

Infantile encephalopathies

Acute presentations of inborn errors of metabolism

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Contents

- Acute presentation of IEM
 - Intoxication type disorders
 - Substrate deficiency
-
- Somnolence and coma
 - Movement disorders
 - Seizures and epilepsy

Metabolic Encephalopathies

presentation



ACUT

CHRONIC

Intoxikation type

urea cycle defects,
amino-organoacidopathies

Energy deficiency

fatty acid oxidation defects
primary lactic acidosis defects of
gluconeogenesis

Cofactor defects

Mitochondriopathies

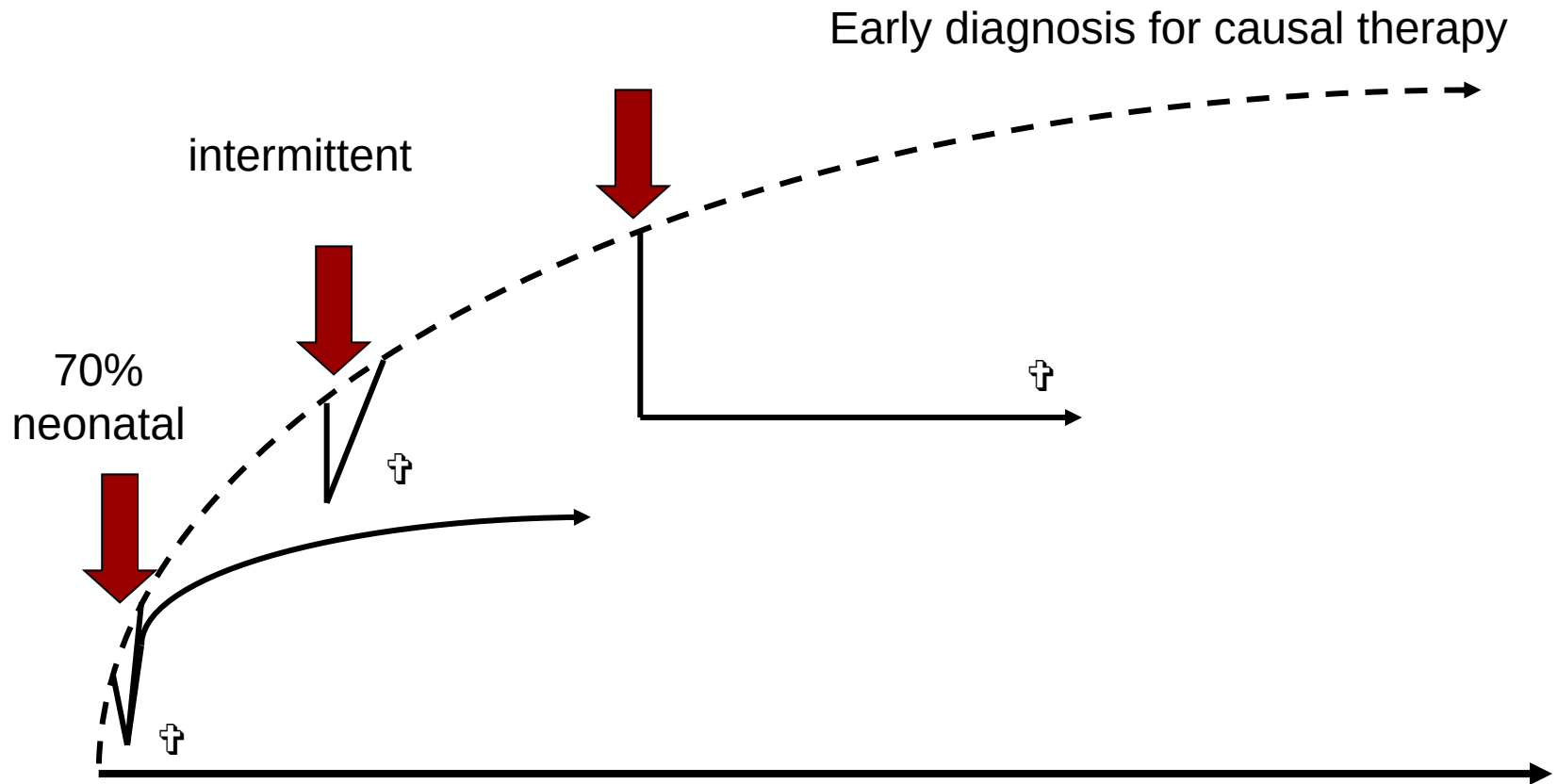
LSD (hydrops)

Peroxisomal disorders

CDG syndromes

Neurotransmitter defects

Acute metabolic crises can occur at any age and are potentially fatal



examples: urea cycle defects, organoacidopathies, Cobalamin defects, mitochondriopathies (eg. MELAS)

Acute Encephalopathy

Neonatal manifestation

- Ca. 70% of IEM manifest in the neonatal period
- Symptom free period of hours or days
- Poor feeding, recurrent vomiting
- Drowsiness– somnolence -coma
- Abnormal breathing (tachypnea)
- Progression over hours /days

- Misdiagnosis:
- Sepsis of unknown origin
- Intestinal obstruction
- Encephalitis



Biotinidase deficiency

4 week old girl

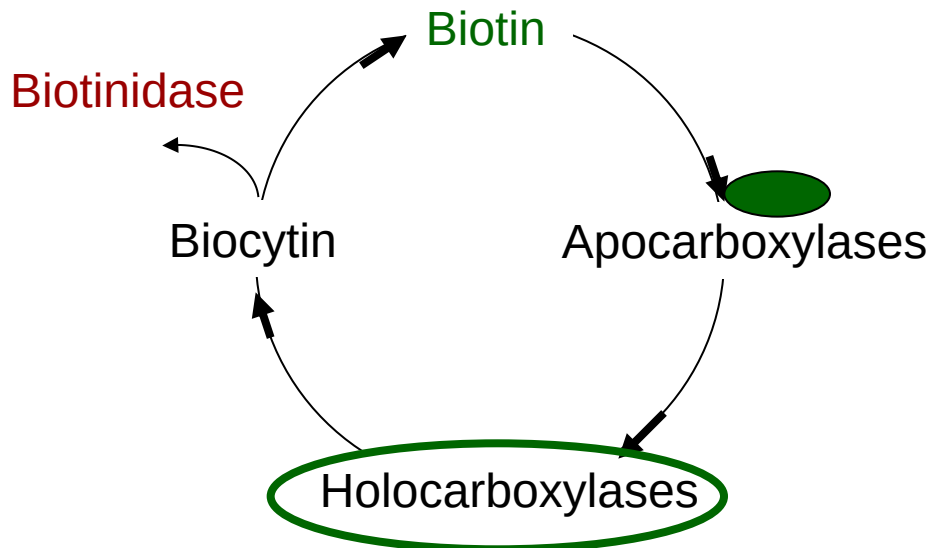
Pregnancy and delivery uneventful

Presented with poor feeding

Progressive sleepyness

pH: 7.15, BE -16, anion gap 25, lactate 4.8 mmol/l

Org. acids: ↑3OHIVA, ↑lactate, ↑ methylcrotonylglycine,
↑ methylcitrate



Propionyl CoA Carboxylase, 3-MethylcrotonylCoA
Carboxylase, Pyruvate Carboxylase.....

Newborn Screening Programm

Disease	Method	Incidence
PKU	TMS	1:10.000
Galactosemia	Enzymatic	1:80.000
Biotinidase deficiency	Colorimetric	1:60.000
Hypothyroidism	FIA / DELFIA	1: 3.500
AGS	FIA / DELFIA	1:10.000

Fatty acid oxidation defects:	TMS	ca. 1:10.000
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MCAD,LCHAD,VLCAD,
CPT1/2,CT,MADD

Organoacidopathies: IVA, GA I	TMS	
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Maple sirup urine disease	TMS	ca.1:100.000
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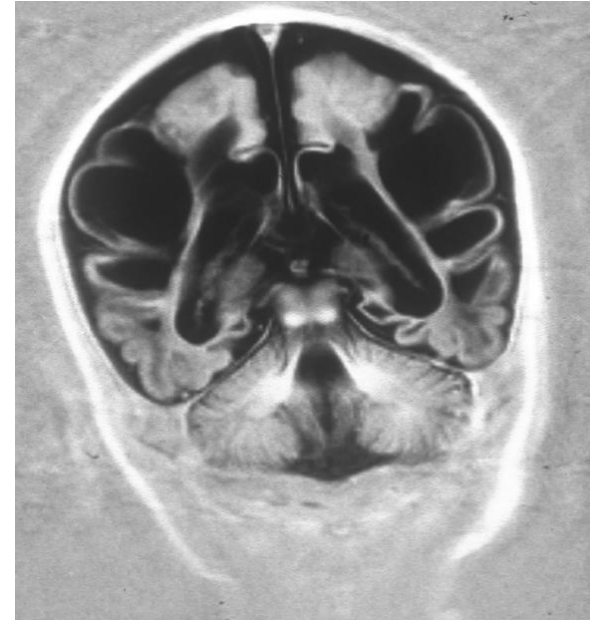


Limitations of Newborn Screening Programms

- Sampling in 36th-72nd hour of life
- Receipt of results 6th-9th day of life
- At this time many affected newborns will be symptomatic
- eg. MMA, PA, MSUD, class. galactosemia
- Prognosis may be poor despite early detection (eg. PA, MMA removed from German programm)
- Urea cycle disorders (UCD) are not detected (except Citr.)
- Perform extended routine lab and selective screening in the presence of unclear / progressive encephalopathy, inform metabolic lab about emergency analysis

