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Immunodeficiencies

in pediatric allergy/pulmonology

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Childrens Hospital, Lund University Hospital



Can this be immunodeficiency?

When to suspect it ?

How / what can you test?

Immundefekter ? Hvad, er der flere??

[Bull World Health Organ. 1971; 45\(1\): 125–142.](#)

PMCID: PMC2427897

Table 2. Classification of primary immunodeficiency disorders *

Type	Suggested cellular defect		
	B-cells	T-cells	Stem cells
Infantile X-linked agammaglobulinaemia	+		
Selective immunoglobulin deficiency (IgA)	+ (some)		
Transient hypogammaglobulinaemia of infancy	+		
X-linked immunodeficiency with hyper-IgM	+	?	
Thymic hypoplasia (pharyngeal pouch syndrome, Di George's syndrome)			+
Episodic lymphopaenia with lymphocytotoxin			+
Immunodeficiency with or without hyperimmunoglobulinaemia (Faulk, Tomsovic & Fudenberg, 1970)	+	+ (sometimes)	
Immunodeficiency with ataxia-telangiectasia	+	+	
Immunodeficiency with thrombocytopaenia and eczema (Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)	+	+	
Immunodeficiency with thymoma	+	+	
Immunodeficiency with short-limbed dwarfism (Gatti et al., 1969; Lux et al., 1970)	+	+	
Immunodeficiency with generalized haematopoietic hypoplasia	+	+	+
Severe combined immunodeficiency			
autosomal recessive	+	+	+
X-linked	+	+	+
sporadic	+	+	+
Variable immunodeficiency (common, largely unclassified)	+	+ (sometimes)	



Human Inborn Errors of Immunity: 2022 Update on the Classification from the International Union of Immunological Societies Expert Committee

Stuart G. Tangye^{1,2}

Steven M. Hollis³

Anne Pue⁴

Troy R. Tait⁵

... Luis Franco⁶

... 12.

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Table 1: Summary of human inborn errors of immunity (IIEs) and their clinical presentation. This table includes columns for Disease name, Clinical presentation, and References.

Table 2: Combined immunodeficiencies with associated or syndromic features. This table includes columns for Disease name, Clinical presentation, and References.

Table 3: Primary defects of the complement system. This table includes columns for Disease name, Clinical presentation, and References.

Table 4: Primary defects of the phagocytic system. This table includes columns for Disease name, Clinical presentation, and References.

Table 5: Primary defects of the adaptive immune system. This table includes columns for Disease name, Clinical presentation, and References.

485

+50...

Classification

1. Immunodeficiencies affecting cellular and humoral immunity
2. Combined immunodeficiencies with associated or syndromic features
3. Predominantly antibody deficiencies
4. Diseases of immune dysregulation
5. Congenital defects of phagocyte number or function
6. Defects in intrinsic and innate immunity
7. Autoinflammatory disorders
8. Complement deficiencies
9. Bone marrow failure
10. Phenocopies of inborn errors of immunity

Symptoms from	
Lung	Skin
1-2 Predominantly T cell deficiency	Eczema Dermatitis Erythroderma eosinophilia, Severe atopy; food allergies
Recurrent bronchitis Idiopathic bronchiectasis Recurrent pneumonias*Chronic bronchial infection Abscess and pneumatocele Interstitial lung disease Bronchiolitis obliterans Alveolar proteinosis Pulmonary aspergillosis	
3 Antibody deficiencies	
Recurrent bronchitis Idiopathic bronchiectasis Recurrent pneumonias Repeated pneumonia Chronic bronchial infection	
4 Immune dysregulation	
Recurrent bronchitis Idiopathic bronchiectasis Chronic bronchial infection Pneumonia due to encapsulated bacteria Interstitial lung disease	
5 Phagocyte disorders	
Recurrent pneumonias* Abscess and pneumatocele Alveolar proteinosis	
6 Innate immunity disorders	
Recurrent pneumonias* Pneumonia due to encapsulated bacteria Abscess and pneumatocele	
7 Autoinflammatory disease	
Recurrent serositis	
8 Complement deficiency	
Recurrent pneumonias* Recurrent bronchitis Chronic bronchial infection	



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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/rmed

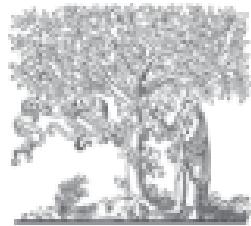


Review article

Primary immune deficiency diseases as unrecognized causes of chronic respiratory disease



Melvin Berger^{a,*}, Bob Geng^b, D. William Cameron^c, Ladonna M. Murphy^a, Edward S. Schulman^d



ELSEVIER

Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology

Volume 127, Issue 6, June 2011, Pages 1414-1417



Letter to the editor

Longitudinal decline in lung function in patients with primary immunoglobulin deficiencies

Yan Chen MB, BS ^a, Rob G. Stirling MB, BS, FRACP ^{a, b}, Eldho Paul MSc ^c, Fiona Hore-Lacy BSc (Hons) ^a, Bruce R. Thompson BAppSci, CRFS, PhD ^{a, b}, Jo A. Douglass MD, FRACP ^{a, b}✉

