Renovascular Hypertension for the USMLE Step One Exam







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Stenosis Physiology and Related Pathology

The Key Players in *Reno-vascular* HTN

Vascular Pathology

Hyperplastic arteriolitis





Arteriolar Hyalinosis

Renovascular Disorders (key derivative topics)

- Malignant HTN (pathophysiology, pathology, pharmacology)
- Arteriolosclerosis \rightarrow Nephrosclerosis (pathology)
- Renal Artery Stenosis (physiology and consequences)
 - Fibromuscular Dysplasia (diagnostics, pathology)
 - > Takayasu's Arteritis (pathology)

'Malignant' HTN → Hypertensive Emergency

- Definition
- Pathology
- Clinical features/Associations
- PharmacoRx (Nitroprusside)
 - MOA
 - Pressure-Volume Curves
 - Toxicity

'Malignant' HTN -> Hypertensive Emergency

(...with acute, target organ damage)

- <u>Definition</u>: BP elevation with target organ damage (TOD)
 - BP: >200/120
 - Ocular involvement (papilledema/retinal hemorrhage)
 - CNS (confusion/HA)
 - Renal injury (elevated creatinine, hematuria).

It's never subtle...they are going after derivative (pathology, rx)

Papilledema



Retinal Hemorrhage

'Malignant' HTN: Pathology

- Pathogenesis
 - Endothelial injury \rightarrow collagen exposed \rightarrow platelet deposition
 - Mitogenic factors (PDGF) result in hyperplasia of smooth mm

Hyperplasia of smooth muscle \rightarrow *Lumen obliteration*



Sheer force injury \rightarrow Duplication of basement membrane

'Malignant' HTN: Pathology





• <u>Fibrinoid necrosis (*necrotizing arteriolitis*)</u>: fibrinoid deposits and vessel wall necrosis with loss of cytologic detail and smudgy eosinophilic appearance.

<u>Note</u>: PAN is characterized by fibrinoid necrosis (necrotizing vasculitis) BUT transmural inflammation is also present

'Malignant' HTN: Pathology





- <u>Fibrinoid necrosis (*necrotizing arteriolitis*)</u>: fibrinoid deposits and vessel wall necrosis with loss of cytologic detail and smudgy eosinophilic appearance.
- <u>Hyperplastic</u> arteriolitis (*arteriolosclerosis*): concentric proliferation of smooth mm cells with *duplication of BM* (*correlates with renal failure*).

Hypertensive Emergency: *Key Associations*

- Causes ↔ Consequences (TOD)
 - CNS injury + Hypertensive encephalopathy
 - Aortic dissection (renal arteries) ↔ Aortic dissection
 - Cause
 - Drugs (e.g. MAO-inhibitor, cocaine), withdrawal (e.g. clonidine)
 - Endocrinopathy (e.g. pheochromocytoma)
 - Consequence
 - Cardiac: ishemia/CHF
 - ≻ <u>Renal</u>: AKI

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 - Diffuse Systemic Sclerosis
 - Obliterative arteriopathy

Concentric proliferation of smooth mm cells with duplication of BM



Hypertensive Emergency: *Key Associations*

• Causes \leftrightarrow Consequences (TOD)

- CNS injury ↔ Hypertensive encephology
- Aortic dissection (renal arteries) ↔
- Cause
 - > Drugs (e.g. MAO-inhibitor, cocaine),
 - > Endocrinopathy (e.g. pheochromocyte
- Consequence
 - > Cardiac: ishemia/CHF
 - > Renal: AKI
- Diffuse Systemic Sclerosis
- *HELLP Syndrome* (preeclampsia)
 - MHA
 - Elevated liver chems
 - Low platelets





Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia

Schistocytes

'Malignant' HTN → Hypertensive Emergency

- Definition
- Pathology
- Clinical features/Associations
- *PharmacoRx* (*Nitroprusside*)
 - MOA
 - Pressure-Volume Curves
 - Toxicity

Malignant Hypertension: *Nitroprusside*



<u>Nitric oxide</u>: *vascular smooth mm relaxation*

*Vaso*dilation (arteriolar) *Veno*dilation (venous)



\uparrow cGMP:

- Decreases IC [Ca⁺²]
- Activates protein kinases → dephosphorylation of MLC

Malignant Hypertension: *Nitroprusside, MOA*





\uparrow cGMP:

- Decreases IC [Ca⁺²]
- Activates protein kinases → dephosphorylation of MLC

Malignant Hypertension: *Pathophysiology*



Simlar curve (*morphology*) with aortic stenosis

78 y.o. patient presents with syncope and a 2/6 systolic murmur at the RUSB. His pressure volume curve is shown.

Which of following conditions will present with the same curve?

() Malignant HTN

- 2) Dilated CM
- 3) Restrictive CM
- 4) Aortic insufficiency

LV Pressure-Volume Loop

Malignant Hypertension: *Pathophysiology*



LV Pressure-Volume Loop

Gateway Curve

Malignant Hypertension: *Nitroprusside*



Malignant Hypertension: *Nitroprusside*



Vasodilation: \downarrow *Afterload*

Malignant Hypertension: *Nitroprusside, AE*



Patient presents with the pressure volume curve shown. He is started on a medication but 5 days later is *confused and develops a seizure*. Which of the following medications did he receive?

Nitroprusside

Labetalol Fenoldopam Nicardipine Hydralazine

LV Pressure-Volume Loop



Nitroprusside \Rightarrow Cyanide



A-V O2 difference: narrow

 $\frac{\underline{Rx}}{\underline{Finds}}$ $\frac{\underline{Rx}}{\underline{Finds}} = \begin{bmatrix} Hydroxocobalamin (cobalt) \\ Amyl nitrate \rightarrow metHgb (ferric) \end{bmatrix}$



Malignant HTN: Take Homes

- <u>Diagnosis</u>: Severe HTN associated with Target Organ Damage *Key associations*: dissection, systemic sclerosis, HELLP syndrome
- <u>Pathology</u>: fibrinoid necrosis/hyperplastic arteriolitis
- <u>Pathophysiology</u>: LV pressure volume curve/ \uparrow afterload
- <u>Pharmacology</u>: Nitroprusside and related derivatives
 - MOA, AE/toxicology
 - LV pressure volume curve

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