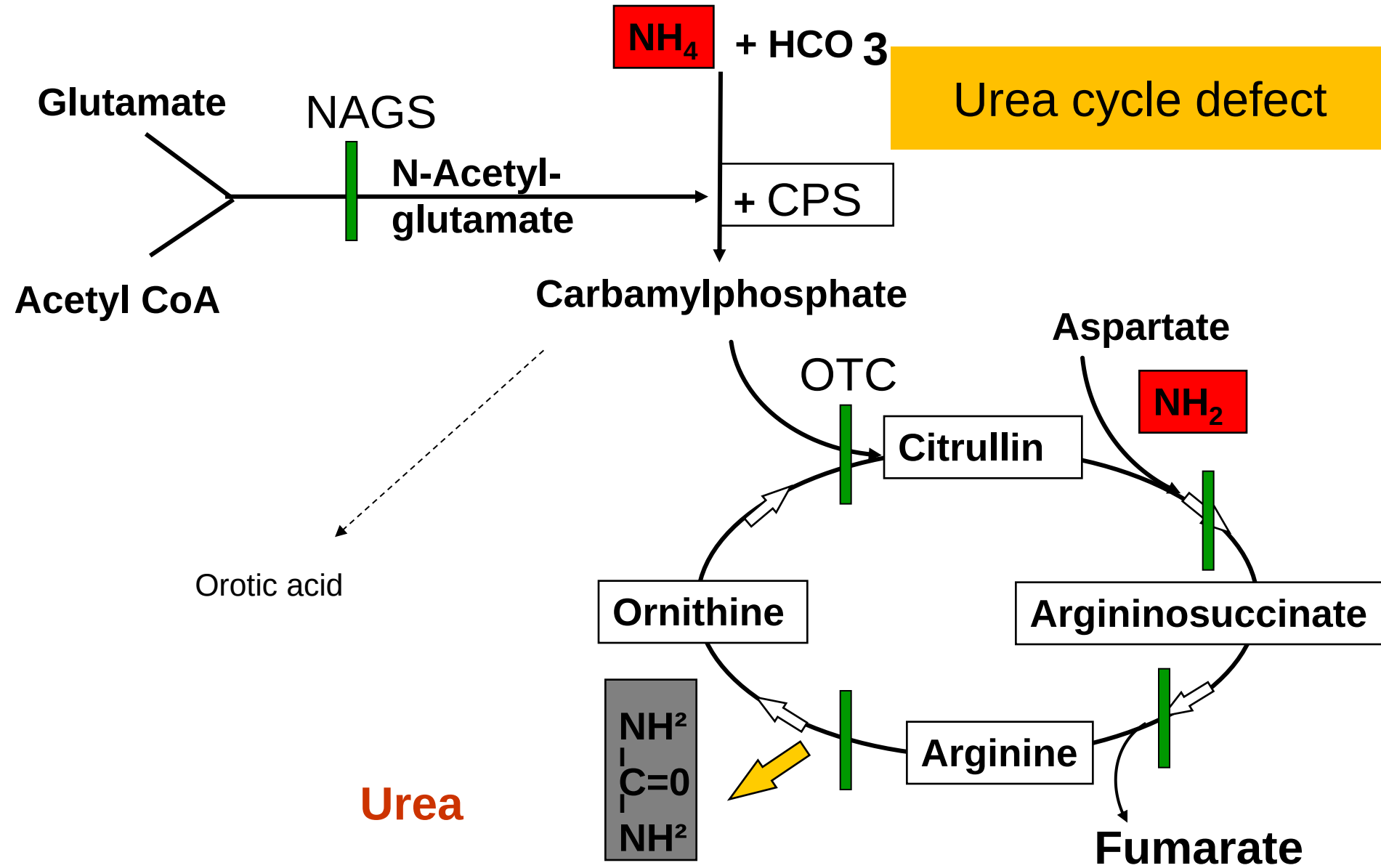
Christoph

- 1st child of healthy unrelated parents
 - Pregnancy and delivery uneventful
 - Poor sucking from day 3
 - From day 4 apathy, rec. vomiting, tachypnea, $\downarrow p\text{CO}_2$, respiratory alkalosis
 - Cranial US and CSF normal. From day 4 recurrent seizures
-
- On day 5 first determination of NH_3 :
1800 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ ($<100\mu\text{mol/l}$)
 - orotic acid positiv, citrullin markedly decreased



Leukomalacia after protracted hyperammonemia

Urea cycle defect



Urea cycle defects

symptoms at first episode

n=260

Summar et al 2008

Symptoms	Numbers	%
Neurologic	208	80
↓consciousness	164	63
Altered mental status	83	32
Abnormal motor function	78	30
Seizures	25	10
Gastrointestinal	85	33
Vomiting	50	19
Poor feeding	24	9
Infection	75	30
Fever	17	3.5

Information from the Routine lab

- **Hypoglycemia** (NB < 35 mg/dl; > 1 Mo < 50 mg/dl)
glycogenosis, defects of gluconeogenesis, fatty acid oxidation defects, sec. with organoacidopathies, endocrine: hyperinsulinism, cortisol-, deficiency
- Blood glucose „decreases“ with time -preanalytical error
- „physiologic hypoglycemia“ < 4y with fasting > 4-6h
- **Metab. acidosis** (pH↓, PCO₂↓, anion gap > 20)
(Na+K)-(Cl+NaHCO₃)
organoacidopathies, prim. und sec. lactic acidosis
- **Respiratory alkalosis** (pH↑, PCO₂ ↓) urea cycle defects

Information from the routine lab

- **Hyperammonemia** (NB $>100 \mu\text{mol/l}$; $>1 \text{ Mo}$ $> 50 \mu\text{mol/l}$)-
Urea cycle defects, sec. in organoacidopathies, liver failure
- NH_3 increases with time- preanalytical error
- **Lactate** $\uparrow$ in mitochondriopathies (primary),
 $\uparrow$ (sekundary) in organoacidopathies, defects of glycolysis-
and gluconeogenesis, evt. in urea cycle defects
- unspec. in impaired circulation (shock), cyanot. heart
defects
caveat: lactate increases with tourniqué

Miriam

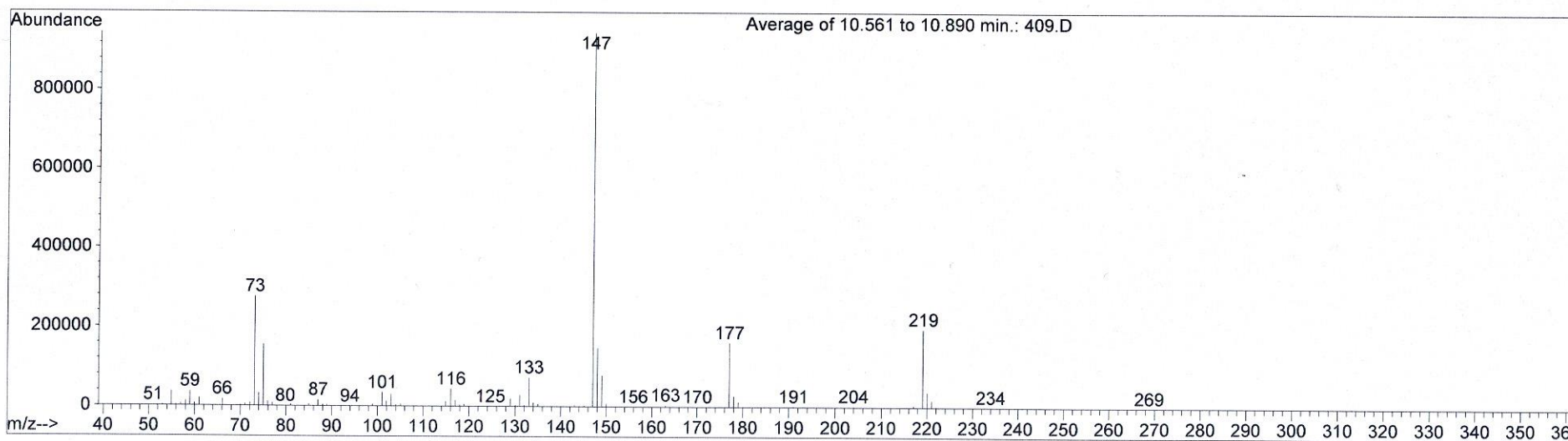
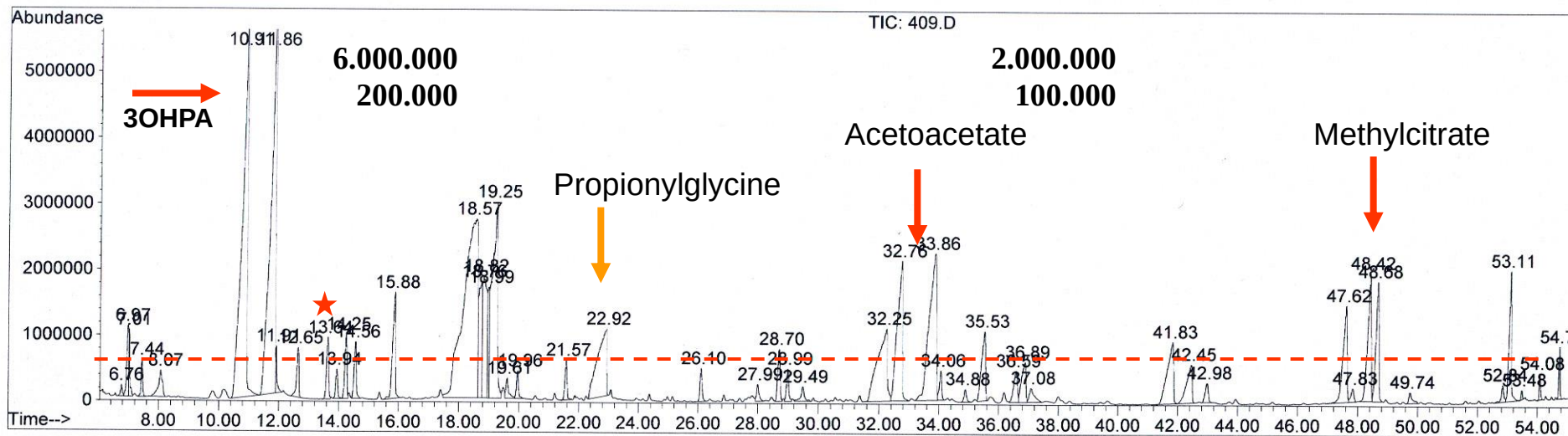
- 2nd child of healthy unrelated parents
- Premature labour 32nd week
- BW 1500g, BL 42 cm
- Early onset sepsis
- Prolonged metabolic acidosis
- Recurrent hypoglycemia

- Moderate hyperammonemia (357 $\mu\text{mol/l}$)

- Selective screening for amino and organoacidopathies

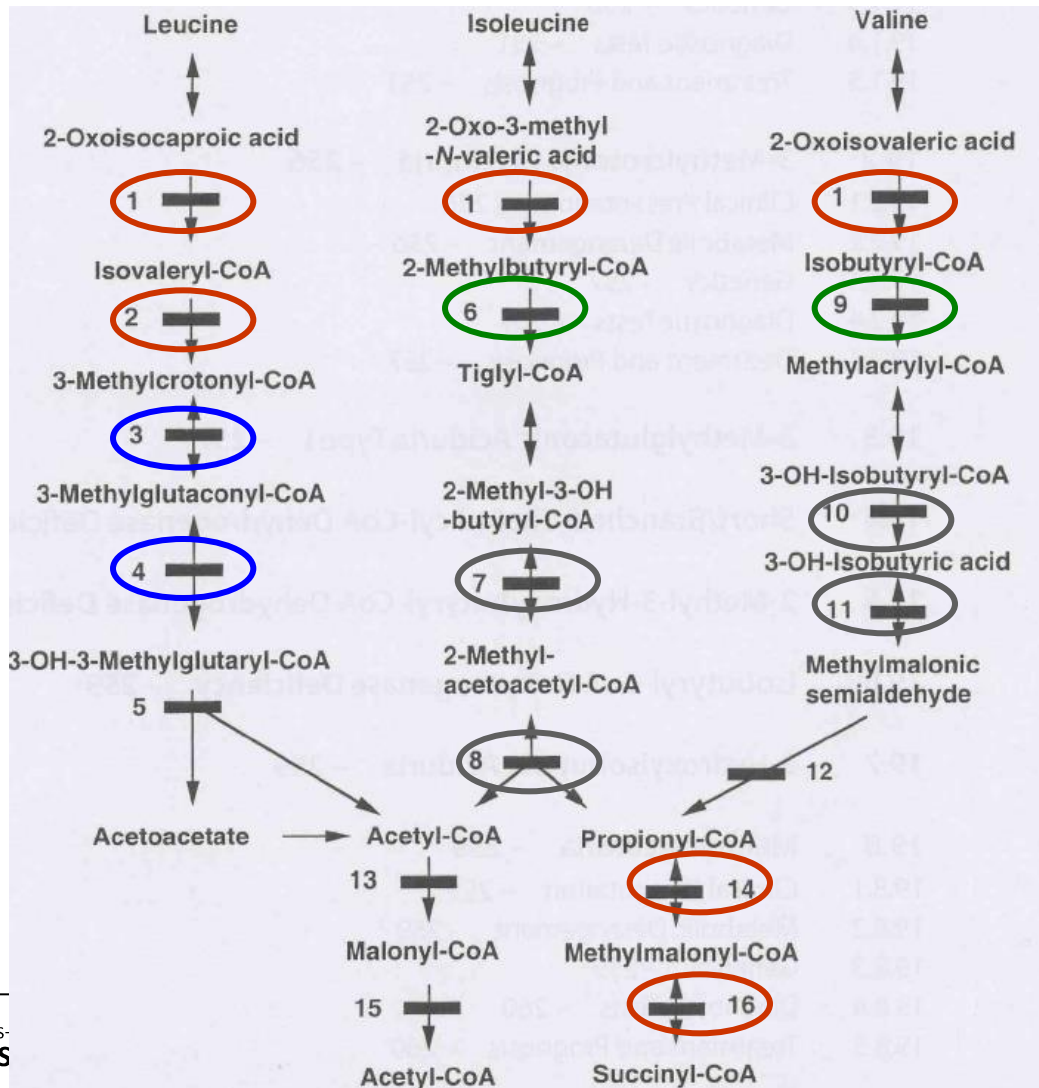
Acquired : 12 Mar 2004 1:39 pm using AcqMethod ORGSCAN
 Instrument : GC/MS Ins
 Sample Name: 409
 Misc Info :
 Vial Number: 1