FEV₁

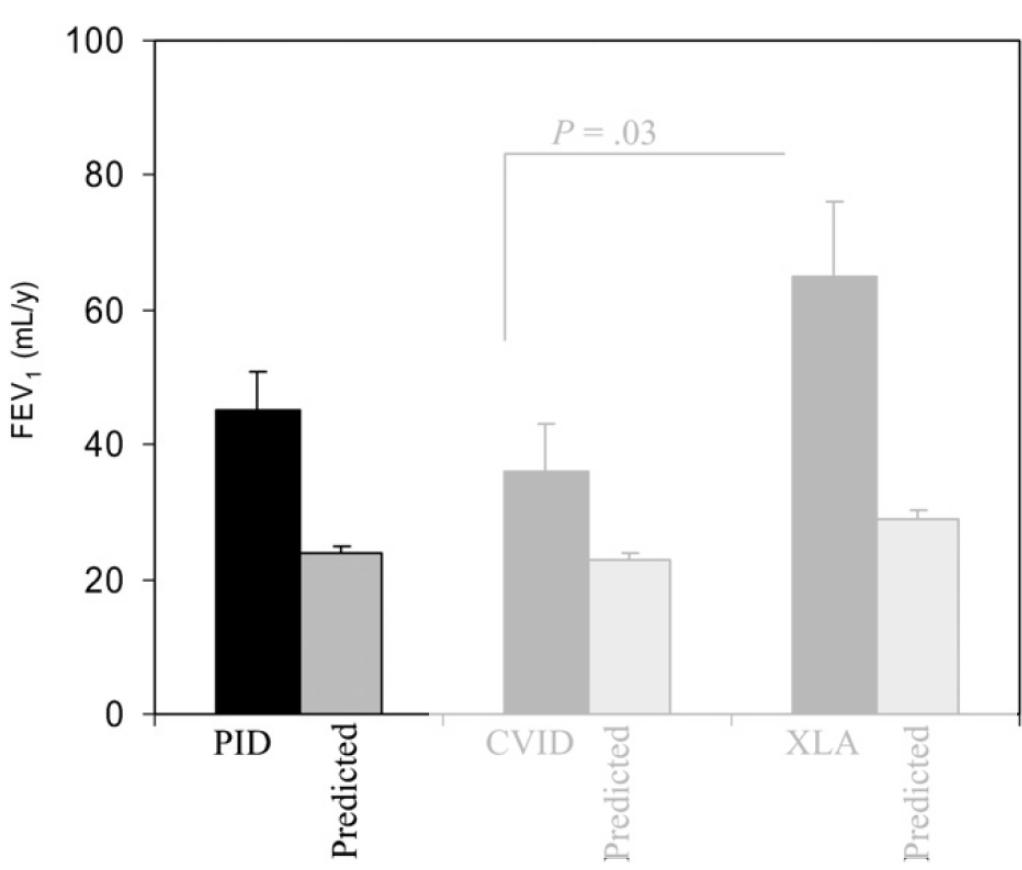


FIG 1. Average decline in FEV₁ (mL/y) for PID (total group), CVID, and XLA

FVC

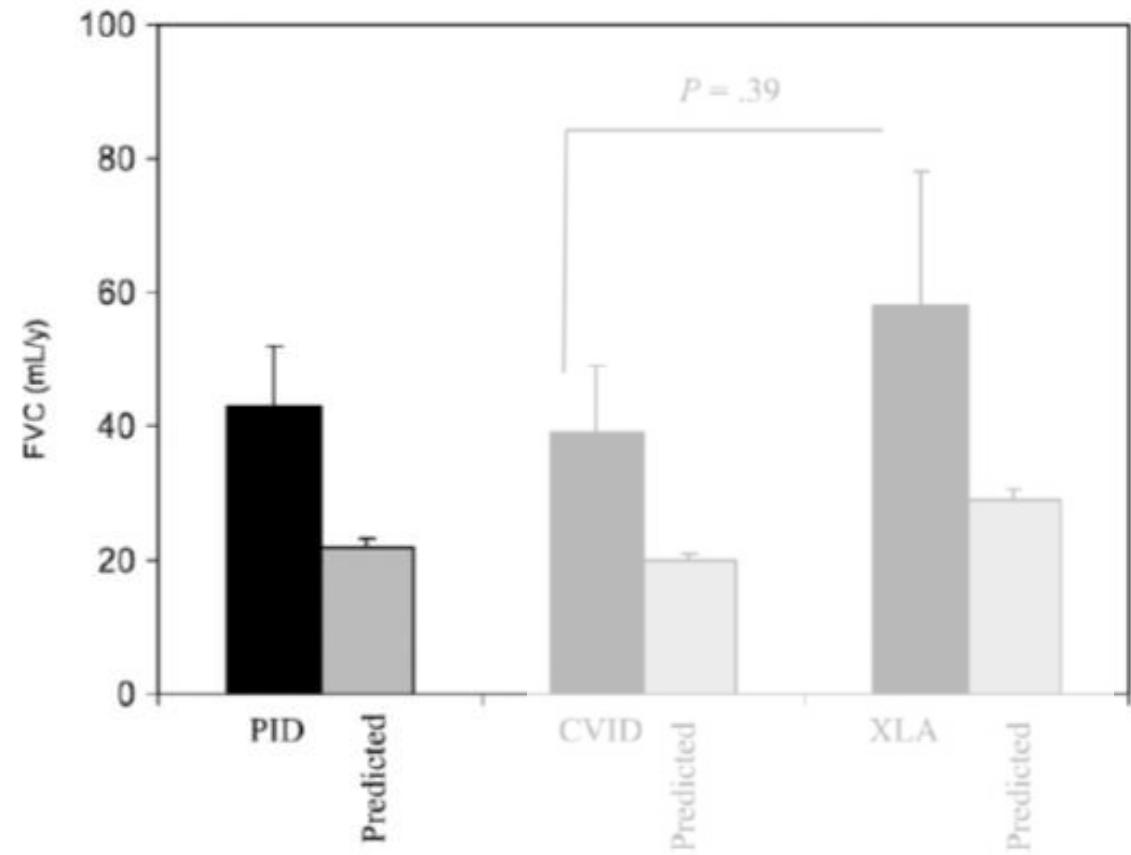
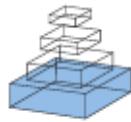


FIG 2. Average decline in FVC (mL/y) for PID (total group), CVID, and XLA groups.

“It has been shown that there is an ongoing decline in lung function above predicted levels in PAD patients and that is greater than in heavy smokers.”



Pulmonary manifestations of primary immunodeficiency disorders in children

Milos Jesenak¹*, Peter Banovcin¹, Barbora Jesenakova¹ and Eva Babusikova²*

Table 1 | Respiratory presentations and complications of primary immunodeficiencies

Non-infectious complications	Infectious complications	Chronic lung disease	Chronic inflammatory diseases	Benign lymphoproliferative disease	Malign neoplasma
RESPIRATORY COMPLICATIONS OF PRIMARY IMMUNODEFICIENCIES					
Bronchial abnormalities (bronchiectasis, bronchial wall thickening, atelectasis, mucus plugs, emphysema, bullae, pneumatocele)	Otitis	Fibrosis	Granulomas	Parenchymal lymphoid hyperplasia	Solid organ tumors (leiomyoma, adenocarcinoma)
Lung parenchyma abnormalities (nodules, cavity)	Rhino/sinusitis	Pulmonary hypertension	Interstitial lung disease	Reactive follicular hyperplasia	Lymphomas
Ventilation abnormalities (obstructive, restrictive, combined)	Bronchitis	Cor pulmonale		Mediastinal lymphadenopathy	Thymic tumors
Laryngeal angioedema	Pneumonia	Respiratory failure			Lung metastasis
	Empyema	Allergies			
	Lung abscess				

4 compartments

Innate Immunity ← Cytokines → Adaptive Immunity

Functional tests
of all 3
pathways

Complement

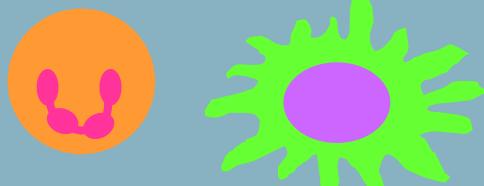
“Land Mines”



Complete Blood
Count (CBC)

Phagocytes

“The Marines”

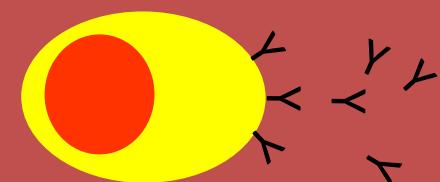


Neutrophils Macrophages

Host Defense

B Cells + Ig

“Air Force”



- IgG, IgA, IgM
- IgG subclasses
- Specific antibodies

T Cells

- “The Generals” CD4+ (T_{Helper})
- “The Assassins” CD8+ ($T_{Cytotox}$)
- “The Psychologists” CD25+ (T_{Reg})



- Flow cytometry
- Functional tests
(T-, B-, NK-cells, neutrophils)



Newborn

- 2 newborn babies
 - Boy born 2017
 - Girl born 2018
- Why should we suspect PID?
 - Because in this family:
 - The first child died in sepsis/meningitis at age of 6 weeks => SCID diagnosed post-mortem
 - Second child diagnosed with **SCID** at age 2 weeks, HSCT at 4 months, doing well

Family history !!

