

Lightning Lecture: Cirrhosis (Dr. Kelesis)

- Definition → hepatic disease characterized by distortion of normal hepatic tissue with fibrosis and regenerative nodules
- Most commonly caused by alcohol
- Compensated vs decompensated
 - Compensated usually asymptomatic
 - Decompensated → development of major complications, infection leading cause of mortality
- Varices
 - 50% are gastroesophageal
 - Treatment: ABCs, NG tube, fluids/blood, antibiotics, GI/IR consult early
- Ascites
 - Most common complication, and most common cause of admission
 - Avoid ACEs/ARBs, NSAIDs, ASA
- Infection (SBP)
 - Primary cause of mortality/decompensation
 - Usually E. coli or klebsiella
 - Fever and abdominal pain
 - Paracentesis → greater than 250 PMNs
 - Treatment: Ceftriaxone/cefotaxime (fluoroquinolones if allergic)
- Hepatic encephalopathy
 - Elevated ammonia metabolism → increased glutamine → astrocyte swelling and impaired neurotransmission
 - AMS, asterixis, impaired motor function
 - Treat with lactulose, rifaximin
- Hepatorenal Syndrome
 - Decreased renal blood flow due to splanchnic dilation > decreased GFR > decreased waste excretion
 - Diagnosis of exclusion. Will not be something you diagnose in the ED.
 - Treatment: call nephro and GI, d/c diuretics, increase MAP.
- Hepatopulmonary Syndrome
 - Triad of liver disease, intrapulmonary vasodilation, arterial O₂ deficit
 - Can have dyspnea, tachypnea, hypoxemia, platypnea
 - Treatment: support with O₂, may need tube

Lightning Lecture: Hernias (Dr. Coffman)

- Definition: when organ, intestine, or fatty tissue squeeze through weak spot in muscle/connective tissue
- Presents with bulge +/- reducible, pain, obstruction, systemic symptoms
- Locations
 - Inguinal → 75%
 - Ventral
 - Femoral
 - Obturator
- Three types
 - Reducible
 - Incarcerated → not easily reduced but no overlying skin changes, obstruction
 - Strangulated → skin changes, systemic symptoms, obstruction
- Inguinal → Direct vs indirect
- Ventral
 - Epi/hypogastric
 - Incisional
 - Spigelian
 - Umbilical
- Femoral
 - Female predilection
 - Prone to complications
 - Urgent intervention due to high complication rates
- Obturator
 - Urgent intervention
 - Howship-Romberg sign → inner thigh pain due to nerve impingement
- Richter hernia → antimesenteric border, no vomiting or obstruction, found late (ischemic)
- Diagnosis
 - US → can see defect, can use doppler
 - CT → gold standard
- Treatment
 - Can you reduce it?
 - NPO, pain control, apply ice packs early
 - Grasp and elongate hernia neck, apply firm, steady pressure proximally
 - Can place in trendelenburg position to help
 - Do not attempt if strangulated, concern for ischemia. Reintroduction of ischemic bowel into peritoneum can lead to sepsis.

PEM: GI Emergencies (Dr. Kopp)

- Case 1 (Appendicitis)
 - CC: CHI, vomiting, abdominal pain
 - Two days prior, CTH normal, given Zofran, did well since then.
 - No abdominal pain until fall, vomiting (NBNB) continued, no PO, BM yesterday.
 - Exam: vitals with temp 102.5F, slight tachy, TTP in RLQ
 - Pediatric Appendicitis Score
 - History (all 1 point each)
 - Anorexia
 - Fever > 38 C
 - NV
 - Migration of pain
 - Physical Exam (2 points each)
 - Peritoneal signs
 - RLQ tenderness
 - Labs
 - WBC > 10k or CRP > 1
 - ANC > 7500
 - Algorithm → imaging, surgery consult
 - Preschool children
 - More likely to have fever, abdominal tenderness
 - Less likely to have RLQ localization, anorexia
 - Ultrasound
 - Grade 1 → normal
 - Grade 2 → can't see, no secondary signs
 - Grade 3 → can't see, have secondary signs
 - Grade 4 → appendicitis
- Case 2 (Foreign body ingestion)
 - CC: influenza
 - Vitals okay
 - Fevers last week, dx with flu. Productive cough, with post-tussive emesis.
 - Abdomen soft, NTND.
 - Failed PO challenge
 - CXR with foreign body (button battery) in esophagus
 - Reportedly there for two days
 - Treatment (if in esophagus)
 - Urgent removal
 - If at home → honey 10 mL q10 minutes for six doses
 - At ER → sucralfate 1g q10 minutes
 - Treatment if past esophagus → depends on institution but symptoms usually gets removed
- Case 3 (Intussusception)
 - 19 month old with cc of "fussiness" since last night, started one hour after bedtime