Propionic acidemia GCMS of urine



ORGANOACIDURIAS OF BRANCHED CHAIN AMINOACIDS

○ classic OA's ○ rare OA's ○ variable phenotypes ○ non-disease



- | | |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1 | MSUD |
| 2 | ISOVALERIC A |
| 3 | MCC |
| 4 | MGA |
| 5 | HMG Lyase |
| 6 | MBD |
| 7 | MHBD |
| 8 | MAT β -ketothiolase |
| 9 | IBD |
| 10 | HIBDeacylase |
| 11 | HIBA |
| 12 | MMA SAD |
| 13 | ACC |
| 14 | PROPIONIC A |
| 15 | Malonyl-CoA |
| 16 | METHYLMAL A |

(Sub) Acute movement disorders and metabolic decompensation

- Different vulnerability of systems
- Dystonia-chorea: organacidurias (GA I, late onset PA) mitochondriopathies, biotin responsive BG Disease, late onset ISOD or MOCOD
- Ataxia: hyperammonemia, intermittierent MSUD, organoacidurias
- Hemiparesis: metabolic stroke eg. UCD, organoacidurias, mitochondriopathies

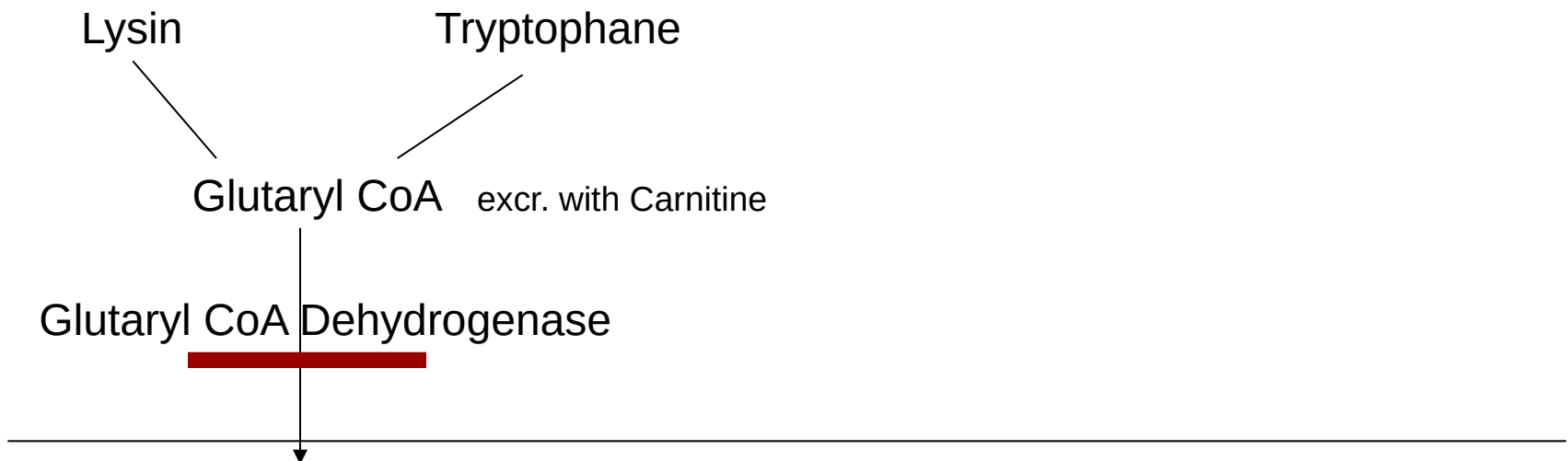
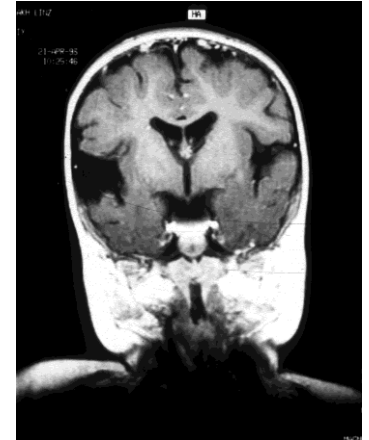
Glutaric aciduria Type I

90% of patients manifest from 3mo-36mo
encephalopathic crisis triggered / catabolism

10-20% insidious onset

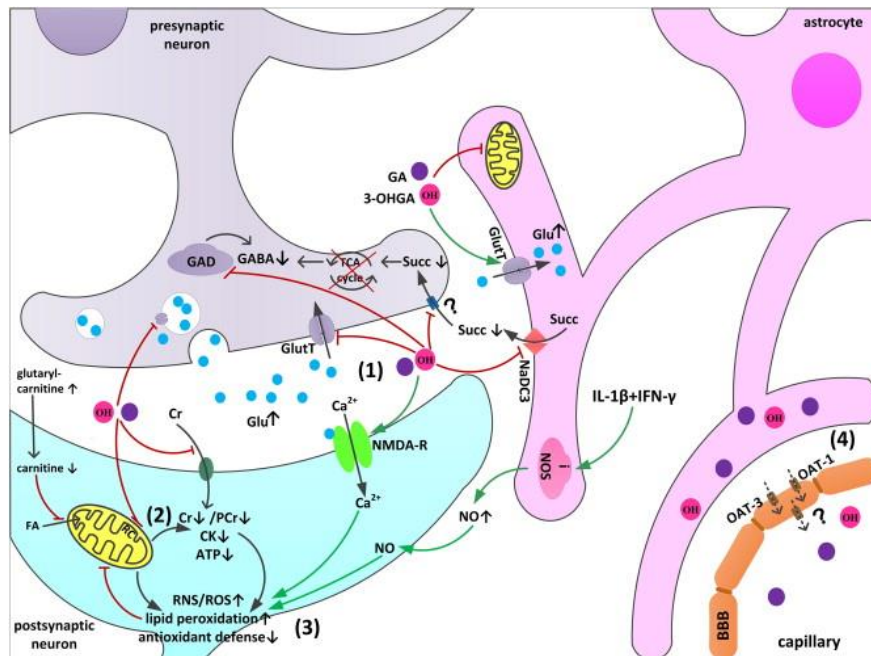
About 70% of patients have macrocephaly

- Extrapyraxidal movement disorder, aphasia



Hypothesis on neuropathogenesis in GA I

Kölker et al. JIMD 2008, Sauer et al. Bioch. Biophys 2010, Jafari et al. MGM 2011



Jafari et al.

- 1) Direct excitotoxicity
- 2) Energy breakdown
- 3) Oxidative stress
- 4) Limited efflux / BBB

Age dependent vulnerability of basal ganglia

Pathogenic mechanisms in metabolic encephalopathies

- Toxicity (eg. urea cycle defects, organoacidurias)
- Secondary inhibition of pathways (organoacidurias)
- Substrate deficiency (eg. creatin, GLUT1)
- Combination of substrate deficiency and toxicity (eg. GA I)

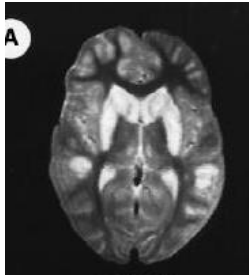
- Imbalance (eg. PKU, neurotransmitter defects)
- Storage (eg. lysosomal disease)

- Secondary phenomena (eg. ganglioside storage in MPS, inflammation in c-ALD)
- Mechanisms often not fully understood

Thiamine transporter deficiency SLC19A3

Zeng et al., Am J Hum. Genet. 2005

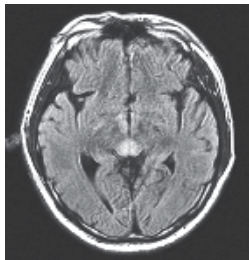
3 phenotypes of SLC19A3 mutations



BBGD: subacute encephalopathy with confusion, dystonia, dysarthria and epilepsy, onset during childhood

response to biotin only (5-10 mg/kg)

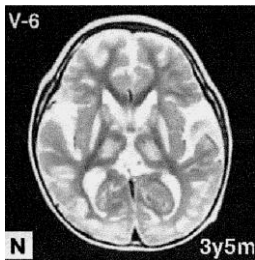
N=10 (Ozand et al., Brain 1998) N=2 (Serrano et al. abstract)



Wernicke-like encephalopathy with ophthalmoplegia, nystagmus, ataxia and status epilepticus
onset during 2nd decade

response to thiamin (100-600mg/day)

N=2 (1pedigree) (Kono et al, NEJM 2009)

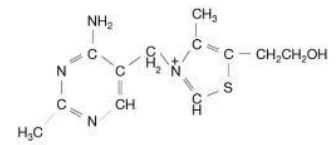


Infantile spasms with severe psychomotor retardation
onset in 1st year of life

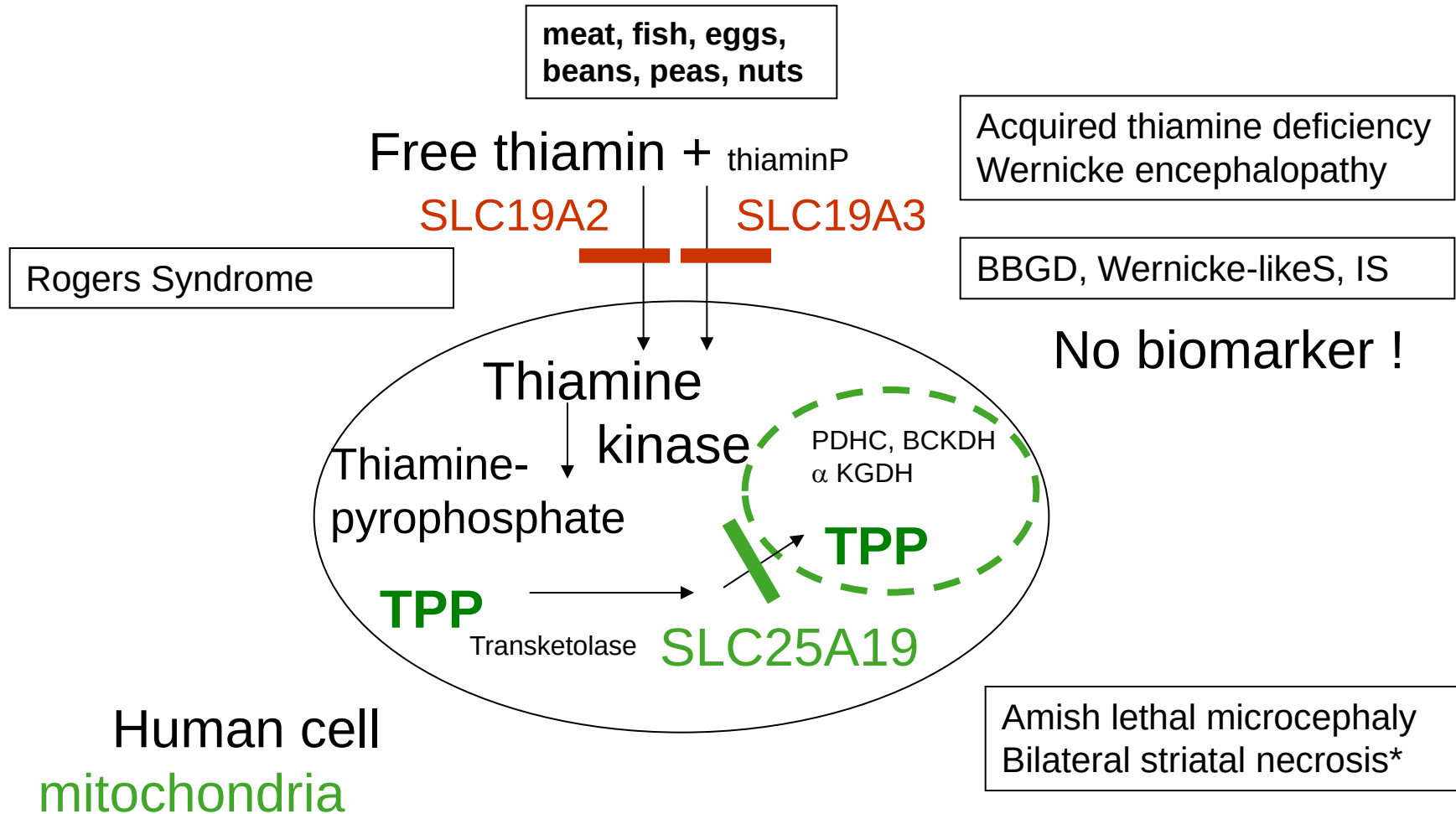
unresponsive to biotin

N=4 (1 pedigree) (Yamada et al., BMC Medical Genetics 2010)