10 Warning Signs - Children



1. Recurrent otitis (≥ 4 /year) or sinusitis (≥ 2 /year) or pneumonia (≥ 2 /year) requiring antibiotics
2. ≥ 1 invasive infection such as osteomyelitis, meningitis or sepsis
3. Recurrent, deep skin and soft tissue infections, organ abscesses or non-infectious granuloma
4. Infections that respond with little or no effect to antibiotics or with unusual localization or caused by unusual agents
5. Pronounced chronic oral or cutaneous candidiasis
6. Multiple autoimmune diseases or very early onset of autoimmune disease (at age ≤ 3 years)
7. Extensive skin lesions, erythroderma or eczema that respond little or not at all to treatment
8. Autoinflammatory diseases, i.e. recurrent episodes of generalized inflammation, where no infectious, malignant or autoimmune cause can be identified
9. Failure of an infant to gain weight or grow normally
10. Family history of primary immunodeficiency

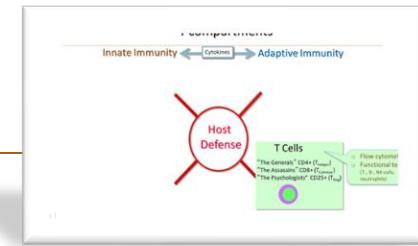
10 Warning Signs - Children



1. Recurrent otitis (≥ 4 /year) or sinusitis (≥ 2 /year) or **pneumonia (≥ 2 /year)** requiring antibiotics
2. ≥ 1 invasive infection such as osteomyelitis, meningitis or sepsis
3. Recurrent, deep skin and soft tissue infections, **organ abscesses or non-infectious granuloma**
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Newborn



Immunodeficiencies affecting cellular and humoral immunity



- » Complete blood count
- » Lymphocyte subsets (flow cytometry)

Except if patient is born in Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Libanon, Israel, USA, Brazil, Taiwan, New Zealand, Catalonia...

Why?

Common denominator for these countries:

Newborn Screening implemented



Severe Combined Immunodeficiency

Traditional symptoms

- Recurrent infections
bacteria/virus & unusual pathogens (also BCG-itis)
- Skin symptoms
(erythrodermia, severe eczema)
- Interstitial pneumonia
- Candida infections
- Severe malnutrition
- Severe Diarrhea

Clinical picture today

in “modern, clean environment” ie Sweden

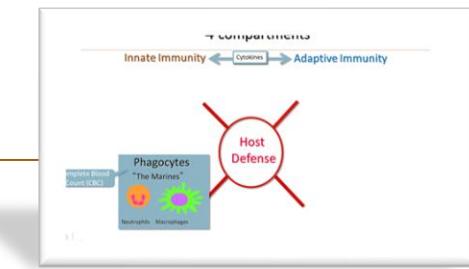
- Mild lung-symptoms - “**bronchitis**”
- Mild skin-symptoms - “**eczema**”
- Poor weight gain / slow development of failure-to-thrive
- Diarrhea

BUT ! NOT ALL forms of SCID are identified by screening...



Infant 0-6 months

Congenital defects of phagocyte number or function



- Complete blood count
 - Neutropenia
congenital neutropenias
 - Neutrophilia
certain types of neutrophile dysfunctions
(i.e. Chronic Granulomatous Disease, LAD)
 - Lymphopenia - SCID

Kostmann

Congenital neutropenia

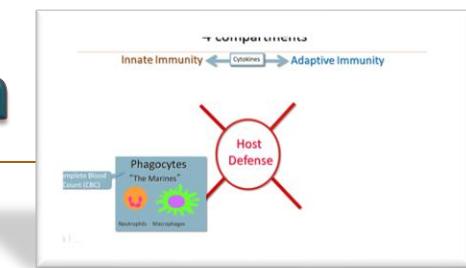
LAD 1

Leukocyte Adhesion Defect type 1

Defects of phagocyte number or function

Warning signs:

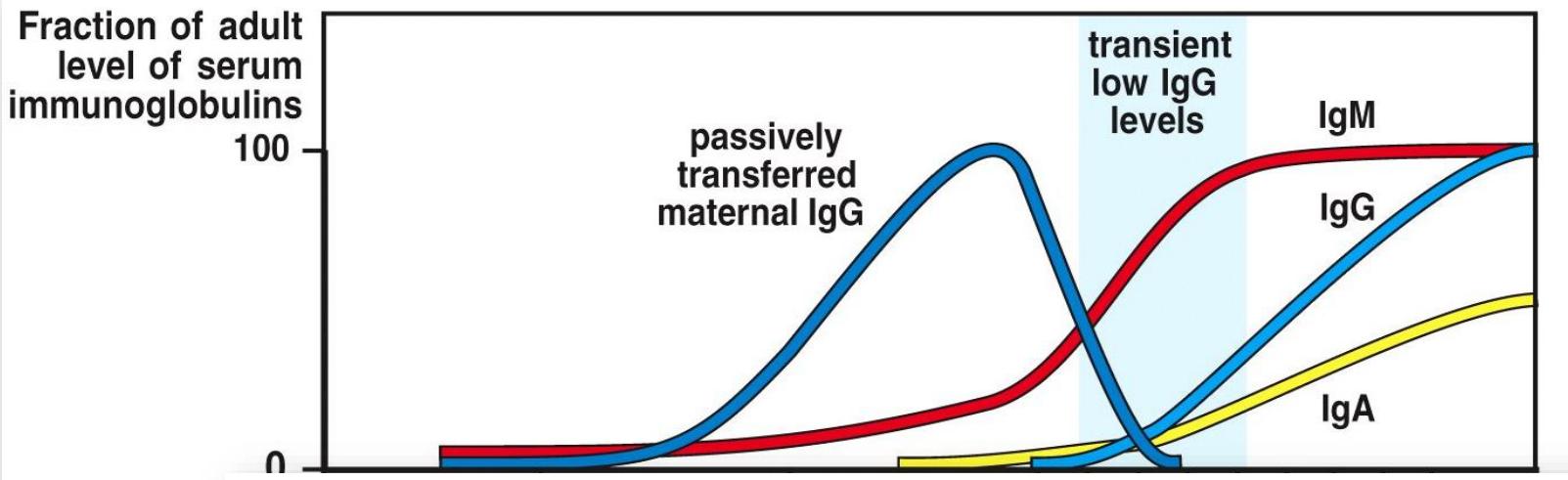
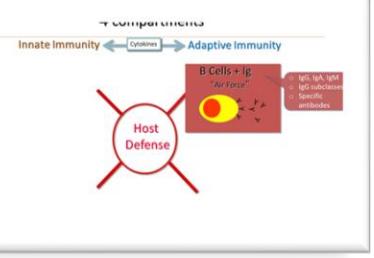
- **Skin** : infected eczema/abscesses/cellulites (early in congenital neutropenias)
- **Mucosal infections**: gingivitis/parodontitis/ aphthous ulcers
- **Perianal infections**
- **Respiratory tract infections** (incl. otitis/sinusitis)
- Other **recurrent bacterial infections**
- Septicemia/meningitis/osteomyelitis



Most common: **Neutropenia**



Infant 7-12 months



Clinical & Experimental Immunology
The Journal of Translational Immunology

British Society for
immunology

[Clin Exp Immunol](#). 2018 Feb; 191(2): 212–219.

