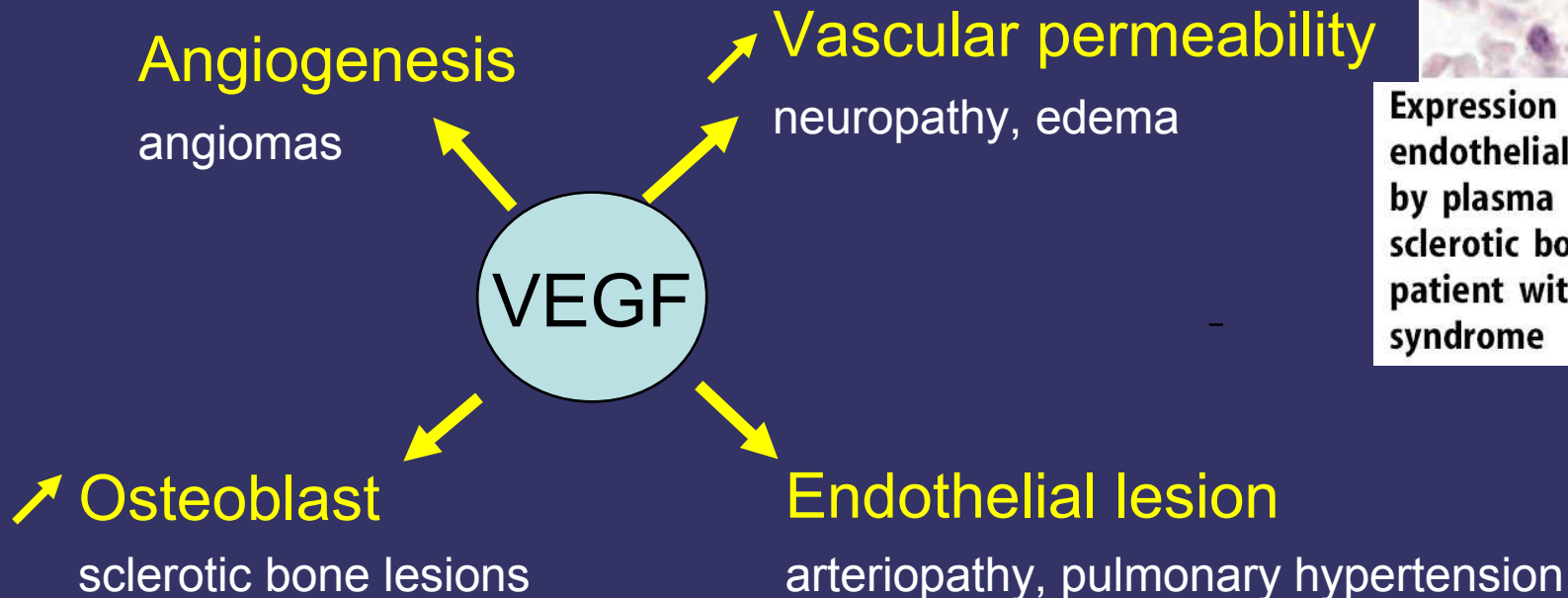
# POEMS: physiopathology

a vascular endothelium growth factor (VEGF) syndrome?

- No known auto-antibody activity
- No monoclonal Ig deposition
- +++ serum VEGF elevation in the majority of patients  
major criteria for the diagnosis (Mayo clinic)



Expression of vascular endothelial growth factor by plasma cells in the sclerotic bone lesion of a patient with POEMS syndrome



# POEMS: a VEGF syndrome?

Yes, but still some issues

- why almost always  $\lambda$  isotype ?

nucleotide sequencing of IGL gene (n=13 Soubrier et al, Abe et al):

- V $\lambda$ 1 subfamily, very limited number of germlines, similar CDR3
- hypermutation suggesting antigen-driven selection

relationship with VEGF?  
auto-antibody activity enhancing its production?

- why Castelman's disease?

role of HHV8 virus (+ in 100% HIV and 40% non HIV Castelman's disease)?

Common origin from a specific lymphoid population preferentially using  $\lambda$  chains and secreting VEGF in response to various stimuli (HHV8 ...)?

# POEMS: treatment

Single or multiple osteosclerotic lesion in a limited area

local radiotherapy (at least 40 gray)

Widespread bone lesions or diffuse BM plasmocytosis

Plasmapheresis/ intravenous immunoglobulin

no neurotoxic drug !

anti-VEGF (bevacizumab)

but high risk

+++ early diagnosis to prevent irreversible neurological disability

leakage)

systemic therapy

high dose melphalan  
+ autotransplantation

Standard dose (chemoalkylating agents, dexamethasone, lenalidomide)

Effective therapy → response of the various manifestations

slow for neurologic symptoms, rapid for others

even in the absence of a complete hematological response

correlated with VEGF level

# Cutaneous, renal and neurological manifestations of plasma cell dyscrasias: conclusions

In patients with monoclonal gammopathy,

clinical examination (including skin and tendon reflexes)  
and urine protein analysis

may be very fruitful!

**Thank you for your attention**