Thiamine metabolism



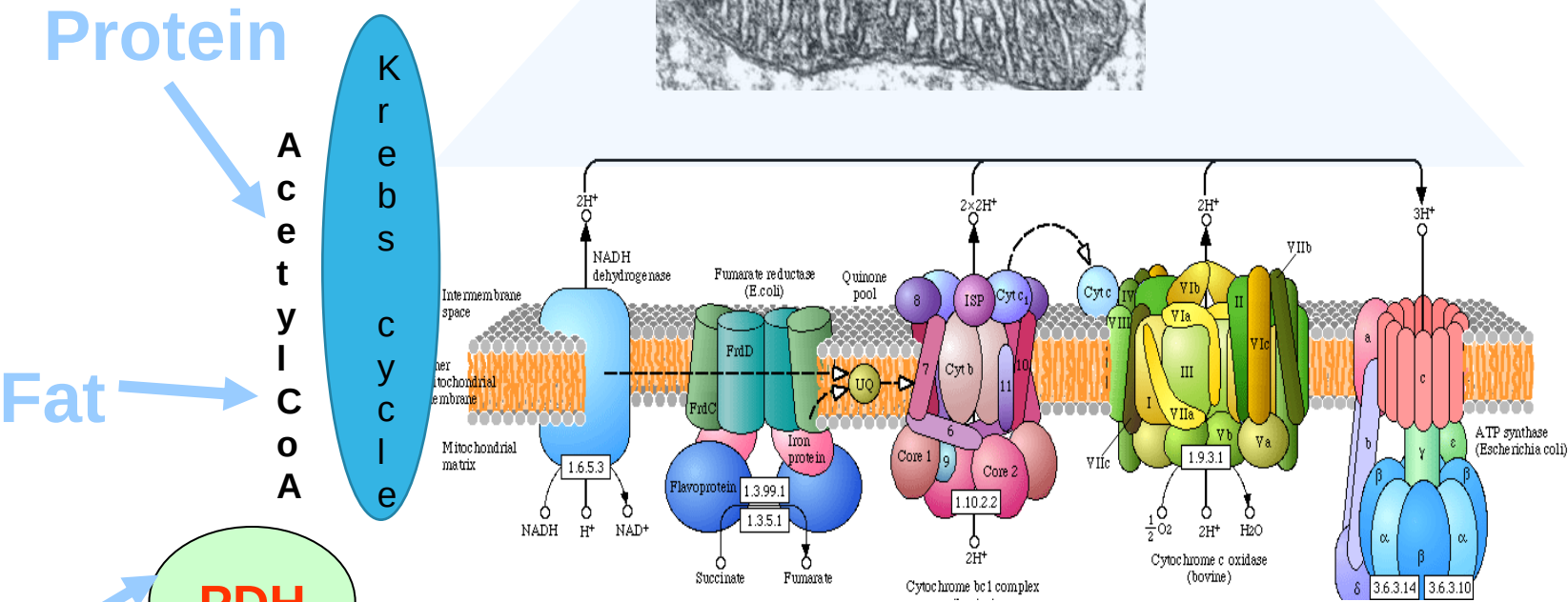
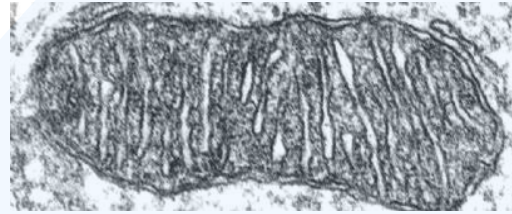
DGE recommendation: 4.0 mg / infants, 1.0f / 1.2m / adults /day



Mitochondriopathies

- Relatively frequent, ~1:3.000-1:10.000
- Autosomal recessive-, X-linked, maternal inheritance and sporadic forms (eg. PDHC)
-
- **Congenital primary lactic acidosis**
- Single well known syndromes (eg. Leigh disease)
- Others unspecific, hypotonia, epilepsy, evt. leukodystrophy
- Multisystem involvement (brain, heart, liver..)

Mitochondria: energy metabolism



Respiratory chain enzymes encoded by nuclear and mtDNA

- CI 45 proteins / 7 mit DNA
- CII 4 proteins **all nuclear**
- CIII 11 proteins / 1 mit DNA
- CIV 13 proteins / 3 mit DNA
- CV 12 proteins / 2 mit DNA

PDHC

3 catalytic enzymes E_1 , E_2 , E_3 ,
3 regulatory enzymes

$E_1\alpha$ -X-linked (dominant)

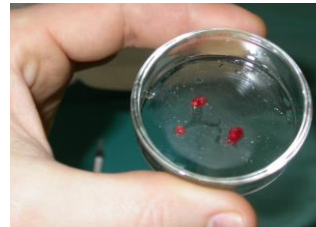
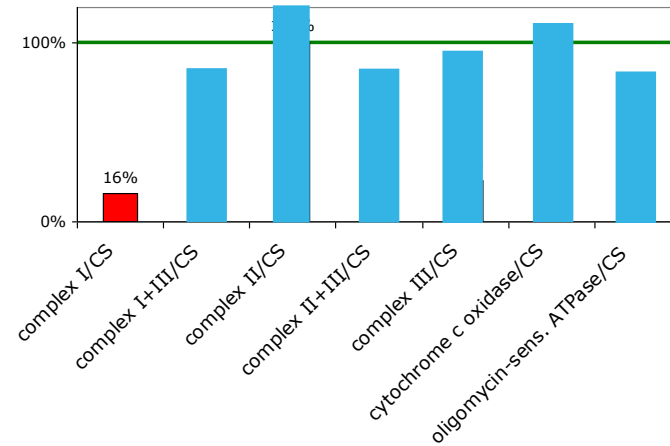
Case vignette lactic acidosis and Complex I deficiency



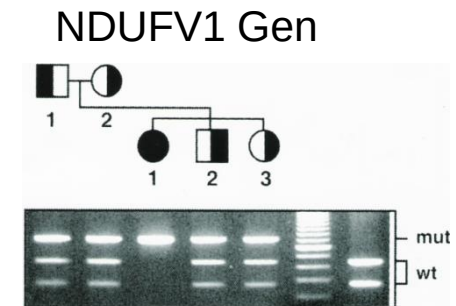
Floppy baby, poor sucking

3 months, hypotonia, West syndrome

plasma lactate 7 mmol/l,
aminoacid in plasma $\uparrow$ alanine
organic acids normal



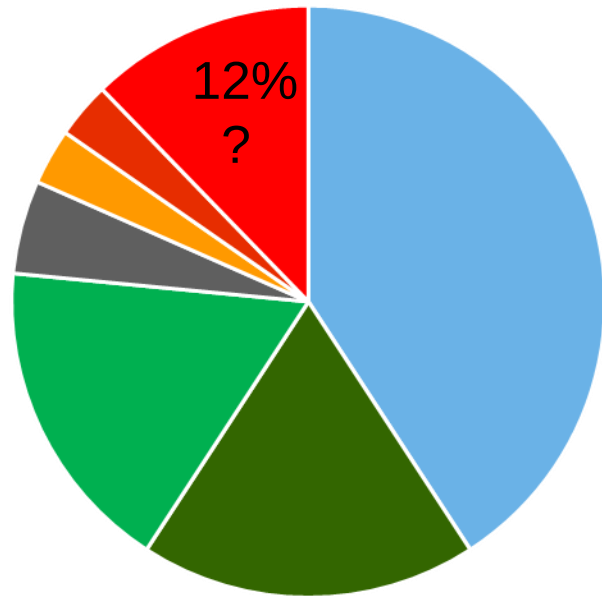
Muscle biopsy



Prenatal diagnosis !

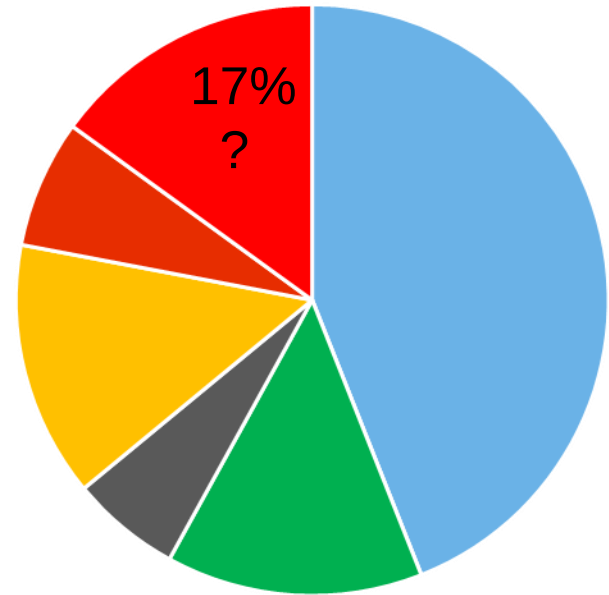
Etiology of neonatal seizures

89 mature NB, Tegkul et al. 2006



■ hypoxia
■ ICH
■ infection
■ unknown
■ stroke
■ dysplasia
■ transient metabolic

106 NB and pNB, Pisani et al. 2007



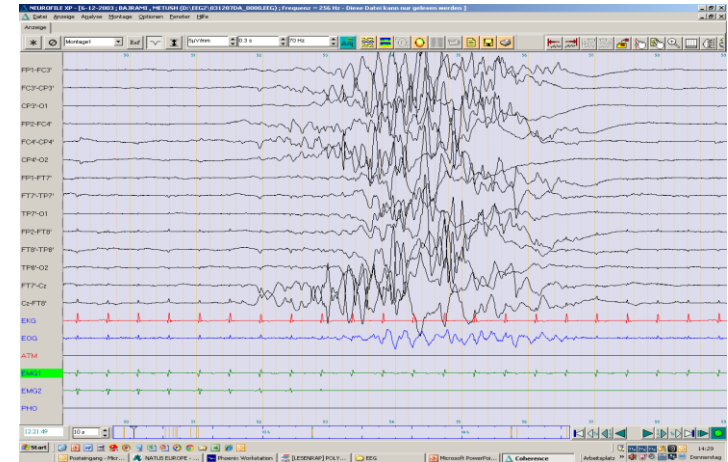
■ hypoxia
■ ICH
■ infection
■ unknown
■ stroke
■ dysplasia
■ transient metabolic

EEG patterns do not tell etiology



Courtesy G. Wohlrab

- 2nd child of healthy parents
- Pregnancy and delivery uneventful
- Myoclonic seizures 1st day of life
- One sibling died from neonatal seizures of unclear etiology
- Partial response to Phb



Burst suppression pattern seen in
EME, Ohtahara syndrome

HIE

Brain malformation

Metabolic etiologies

Genetic disorders

First think of treatable conditions

TREATABLE

Plecko FoN 2004 adapted 2016

UNTREATABLE

Amino-and Organoacidopathies

Typical phenylketonuria*

Nonketotic hyperglycinemia (NKH)

Serine biosynthesis defects

D-2 Hydroxyglutaric aciduria

Cofactor disturbances

Biotinidase deficiency*

Atypical phenylketonuria*

Pyridoxine dependent epilepsies (PDE)