Published online 2017 Nov 3. doi: [10.1111/cei.13068](https://doi.org/10.1111/cei.13068)

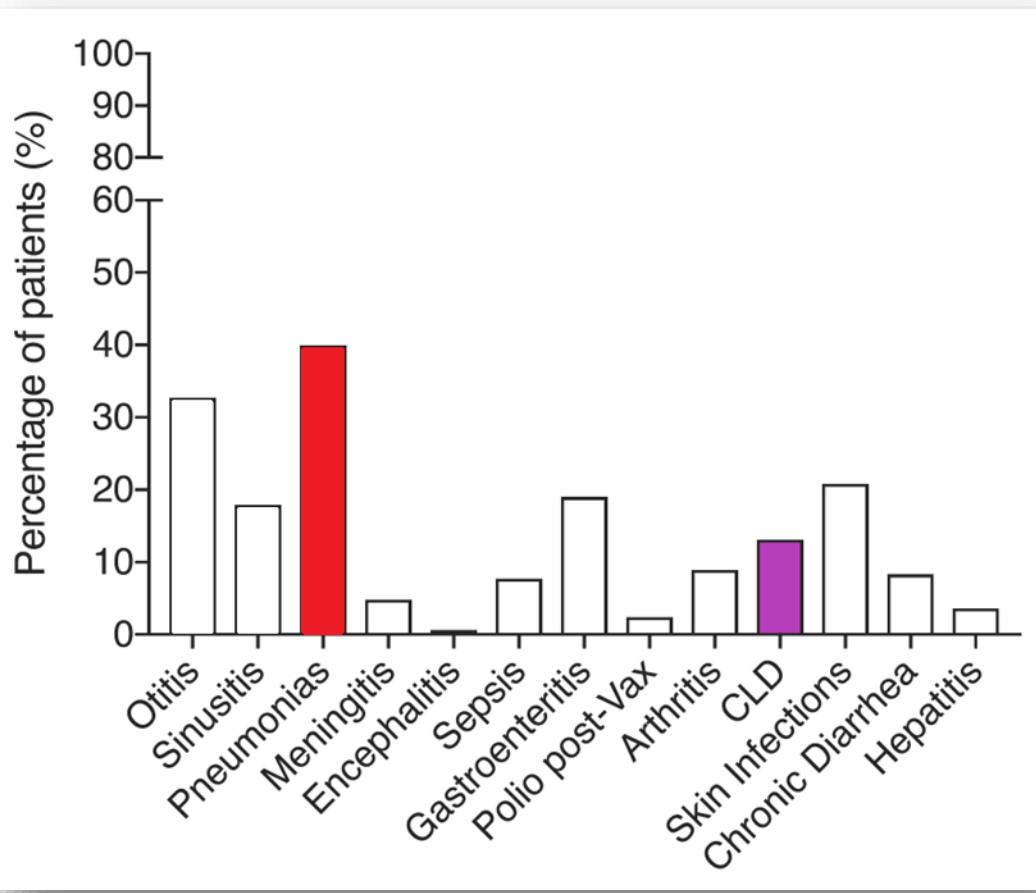
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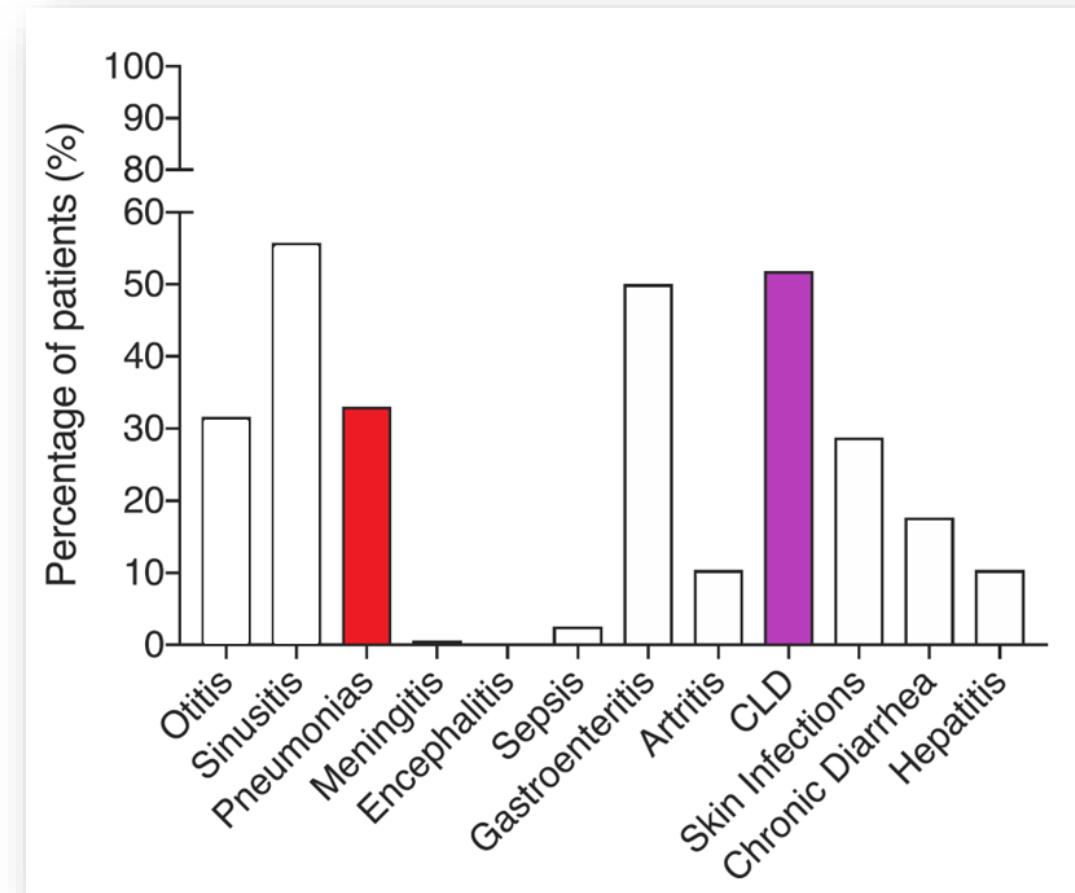
Bronchiectasis and deteriorating lung function in agammaglobulinaemia despite immunoglobulin replacement therapy

A. Stubbs,¹ C. Bangs,^{1, 2} B. Shillitoe,³ J. D. Edgar,^{2, 4} S. O. Burns,⁵ M. Thomas,⁶ H. Alachkar,⁷ M. Buckland,²,
,⁸ E. McDermott,⁹ G. Arumugakani,¹⁰ M. S. Jolles,¹¹ R. Herriot,¹² and P. D. Arkwright¹

XLA and the lungs



Symptoms at diagnosis



Complications after diagnosis

Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrom

Boy with

- Eczema
- Recurrent infections
- Trombocytopenia (ev small sized trc)