- No PMH, fully vaxxed. Previous episodes of constipation but not similar to this. Had normal BM earlier.
- KUB → moderate stool burden, no dilated bowel, scattered gas pattern
- US → target sign (intussusception)
- Treatment → air enema
 - Need surgery present due to risk of perforation.
 - Six hour observation following
 - 10% recurrence rate overall
- Case 4 (Pyloric Stenosis)
 - 8 week old female with apneic episodes, happening frequently.
 - Vitals: RR 9, SpO2 61%
 - Responses to stimulation, pupils not pinpoint.
 - No co-sleeping, seemed today to have pauses in breathing.
 - No recent sick symptoms otherwise. Endorses may have been more sleepy today. No wet diapers today.
 - Cachectic appearing, nontoxic, no jaundice.
 - Born via C section at 36 weeks.
 - 100% with BVM, without apneic again.
 - Labs
 - VBG pH 7.59, CO2 59, HCO3 62
 - Lactate 9.6
 - Na 128, K 2.7, Cl 73
 - Seen previously for vomiting two weeks ago, sent home. Reportedly projectile vomiting.
 - Ultrasound → donut sign (pyloric stenosis)
 - Thickened muscle of the pylorus
 - Tidbits
 - Usually 3 to 5 weeks, males more likely
 - Family history
 - Forceful vomiting with each feed → HUNGRY
 - Exam: palpable “olive” in 1/7, “waves” over abdomen
 - Labs: hypochloremic, hypokalemic, metabolic alkalosis
 - IVF: NS bolus (es) → D5 ½NS + 20 KCl @ 1.5M
 - Surgery when electrolytes have stabilized

Liv-Er Let Die (Dr. Vanvleet)

- Case
 - 68 yo M to ED with AMS, abdominal pain, fever of 101.2
 - Exam: Jaundiced, abdomen tender to palpation
 - Fill: Nadolol, lactulose, rifaximin
- SBP
 - Infection of ascitic fluid
 - Mortality 20%
 - Translocation of bacteria + impaired immune system
 - Presents with pain, AMS, fever, hypotension
 - Para → 250 PMNs
 - Most are gram negative, can have healthcare associated SBP which are G+
 - Treatment: CTX if community acquired, zosyn if risk for MDRO, add MRSA coverage if history.
 - Albumin should be given, decreases mortality rate and incidence of renal failure
- Varices
 - Octreotide → splanchnic vasoconstriction, given as bolus followed by infusion
 - Vasoactive drugs decrease mortality, improve hemostasis.
 - Antibiotic prophylaxis shown to reduce mortality, bacterial infections, and rebleeding.
 - Acid reducing therapy should be given. No difference in mortality, rebleeding, transfusion, hospital LOS between BID and continuous infusion PPI.
- HRS
 - AKI seen in advanced liver disease.
 - Median survival is around 3 months.
 - Diagnosis of exclusion.
 - Portal hypertension causes release of NO, causing hypoperfusion that then leads to NE release which leads to renal vasoconstriction in the setting of global vasodilation.
 - Treatment: vasoactives with albumin.
 - Albumin shown to increase rates of response with vasoactive medications.

APAP/Acetaminophen/Tylenol/Paracetamol/Goodies Powder... (Dr. Eisenstat)

- History
 - APAP/phenacetin from late 1800s
 - Phenacetin removed from market 1970s because of renal injury, carcinogenesis, hemolysis
 - APAP first non-opioid, became primary analgesic/antipyretic following phenacetin removal
- Why APAP is the perfect toxin to treat
 - Easy to get, lots of data on it, antidote is cheap, can be bound by AC, can be dialyzed
- Tylenol comes in a billion formulations.
- How much is too much?
 - FDA max of 4 g in 24 hours, manufacturers have lowered to 3 g daily
 - 150 mg/kg in peds (acute)
 - 7.5 grams in adults (acute)
 - These are highly conservative
 - Chronic ingestions less understood
- Kinetics
 - Most absorbed in 1-2 hours
 - Peak serum by 4 hours, even in ER
 - Massive OD or opioid/anticholinergics may peak later
- Pathophysiology in overdose
 - Normally APAP undergoes addition of groups and metabolizes into non-toxic products
 - If these are overwhelmed, CYP2E1 produces NAPQI which is broken down. If this accumulates, it will cause hepatocyte necrosis.
 - NAPQI broken down with glutathione dependent pathway
 - NAC repletes glutathione stores.
- Signs and symptoms
 - Acute ingestion often asymptomatic
 - Nausea, vomiting most common
 - AST/ALT will rise before symptoms of liver failure
 - Early acidosis is BAD. Means likely massive acute ingestion
 - Chronic overdoses can present in fulminant liver failure
- Four stages of acetaminophen toxicity
- Rumack-Matthew Nomogram
- Cyanide killings in Chicago bring about safety seals.
- NAC - how it works
 - Works best in first 8 hours
 - Repletes glutathione stores lost in toxicity
 - Glutathione binds NAPQI and allows you to eliminate before it does damage
 - Also reduces oxidative stress
- Be careful with NAC dosing. Should be protocol. Can overdose
- There are both IV and PO formulations.

- Massive Ingestions
 - Treatment failure 5-10% with APAP over 300
 - Treatment failure 10-20% with APAP over 500
 - Not well defined
 - 30-50g
 - 250-500 mcg/ml APAP level
 - Several ways to increase NAC
 - Double the 16 hour maintenance bag
 - Give IV and PO at the same time (???)
- Fomepizole Usage
 - CYP2E1 inhibitor
 - Only useful earlier
 - Single loading 15 mg/kg
- Can dialyze
- Liver Transplant → Kings College Criteria