Pyridoxalphosphate dependent epilepsy (PNPO)

Isolated sulfite oxidase deficiency

Molybdenum cofactor deficiency type A (MOCOD A)

Molybdenum cofactor deficiency type B (MOCOD B)

Folate receptor deficiency (FOLR1)

Inborn errors of energy metabolism

Glucose transporter type 1 deficiency (GLUT1)

Creatine transporter defect

Creatine synthesis defects (GAMT, AGAT)

Mitochondriopathies

Peroxisomal disorders

Zellweger syndrome

Neonatal ALD

Lysosomal disorders

Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (CLN10)

Gangliosidoses

Sialidosis

Disorders of neurotransmitters

GABA transaminase deficiency

Congenital disorders of glycosylation

CDG Ic, Ik, II

Disorders of purin metabolism

Adenylosuccinate lyase deficiency



Classification according to age of onset

- Newborn period: cofactor disturbances, amino-organoacidopathies, Zellweger syndrome
- Infancy: GLUT1 deficiency, Creatin deficiency syndromes, (PDE), serine deficiency, amino-organoacidopathies, CDG syndromes, NCL1
- Toddlers: FOLR1, (GLUT1, PDE), Alpers syndrome, NCL2
- School age: NCL 3, Alpers syndrome, mitochondriopathies, LSD's

IEM and seizure type

Myoclonic seizures: PDE, PNPO, NKH, GAMT deficiency, FOLR1, GLUT1 deficiency, mitochondriopathies, NCL2,

Focal, tonic-clonic: MOCOD, GLUT1 deficiency (infancy)

Generalized tonic-clonic: NCL 2 und 3, GLUT1 (toddlers)

Atypical absences: GLUT1 deficiency (toddlers)

West syndrome: mitochondriopathies, NKH (late), *Menkes disease*, biotinidase deficiency, PNPO deficiency

Status epilepticus: PDE, Alpers

Inborn errors and vitamin B₆ dependent epilepsy

B6 response in KCNQ2 deficiency

increased utilization of PLP

reduced synthesis/uptake of PLP

TYPE II HYPER-PROLINEMIA	ANTIQUITIN DEFICIENCY	PNPO DEFICIENCY	CONGENITAL HYPOPHOSPHATASIA	MABRY SYNDROME
Seizure onset infancy to childhood +/- response to common antiepileptic drugs +/- mental retardation	Neonatal onset of myoclonic seizures Resistance to common anticonvulsants 30% poor adaptation / HIE 30% signs of encephalopathy prematurity Systemic manifestations (abd. distension, vomiting..)	Neonatal seizures – in lethal neonatal or infantile forms Resistance to common anticonvulsants May occur before skeletal manifestations Death due to resp. insufficiency	Floppy infants Dysmorphism Brachytelephalangy Mental retardation Seizures (1-3y)	



Vitamin B₆ metabolism

Diet

Pyridoxal (5'-P)

Pyridoxamine (5'-P)

Pyridoxine Glucoside

Liver

PNPO

PLP

TNSAP

PIGV

PL

PLP

PLP is a cofactor of > 140 enzyme reactions in aminoacid- and neurotransmitter metabolism

Vitamin B₆ (PLP) cofactor of >140 reactions (AA and NT)

Threonine $\xrightarrow[\text{Threonine-dehydratase}]{\text{PLP}}$ 2 Oxobutyrates + NH₄⁺

Serine $\xrightarrow[\text{Serine-dehydratase}]{\text{PLP}}$ Pyruvate + NH₄⁺

Glycine $\xrightarrow[\text{Glycine-cleavage system}]{\text{PLP}}$ CO₂ + NH₄⁺

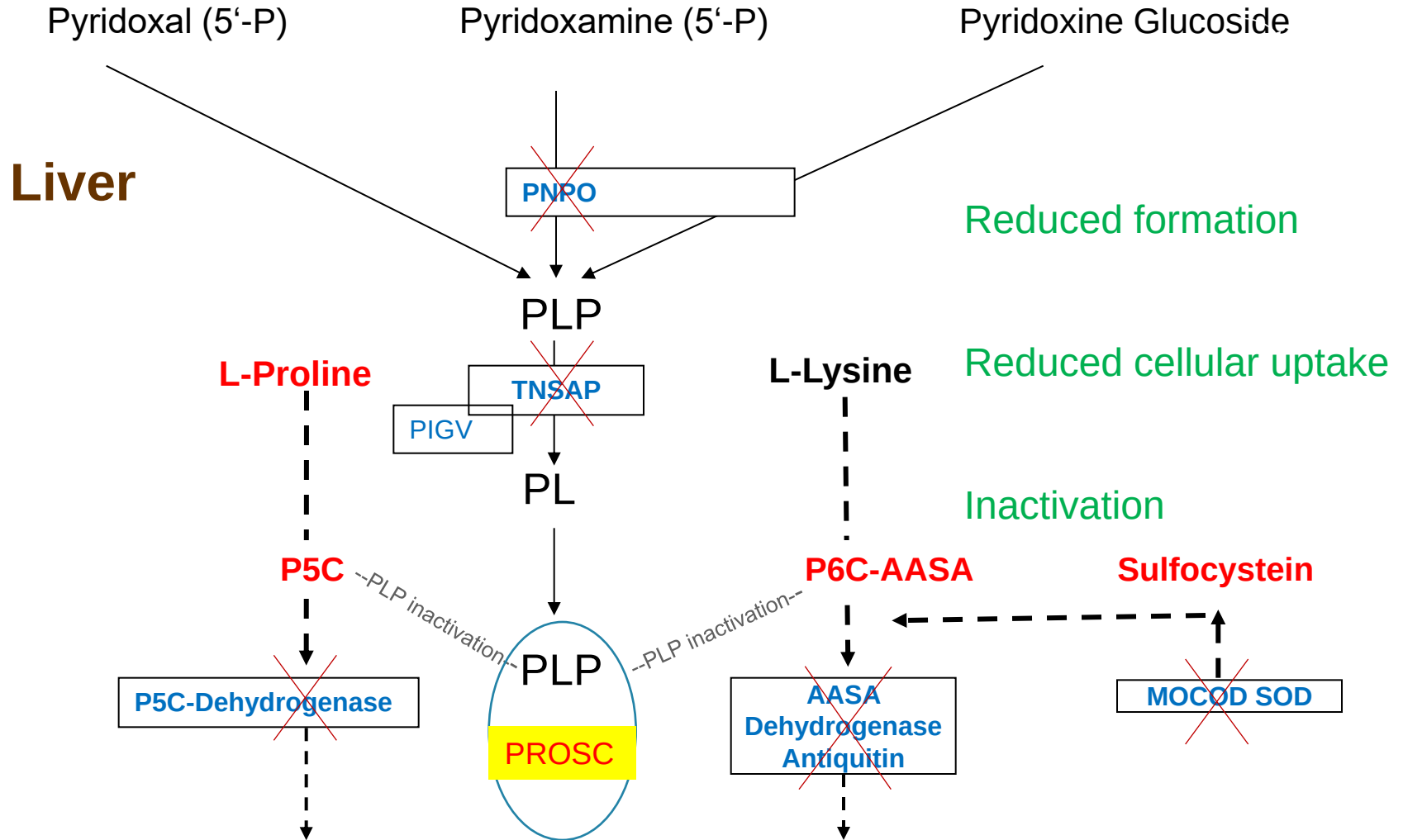
Glutamate $\xrightarrow[\text{Glutamate decarboxylase}]{\text{PLP}}$ GABA + CO₂

GABA + 2 Oxoglutarate $\xrightarrow[\text{GABA transaminase}]{\text{PLP}}$ succinic semialdehyde + glutamate

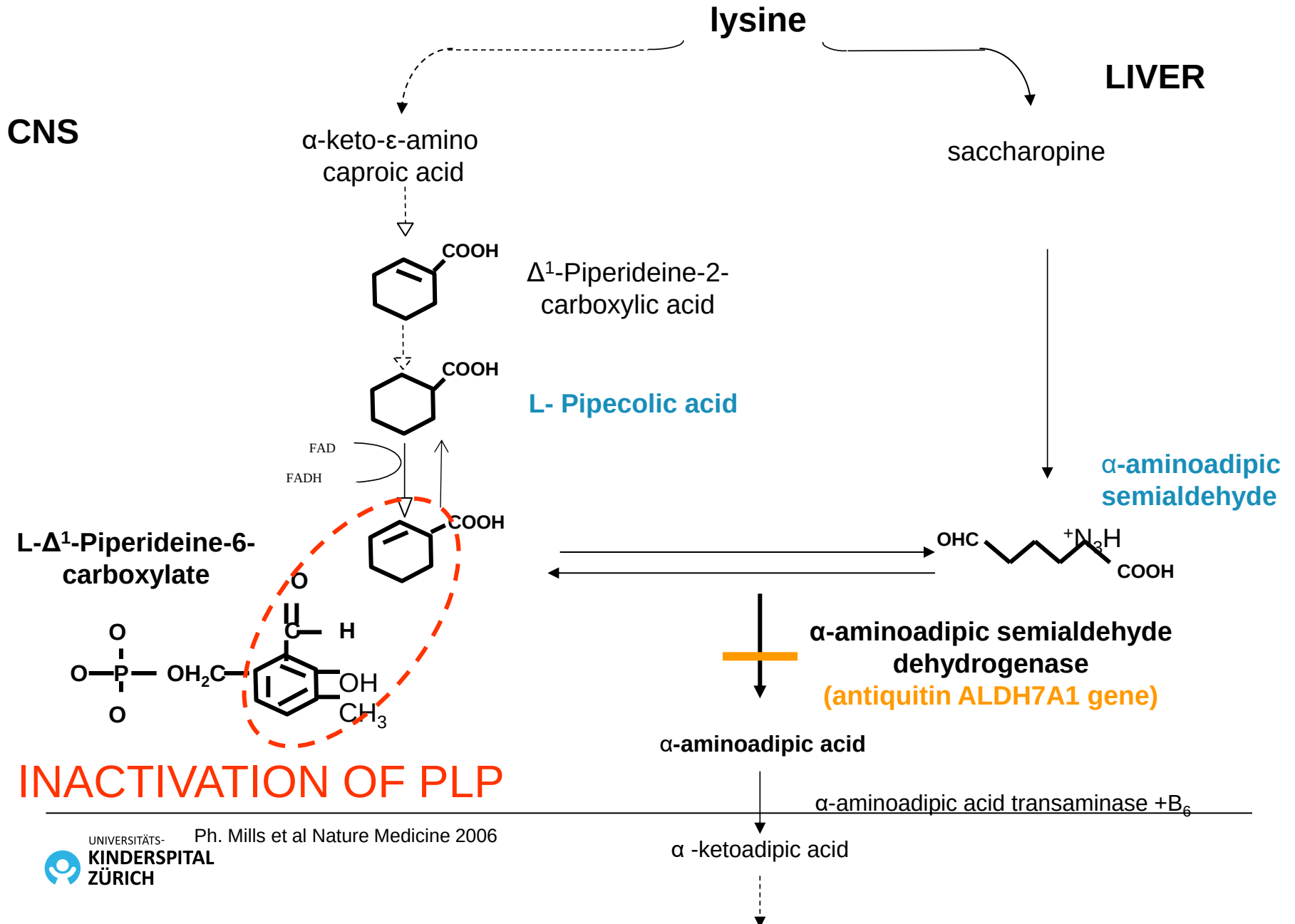
2 Oxoglutarate + Leucine $\xrightarrow[\text{BCAA transferase}]{\text{PLP}}$ Glutamate + 2 Oxoisocaproate

Vitamin B₆ metabolism and inborn errors with epilepsy

Diet



PDE and Antiquitin deficiency



Diagnostic biomarkers of vitamin B₆ dependent neonatal epilepsies



	unspecific	specific		
	Urin	Plasma	CSF	B6 Response
Antiquitin	↑ AASA, ↑ P6C, ↑ PA*	↑ PA	↑ AASA, P6C, ↓ PLP, ↑ PA, sec NT abn.	Pyridoxine or PLP
PNPO deficiency	(Vanillactate)	↑ pyridox- amine	↓ PLP, sec NT abn.	PLP or pyridoxine Mills et al. Brain 2014 Plecko et al. Neurology 2014
Congenital Hypophosph		↓ AP, ↓ Ph, ↑ Ca	(↓ PLP ?)	Pyridoxine or PLP
MOCOD, ISOD	Sulfocysteine ↑ AASA, ↑ P6C	↓ uric acid	↑ AASA, P6C ↓ PLP, ↑ PA	Pyridoxine or PLP Type A cPMP iv.