+ ev

- Bloody diarrhea
- Autoimmunity
- Malignancies



Infant 7-12 months

Antibody deficiencies

- X-Linked Agammaglobulinemia
- Hyper IgM syndromes
- Transient hypogamma of infancy

Combined Immunodeficiencies with associated or syndromic features

- Wiskott-Aldrich
- DiGeorge (22q11 deletion)



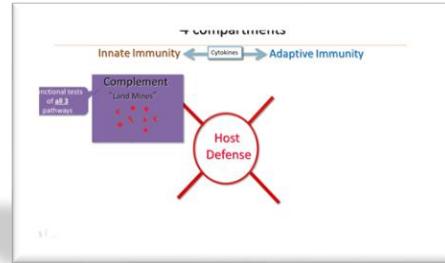
LABS

- Complete blood count
- Immunoglobulins : IgG, IgM, IgA



Infant 7-12 months *continued*

Complement deficiencies



Fulminant Neisserial infection

Properdin deficiency



LABS

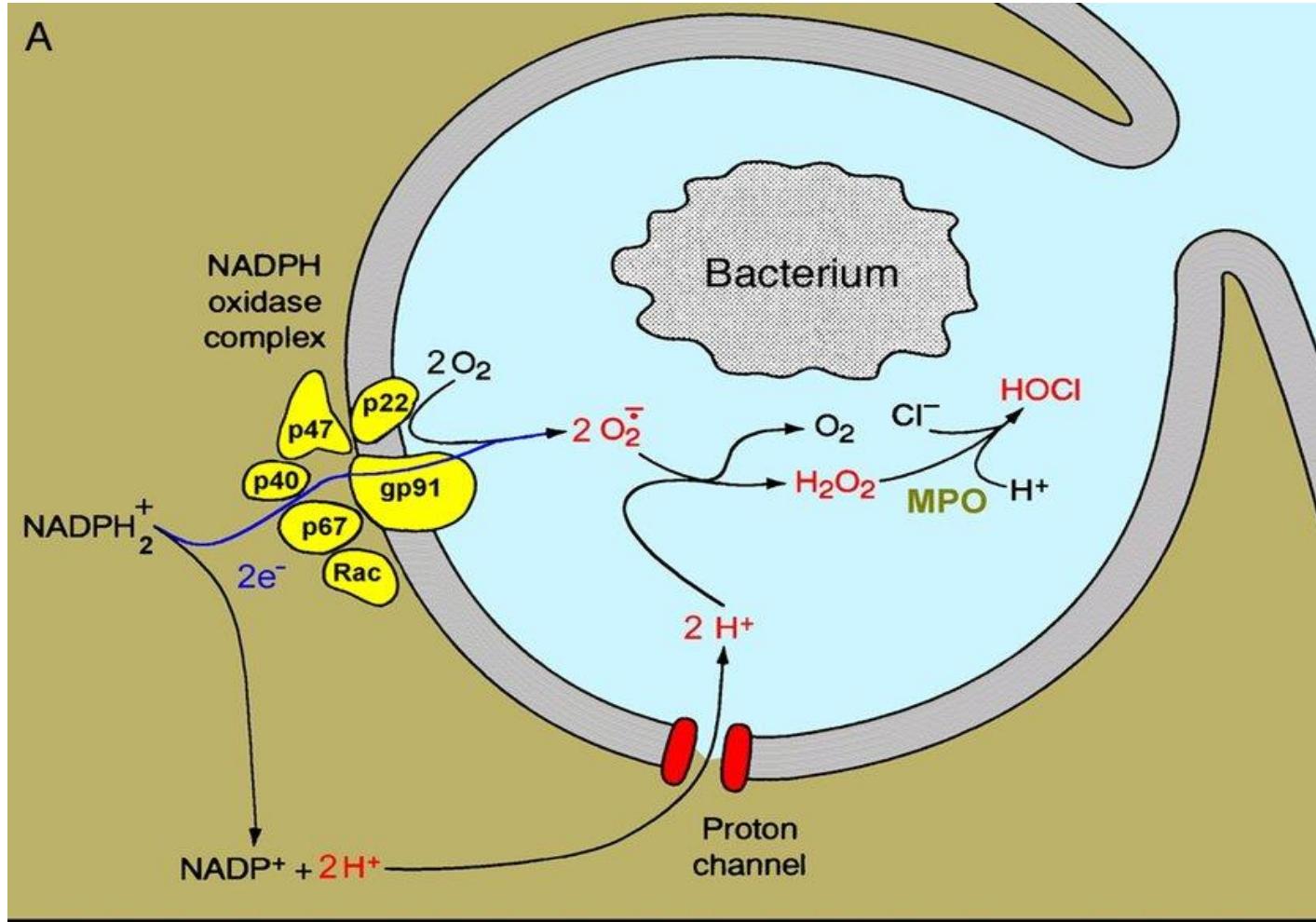
- **Complement**

3 pathways

functional tests (CH50, AH50 or similar)

Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD)

Functional defect



Respiratory burst

Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD)

Functional defect

Symptoms:

- ✓ Neutrophilia
- ✓ Infections with catalasepositive bacteria
- ✓ Abscesses :

lymph nodes, lung, liver,
skeleton, other internal locations and the skin

Staph aureus
Burkholderia cepacia
Aspergillus fumigatus
Serratia marcescens
Chromobacterium violaceum
Torulopsis glabrata
Hansenula polymorpha
Paecilomyces varioti
Pseudallescheria boydii, etc etc

Treatment

Antibiotics (with intracellular penetration) + antimycotics

HSCT



Toddler 1-3 y

❖ Congenital defects of phagocyte number or function

❖ Defects in intrinsic and innate immunity

- Predisposition to severe viral infection
- TLR signaling pathway deficiencies

❖ Combined immunodeficiencies with associated or syndromic features

- Ectodermal dysplasia with immunodeficiency
- Immuno-osseous dysplasias

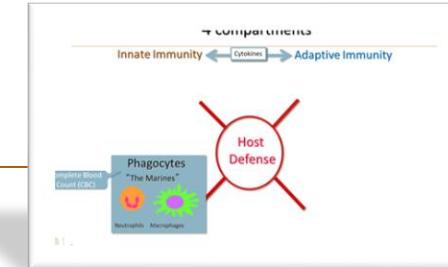


LABS

- Complete blood count
- Neutrophile function
Test oxidative burst

Routine immunology tests usually normal

- Specific assays for measuring response(s) to specific stimuli depending on the suspected disorder
- WGS/WES



Hyper IgE syndrome

Autosomal dominant STAT3 deficiency (Job syndrome)

Symptom	Proportion of patients
Early onset, severe eczema	100 %
Skin infections (staph aur & candida abscesses)	88 %
Recurrent respiratory infections	87 %
Special facial features	100%
Skeletal and connective tissue abnormalities	76 %
Dental anomalies (retention of deciduous teeth)	72 %
Pathological fractures	56 %
High IgE (> 2000 IE) + eosinophilia	100 %

Hyper IgE syndromes (HIES)

- ❖ AD-HIES STAT3 deficiency (Job syndrome)
- ❖ AR-HIES ZNF341 deficiency
- ❖ DOCK8 deficiency
- ❖ IL6 receptor deficiency
- ❖ IL6 signal transducer (IL6ST) deficiency
- ❖ ERBIN deficiency
- ❖ Loeys-Dietz syndrome (TGFBR deficiency)
- ❖ Comel-Netherton syndrome
- ❖ PGM3 deficiency
- ❖ CARD11 deficiency

One of the symptoms is always
moderate to severe eczema

IgE often high/very high

Can have allergies,
often food allergies



Preschool 4-6 y

Combined immunodeficiencies with associated or syndromic features

- HyperIgE syndrome(s)
- Mendelian susceptibility to mycobacterial disease (MSMD)
- Predisposition to invasive fungal diseases
- Ectodermodysplasia with immunodeficiency



Routine immunology tests usually normal

- **Specific assays for measuring response(s) to specific stimuli**
depending on the suspected disorder
- **WGS/WES**

Hereditary Angioedema

C1-INH deficiency

=> increased **bradykinin** production

=> **Swellings**

- **Recurrent** : skin, mucosal surfaces, incl laryngeal (!)
- Most common – extremities and abdominal
- Non-itching, last 2-5 days
- Usually starts between 4-18 years of age
- Caused in 1/3 trauma, 1/3 infection but also stress, hormones etc



School age 7-12 y

Common/relatively common disorders

Complement deficiencies

Antibody deficiencies

- CVID
- Specific antibody deficiencies
- WHIM Syndrome
(Warts, Hypogammaglobulinemia, Infections and Myelokathexis)

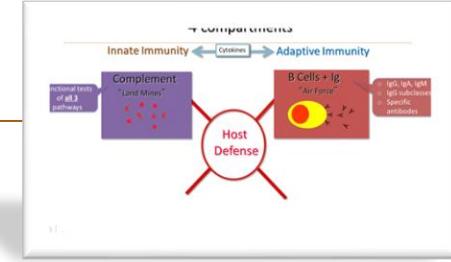
Other

- Ataxia-teleangiectasia
- X-linked lymphoproliferative syndrome XLP



LABS

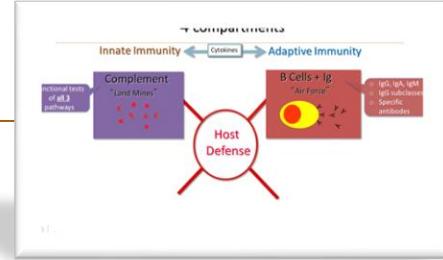
- Complement (ev C1-INH)
- Complete Blood Count
- Immunoglobulins
- Specific antibodies





Teenagers 13-18 y

Common/relatively common disorders



Complement deficiencies

- **C2**
- Terminal complex (i.e. C5-C9)
- Properdin (Disseminated Neisserial infections)
- **Hereditary angioedema**



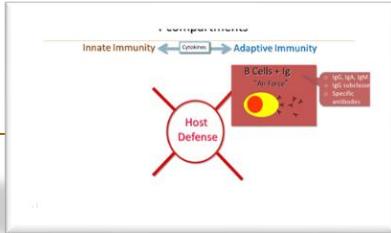
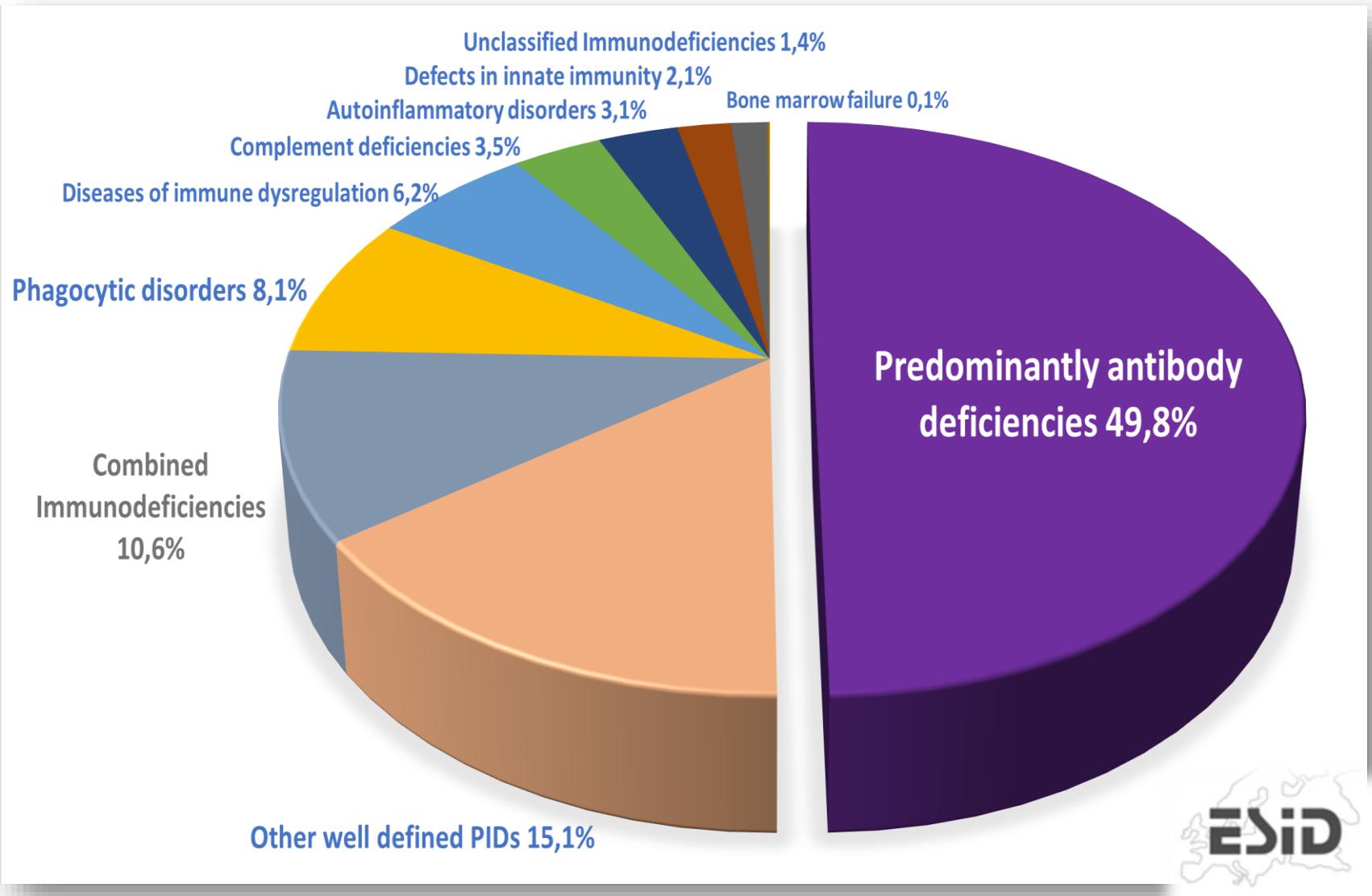
LABS

- **Complement (ev C1-INH)**
- **Complete Blood Count**
- **Immunoglobulins**
- **Specific antibodies**