AASA alpha aminoadipic semialdehyde; P6C piperideine-6-carboxylate; NT neurotransmitters, PA pipercolic acid, PLP pyridoxal 5'-phosphate

Suggested diagnostic algorithm for neonatal seizures

neonatal seizures of unknown etiology



„resistance“ to first line drugs (eg. phb, pht, benzodiazepins)



save plasma, urine , evt. CSF (freeze at -80°) Biomarkers



pyridoxine, 100 mg iv. followed by 30 mg/kg/day in 2-3 SD over 1-3 days
ambiguous response in ca. 15%. EEG not helpful



**BEWARE OF APNEA
IN RESPONSIVE
PATIENTS**

we consider add on of folinic acid 3-5 mg/kg/day in 1-2 SD

Switch to PLP 30 to 60 mg/kg/day in 4-6 SD over 3 days
(may need adjustment for break through seizures)



if seizures stop, continue pyridoxine or PLP until results are available

no withdrawal

Molybdenum cofactor deficiency (MOCOD)

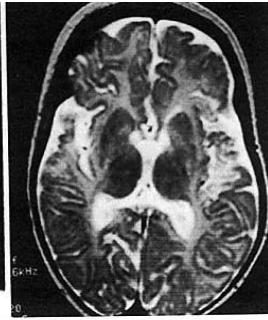
- Neonatal onset of bilateral tonic and clonic seizures
- Failure to thrive, evt. facial dysmorphism
- EEG – multifocal discharges or BSP
- Therapyresistance



CT newborn
Appignani et al 1996



MRI 6 weeks



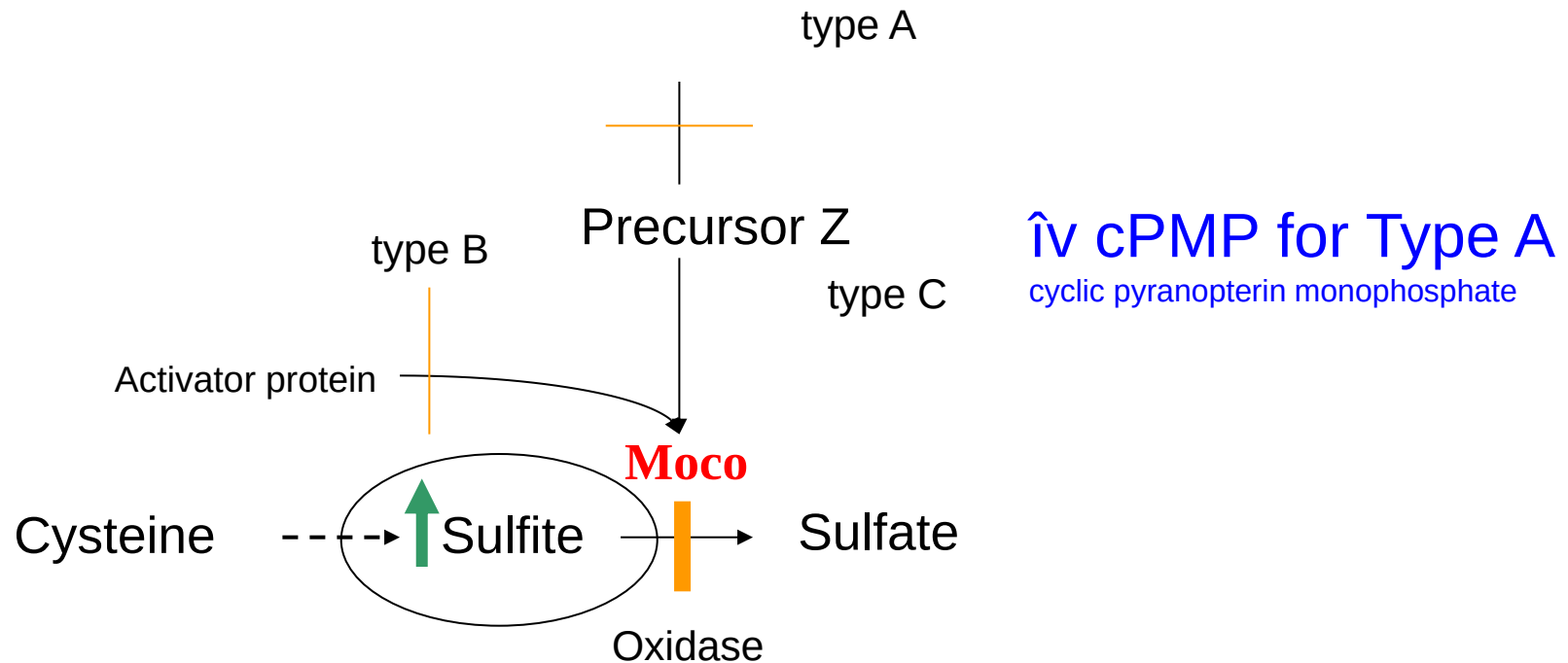
MRI 4 months

OMMBiD



- Truncal hypotonia, later spasticity
- Lens subluxation beyond the neonatal period

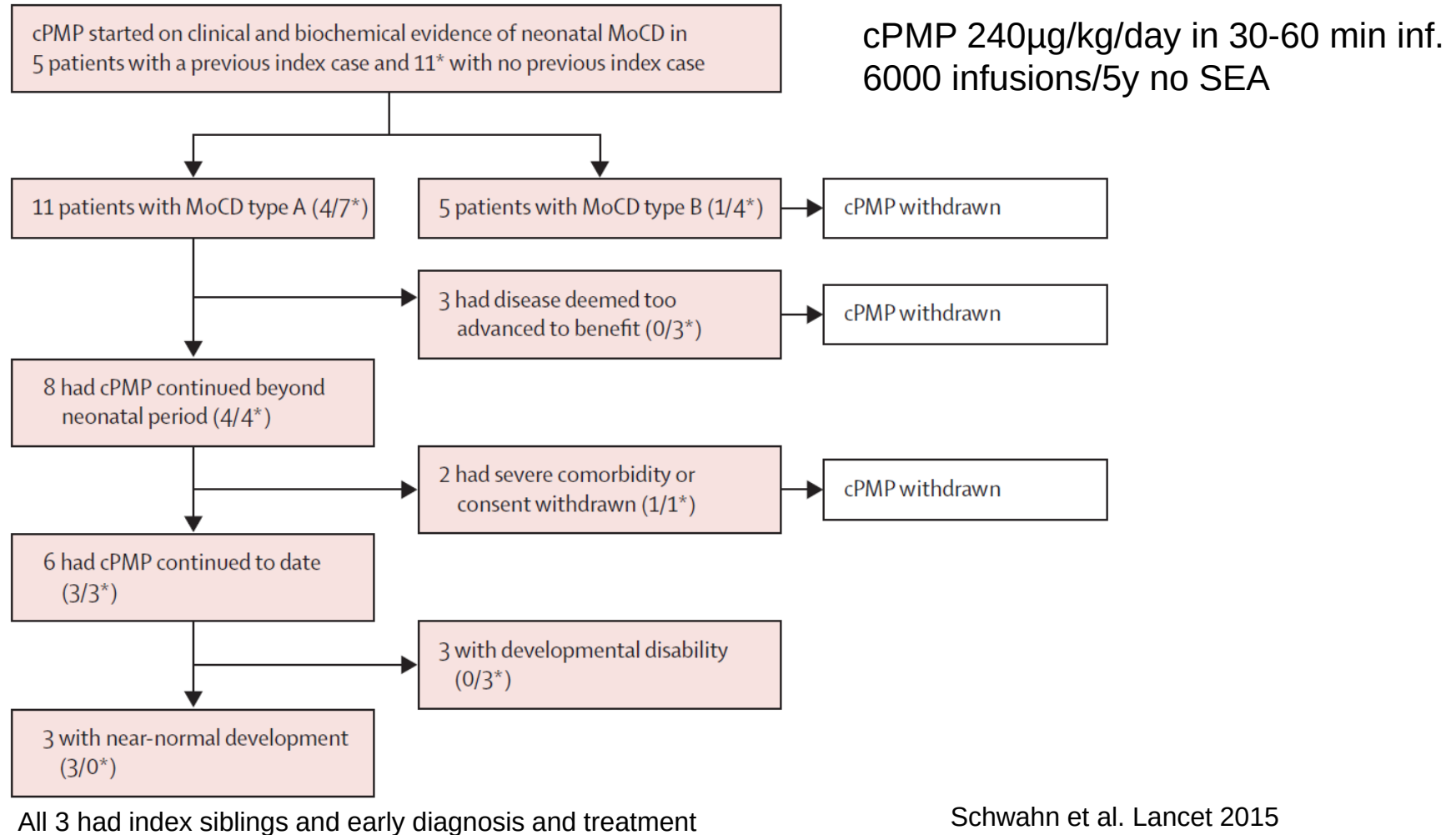
Pathogenesis of MOCOD and isolated sulfate oxidase deficiency ISOD



Biomarkers

↓ uric acid/P, ↑ sulfite/U* (dipstick/false negative results), ↑ sulfocysteine/U,
 ↑ xanthin

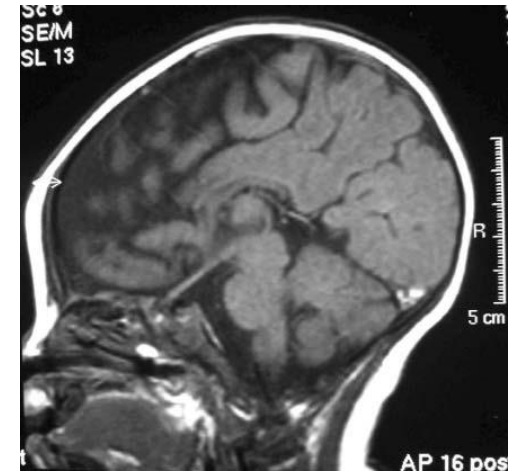
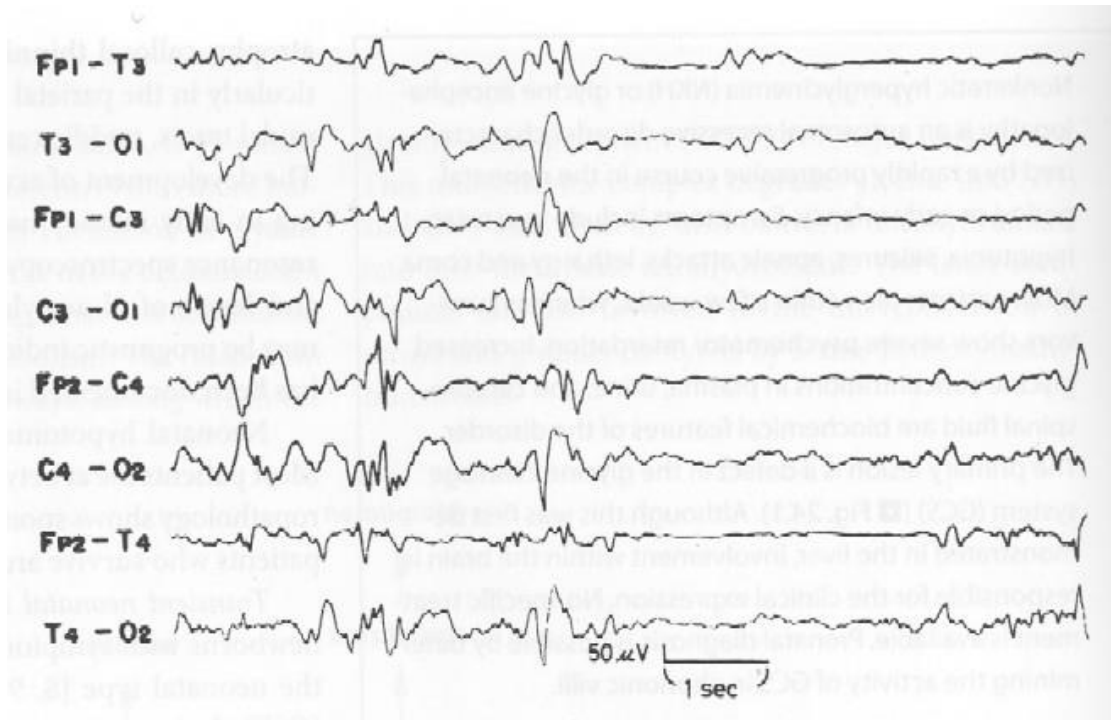
cPMP Trial for MOCOD deficiency