Antibody deficiencies

- **CVID**
- IgA deficiency
- Specific antibody deficiency

Antibody deficiencies



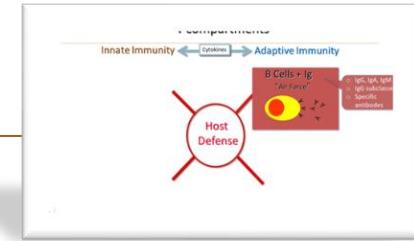
European Society
for Immunodeficiencies

ESID Registry

Antibody deficiencies (AD)

Today (2024) known genes: **45**

+ **7** well described diseases with unknown mutation*



Most common :

- **IgA deficiency**
- **CVID**
- Specific antibody deficiency

Rare

- **XLA** (X-linked agammaglobulinemia)
- Hyper IgM syndromes (AID, UNG etc)
- APDS (Activated p110δ syndrome)

DSI guidelines · DSI infmed.dk/guidelines

DSI DANSK SELSKAB FOR INFektionsmedicin Guidelines Kalender

DSI guidelines

7 CVID behandling (2023)

Denne vejledning er tiltænkt behandling af CVID hos voksne patienter. Der er ikke foretaget en gradering af evidensniveau, da der ikke foreligger solid evidens for flere dele af feltet.

Den aktuelle udgave er opdateret med anvendelse af PCV20.

8 CVID udredning og opfølgning (2023)

Denne vejledning er tiltænkt diagnostik og kontrol af CVID hos voksne patienter. Der er ikke foretaget en gradering af evidensniveau, da der ikke foreligger solid evidens for flere dele af feltet.

[Orphanet J Rare Dis.](#) 2018; 13: 201.

PMCID: PMC6233554

Published online 2018 Nov 12. doi: [10.1186/s13023-018-0941-0](https://doi.org/10.1186/s13023-018-0941-0)

PMID: [30419968](#)

The burden of common variable immunodeficiency disorders: a retrospective analysis of the European Society for Immunodeficiency (ESID) registry data

Irina Odnoletkova,^{✉1,2,11} Gerhard Kindle,^{3,4} Isabella Quinti,^{5,6} Bodo Grimbacher,^{4,7} Viviane Knerr,^{3,4} Benjamin Gathmann,^{3,4} Stephan Ehl,^{3,4} Nizar Mahlaoui,^{8,9,10} Philippe Van Wilder,¹¹ Kris Bogaerts,^{12,13} Esther de Vries,^{14,15} and in collaboration with the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association (PPTA) Taskforce

- ▶ Author information
- ▶ Article notes
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The burden of lung disease in AD

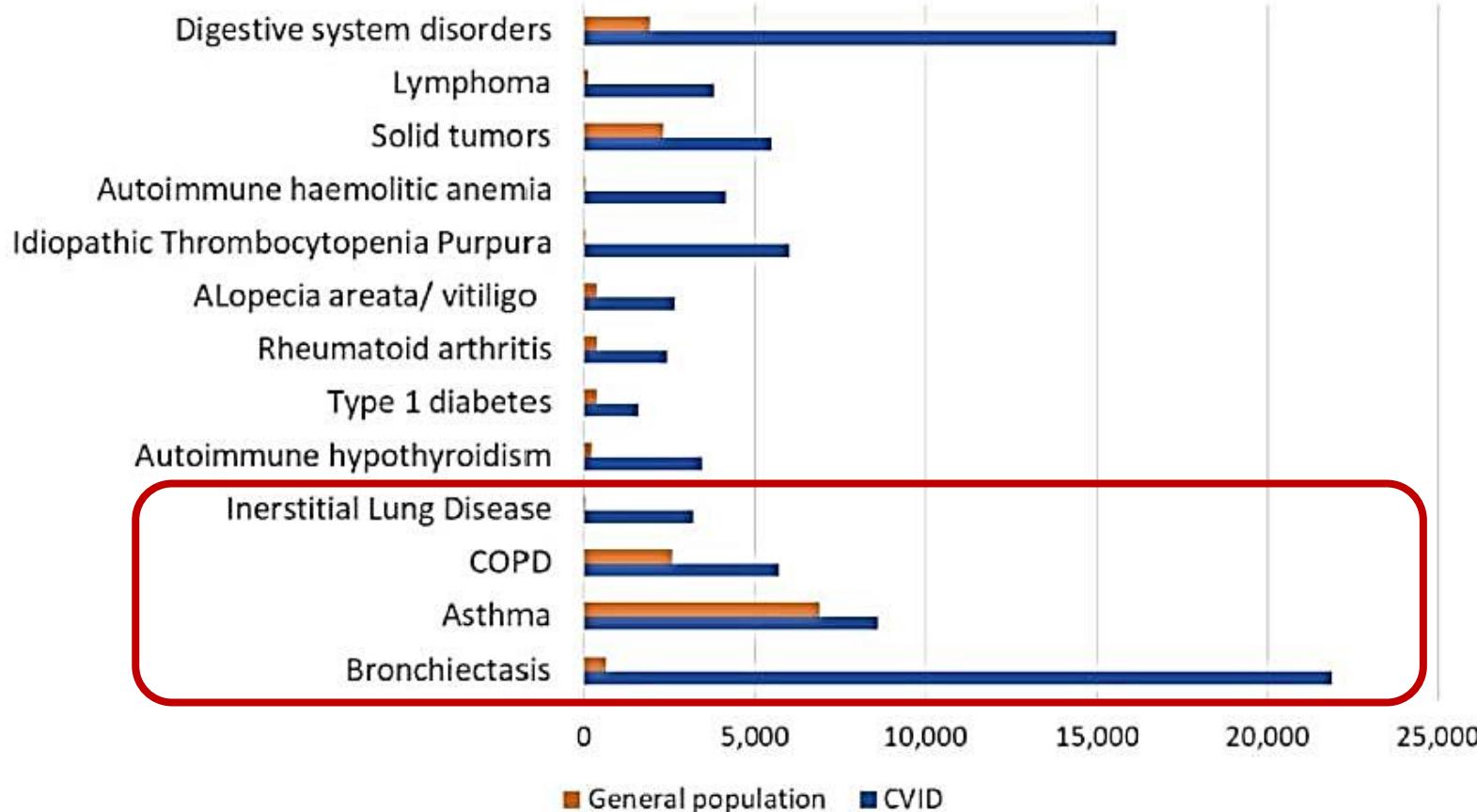


Fig. 4 Prevalence of non-communicable comorbidities. Average annual age-standardized prevalence rate per 100,000 over the period 2004–2014. CVID cohort versus general population*. All ages, both sexes. *Source: Global Burden of Disease Studies, Western Europe: <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/gbd-results-tool>



REVIEW

Bronchiectasis in common variable immunodeficiency: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Nasim Ramzi MD, Mahnaz Jamee MD, Mahmood Bakhtiyari PhD, Hosein Rafiemanesh PhD, Hamed Zainaldain MD, Marzieh Tavakol MD, Amir Rezaei MD, Mustafa Kalvandi MD ... See all authors ▾