Non ketotic hyperglycinemia

- Estimated incidence 1:250.000
- neonatal, infantile, late-onset form
- neonatal onset from day 1 to day 7
- sever hypotonia, apnea, myoclonic seizures, coma
- Diagnosis: ratio CSF/P > 0.04 (>0.08)
- Glycine ratio correlates with phenotype / age of onset
- Pitfall - secondary $\uparrow$ of glycine with valproate therapy
- Aut. rec. defect in the glycine cleavage system
(4 enzyme steps, 4 coding genes)

Burst Suppression pattern in NKH

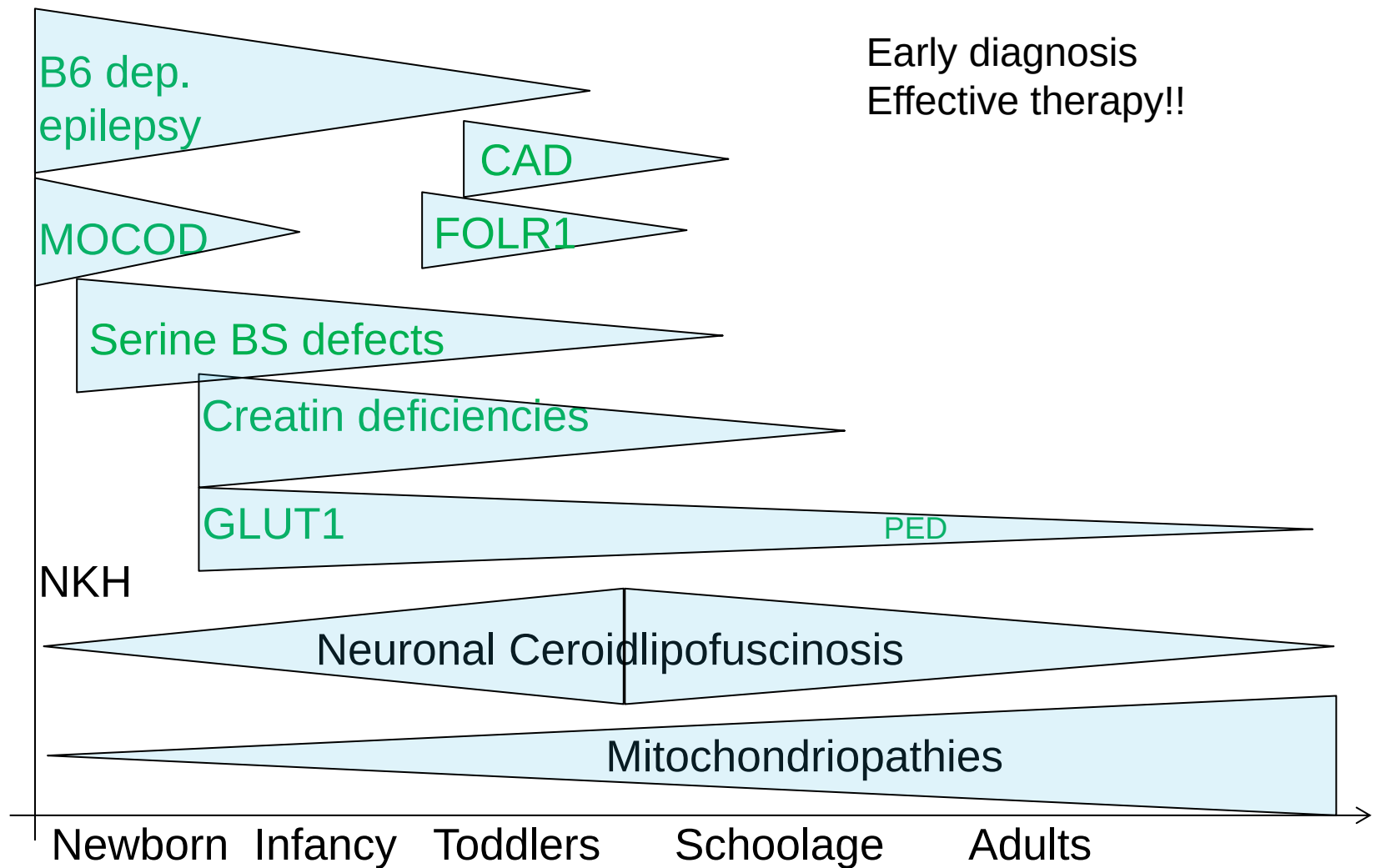


CC anomalies
Inconsistent finding

- Most neonatal forms are caused by P or T protein defects / GCSH or AMT gene (Kure et al, 2006; Kanno et al 2007, van Hove et al. 2007)
- Transient NKH – better prognosis (Schiffmann et al 1989)
- A802V mutation better prognosis - therapeutic dilemma

Typical age of onset of metabolic epilepsies

O. Dulac, B. Plecko, S. Gattaulina, N. Wolf. Lancet Neurol 2014; 13: 727–39



GAMT deficiency

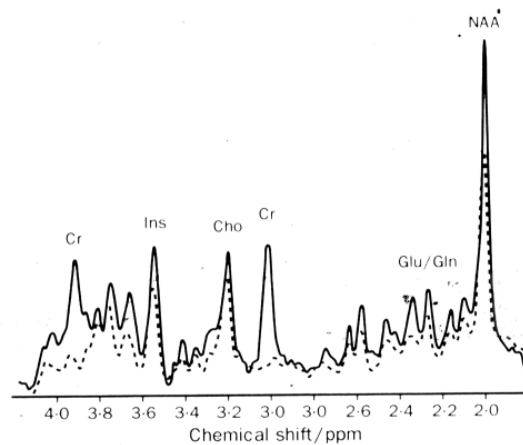
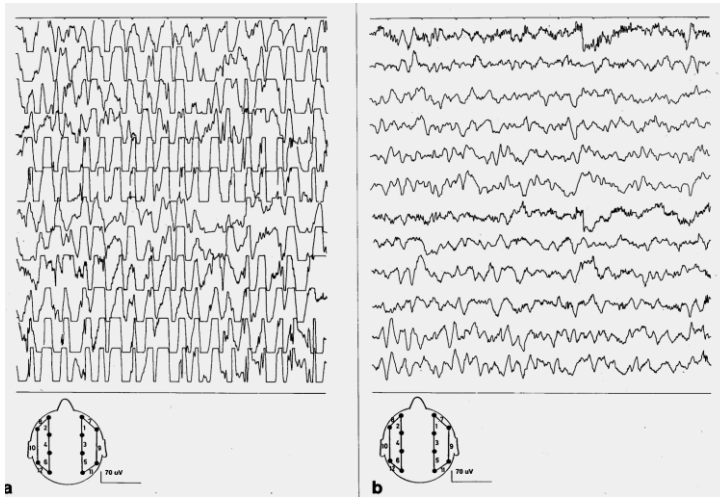


Figure 1: In-vivo proton magnetic resonance ($^1\text{H-NMR}$) spectra of parietal grey matter in patient with GAMT deficiency (stimulated echo acquisition mode [STEAM]: repetition time/echo time/middle interval=6000/20/30 ms, 64 accumulations, 8 mL volume-of-interest)

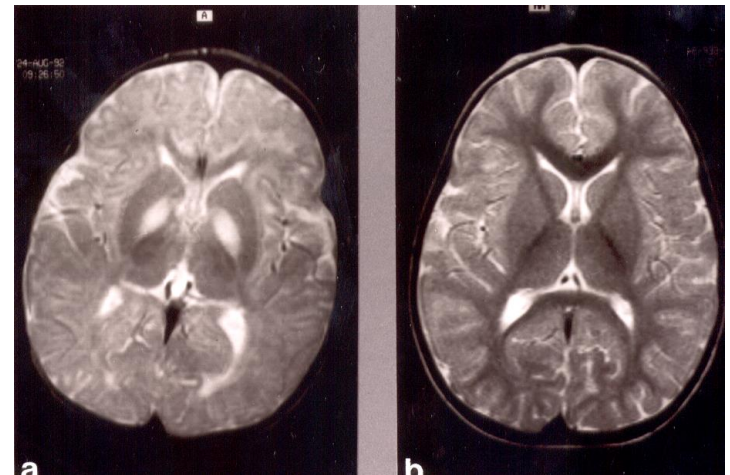
Dotted tracing: at age 22 mo, before treatment; solid tracing: at 48 mo, after 25 mo of oral creatine replacement. Cr, creatine and creatine-phosphate; Ins, myo-inositol; Cho, choline-containing compounds; Glu, glutamate; Gln, glutamine; NAA, N-acetyl aspartate.

Age 14 Mo, before therapy

On therapie for 2 ½ years

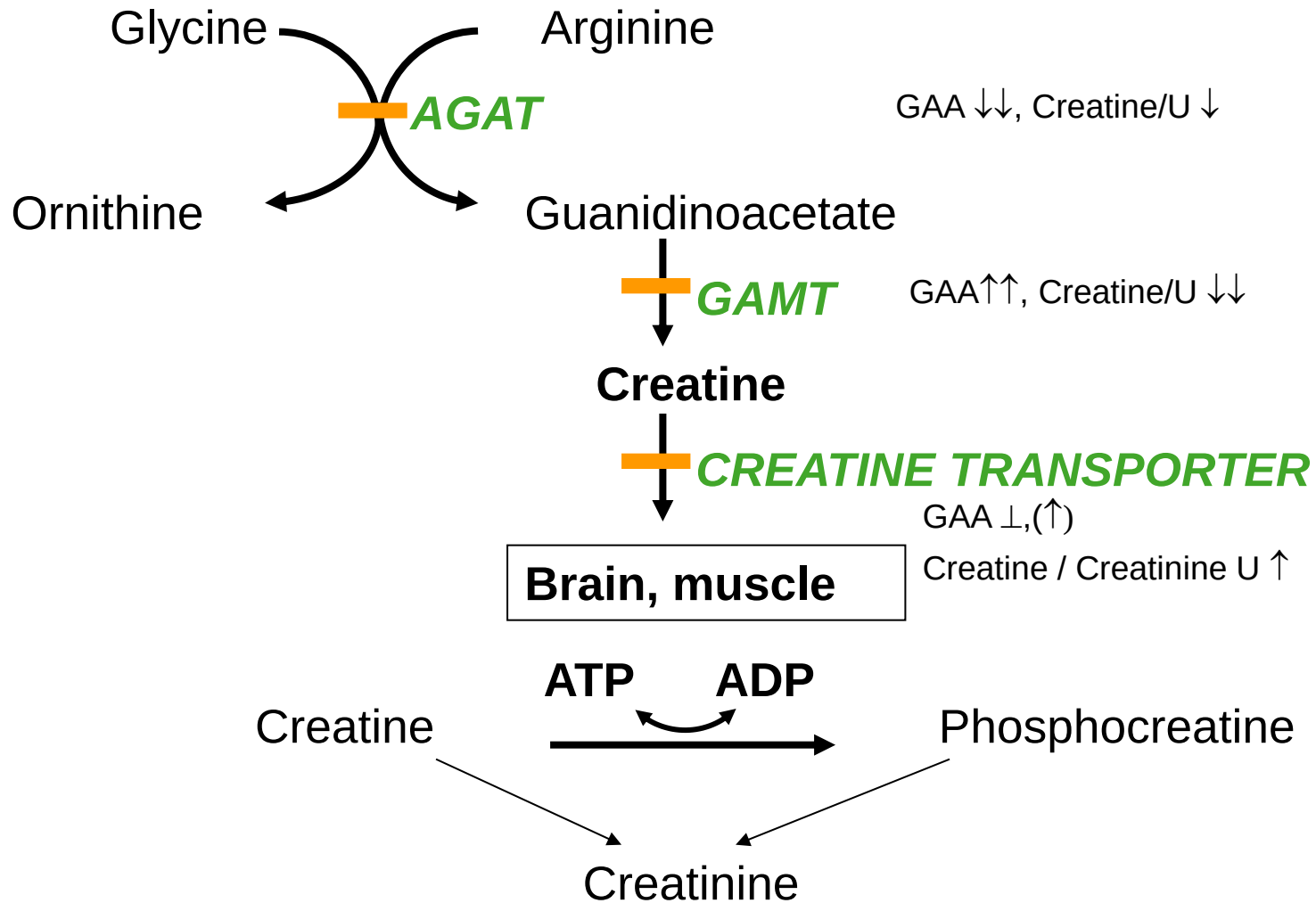


EEG, 18 mo, before and under Creatine



Bilat signal $\uparrow$ glob pall. Int. edema?

Creatine metabolism



Symptoms in Creatine deficiency syndromes

Mercimek & Salomons Gene Reviews Dec2015

	MR	Epilepsy	EPMS		Patients
AGAT (2001)	++	14%	-	aut. rec.	14
GAMT (1994)	+ / +++	3-6 mo 86% 46% TR	38%	aut. rec.	Ca.110
CRTR (2001)	+ / ++ Absent speech	60%♂ 5%TR	40%	X-rec.	>200

TR therapy resistance, EPMS extrapyramidal motor symptoms

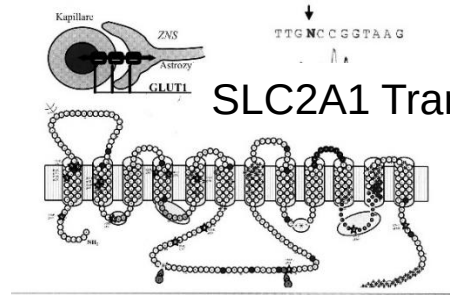
Glucose Transporter Defect (DeVivo Disease 1991)

Wilhelmina G. Leen et al. Brain 2010;133;655-670.n=54

90% mutations

10% deletions

De novo or AD



SLC2A1 Transporter

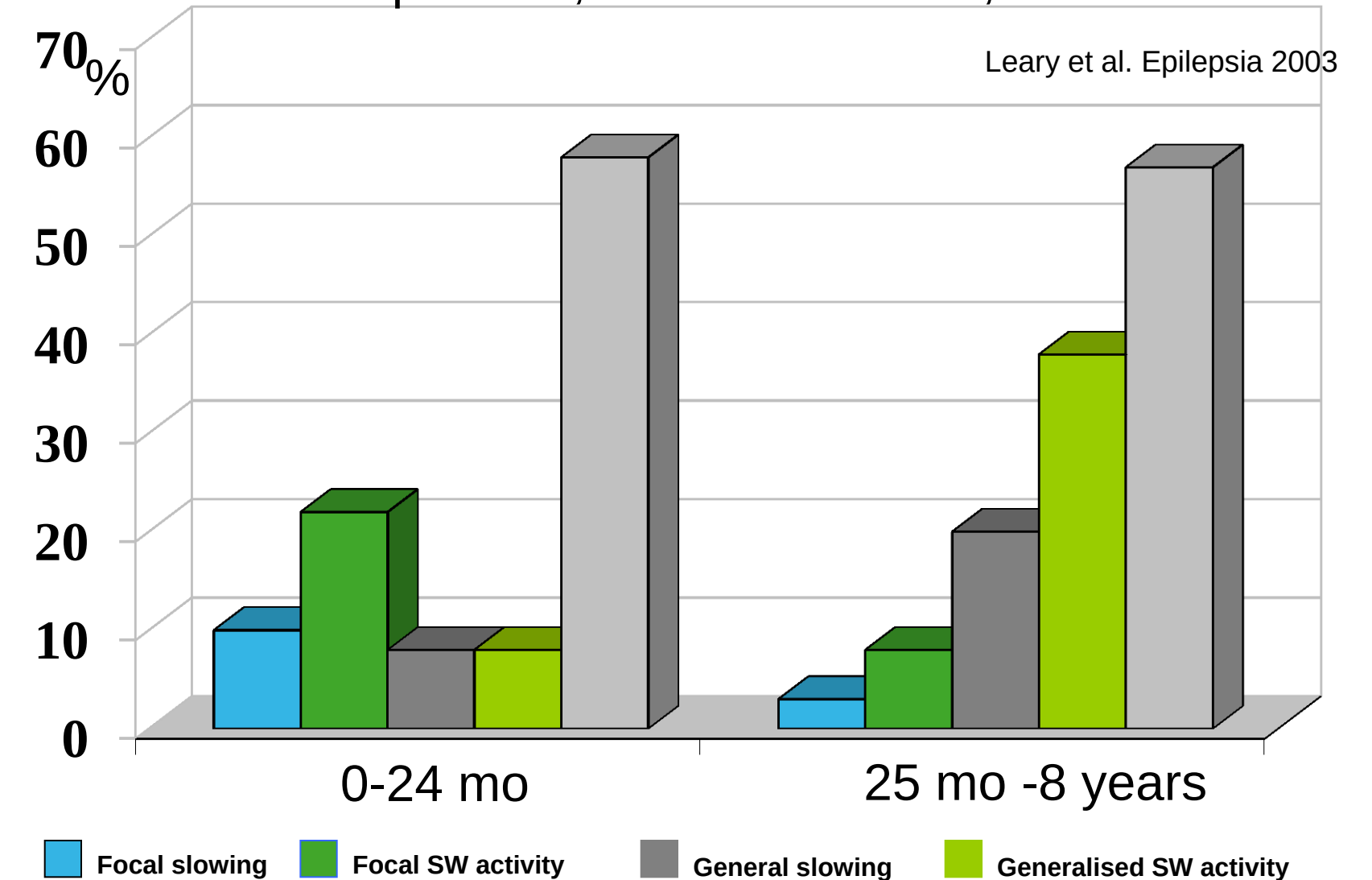
CSF/Plasma Glc Ratio
<0.45 (class Ph.)
Normal ≥ 0.6

- Focal seizure onset 1st-2nd year – later generalized
 - Therapyresistense
 - Secondary microcephaly (ca.50%)
 - Mental retardation (90%)
 - Ataxia, spasticity
 - Paroxysmal exercise induced dyskinesia (PED)
 - Aggravation before meals (take a good history)
-
- Atypical absences (onset 2-3rd year)
 - 15% have no seizures- pure MR

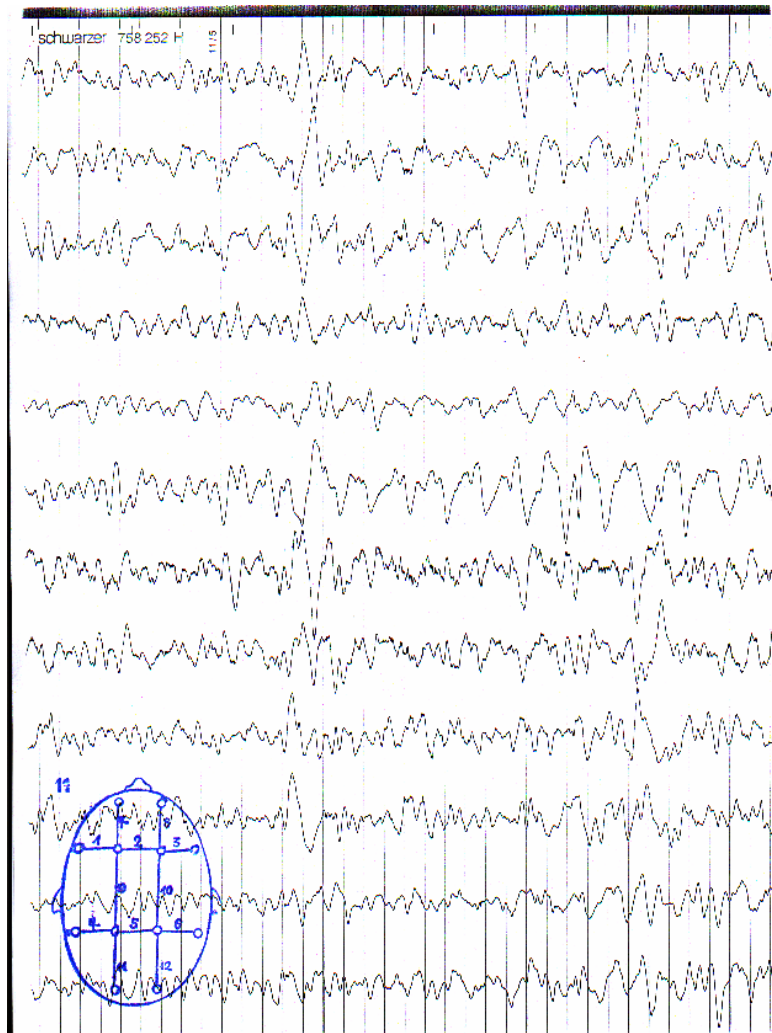
EEG changes in GLUT 1 deficiency

20 GLUT1 patients, 40 routine –EEG, 24 x 24h EEG

Leary et al. Epilepsia 2003



EEG changes in GLUT 1 deficiency



Metabolic work- up of infantile therapyresistant seizures

Disease	Urin	Plasma	CSF	Treatment	Gene
Antiquitin deficiency	↑ AASA, ↑ PA*	↑ PA	↑ AASA, P6C, ↓ PLP, ↑ PA, sec NT abn.	Pyridoxine	ALDH7A1
PNPO deficiency	(Vanillactate)	B ₆ profile ↑ pyridoxamine	↓ PLP, sec NT abnorm.	PLP (or Pyridoxine)	PNPO
Congital Hypophosphatasia		↓ AP, ↓ Ph, ↑ Ca B ₆ profile ↑ PLP	(↓ PLP ?)	Pyridoxine (or PLP)	TNSALP
MOCOD, ISOD	sulfocysteine ↑ AASA, ↑ P6C	↓ uric acid	↑ AASA, P6C ↓ PLP, ↑ PA	Pyridoxine or PLP Type A cPMP iv.	MOCS1, MOCS2, GPNH
NKH (non ketotic hyperglycinemia)		aminoacids (glycine)	aminoacids (glycine) CSF/plasma >0.004	-	4 enzymes cleavage system
Organoacidurias (eg. D2HGA)	organic acid profile	aminoacids		-	...
CDG syndromes		Transferrin isoelectric focussing		-	Common in CDG type II (ALG1,3,8..)
Zellweger Syndrome		VLCFA, PA, phytanic acid, pristanic acid		-	PEX gene 1-13
Adenylosuccinate lyase deficiency	purines			-	ADSL gene

Investigations in unclear acute encephalopathy

- Blood glucose, gases, AST, ALT, Crea, Urea, LDH NH₃, lactate, ketostix / urin or cap. blood
- Selective screening (even if routine lab is normal): aminoacids + acylcarnitines /pl, org. acids / U, homocysteine /pl
- Suggestive pattern on cMRI?
- EEG – exclusion of non-convulsive status epilepticus, (most frequent finding is that of diffuse slowing)