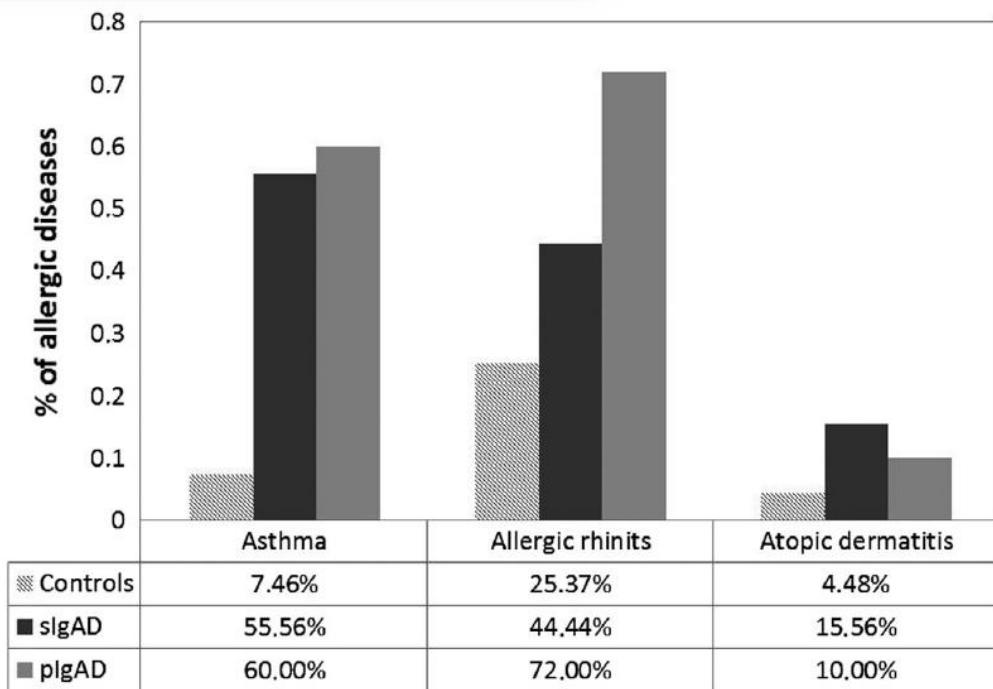
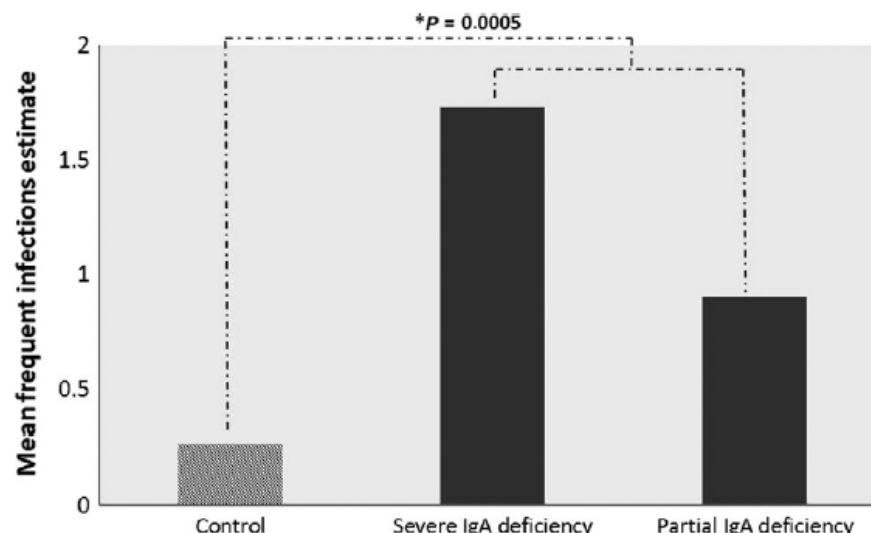
First published: 13 December 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppul.24599> | Citations: 15

55 studies comprising 8535 patients with CVID

Overall prevalence of bronchiectasis **34%**

Respiratory and allergic disorders in children with severe and partial immunoglobulin A immunodeficiency

Jelena Živković¹  | Marcel Lipej¹ | Ivana Banić¹ | Sandra Bulat Lokas¹ |
 Boro Nogalo^{1,2} | Rajka Lulić Jurjević^{1,2} | Mirjana Turkalj^{1,2,3,4}



Selective IgA deficiency

Definition* IgA < 0,05 g/L (other immunoglobulins are normal)

- Most common AD in caucasians - 1 : 500

Symptoms**

- Most patients are asymptomatic (i.e. incidental finding)
- Bacterial infections (mainly if concomitant IgG subclass def)
- Mildly increased risk for autoimmunity
- Increased risk for allergic disorders #

Treatment

- Symptomatic patients with slgAD are managed according to the disorder present
- Periodic or (if needed) daily prophylactic antibiotics

*<https://esid.org/Working-Parties/Registry-Working-Party/Diagnosis-criteria>

**<https://www.uptodate.com/contents/selective-iga-deficiency-clinical-manifestations-pathophysiology-and-diagnosis> Accessed 28Nov 2023

Janzi M, et al Selective IgA deficiency in early life: association to infections and allergic diseases during childhood *Clin Immunol*. 2009

Testing

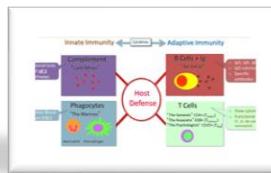
4 major goals: Identify

Complement deficiencies

5

Phagocyte disorders (number/function)

1, 2, 6



Antibody deficiencies

3, 4

Cellular defects (number/function)

1, 2, 6

1. Complete Blood Count (CBC)
 2. Lymphocyte subsets
T, B, NK cells – flow cytometry
 3. Immunoglobulins
IgG, IgA, IgM and IgG subclasses
-
4. Specific antibody production
i.e. vaccine responses
 5. Complement
Functional (!) assays CH50, AH50, Lektin
 6. Immune cell function assays
Neutrophils, T-cells, B-cells, NK-cells

Results must be compared to
age-matched controls!



HIV test

Laboratory testing – a stepwise approach!

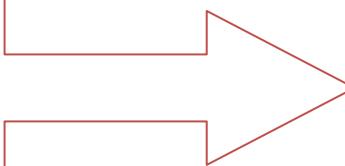


What	Who	Where
1. Complete blood count IgG, IgM, IgA	GP/Pediatrician	All labs
2. Specific antibody production (i.e. vaccine responses) IgG-subclasses	GP/Pediatrician	Most labs
3. Complement: Functional (!) assays CH50, AH50 Lymphocyte subsets: T, B, NK cells – flow cytometry	Infectious specialist, Pediatrician, Allergist, Rheumatologist	Immunology labs
4. Immune cell function assays Neutrophils, T-, B-, NK-cells specific etc	Immunology specialist	Immunology or Research labs
5. Genetics: Single gene/targeted panel / WES / WGS	Immunology specialist + Genetician	Specialized labs

Take Homies

Pulmonary complications are common in a wide range of PID

- Severe/recurrent unusual bacterial pneumonias
- Bronchiectasis
- Interstitial lung disease (especially granulomatous)
- Severe unusual asthma
- Severe eczema
- High IgE



Consider
"Immundefekt"

SLIPI

Sveriges Läkares Intresseförening för Primär Immunbrist

slipi.nu/medicinsk-info

