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### Clinical Management of the "Infected & Autoimmune" Conundrum in Autoimmune Encephalopathies

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### What to Expect... "What parts do I need to<br/>build this engine..." Carburetor, spark plugs,<br/>engine block, pistons,<br/>steering wheel, brakes,<br/>transmission, etc... **Clinical Pearl:**<br/>You must address the patient at the level of complexity that matches their pattern of illness.

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Core Connections of Inflammation & Autoimmunity NFκB ↔ STAT3		Cogence 🌫
Inflammation & Autoimmunity NF $\kappa$ B $\leftrightarrow$ STAT3	Coro Connections of	
NFκB ↔ STAT3	Inflammation & Autoimmunity	
	$NFKB \longleftrightarrow STAT3$	





















by Jasmin Roya Agarwal and Elias T. Zambidis	n Mechanisms, Methods and	Models	
"Synergistic NFκB and STAT3 signaling			
The NFκB and STAT3 pathways are closely inte immune responses	rconnected in regulating		
Un-phosphorylated STAT3 that accumulates in the phosphorylated NFkB in competition with lkB. The dimer localizes to the nucleus to induce NFkB- expression."	cell can bind to un- resulting STAT3/NFκB dependent gene		
			_





















### Microglial phagocytosis of live neurons

"However, we and others have recently shown that microglia can also execute neuronal death by phagocytosing stressed-but-viable neurons — a process that we have termed phagoptosis. In this Progress article, we discuss evidence suggesting that phagoptosis may contribute to neuronal loss during brain development, inflammation, ischaemia and neurodegeneration."



### Neuronal 'On' and 'Off' Signals Control Microglia

"...neurons are not merely passive targets of microglia but rather control microglia activity...

'Off' signals constitutively keep microglia in their resting state and antagonize pro-inflammatory activity. 'On' signals are inducible, and include purines, chemokines, glutamate. Thus, neurons should be envisaged as key immune modulators in the brain."

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### Microglia in neurodegenerative disease

"Microglia, the resident macrophages of the CNS, jury and disease, altering their morphology and phenotype to adopt a so-called activated state in response to pathophysiological brain insults...

Microglial phenotype is also modified by systemic infection or inflammation...

The fact that diseases with a chronic systemic inflammatory component are risk factors for Alzheimer disease implies that crosstalk occurs between systemic inflammation and microglia in the CNS."

 Immunoexcitotoxicity as a central mechanism in chronic traumatic encephalopathy – A unifying hypothesis

 Ware Net at 2012 107. Biglios Re. Marcol J.

 "IL-1β has been shown to be the main activator of microglia during brain disturbances and systemic IL-1β can cause CNS inflammation once it enters the brain, thus linking systemic inflammation and immune activation with worsening of brain pathology and pre-existing neurodegeneration."





Regulation of innate immune responses in the brain	
"A single systemic injection of LPS (1 mg/kg intraperitoneally) results in the robust induction of expression in microglial cells of genes that encode pro-inflammatory cytokines and chemokines, as well as proteins of the complement system."	
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 Regulation of innate immune responses in the brain

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With Neuroinflammation, Microglial Cells Become Antigen Presenting Cells





Control of Glial Immune Function by Neurons Glia 2001, 30:191-199, Neumann H.	
"in a variety of inflammatory and neurodegenerative diseases, including MS, infections trauma, stroke, neoplasia, and Alzheimer's disease, glial cells such as microglia gain antigen-presenting capacity through the expression of MHC molecules."	i,
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### Microglia

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### Normal / Non-inflamed Brain: Phagocytic Macrophage Functions...

- Repair damaged neurons
- Phagocytize apoptotic neurons
   Inhibit inflammation

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- Kill infectious agents
- Induce apoptosis in invading T cells

### Microglia Inflamed Brain: Aggressive Phagocytosis & Atigen Presenting Cell Functions • Phagocytize viable neurons • Express MHC II • Present fragments of neuronal debris to invading T cells • Promote autoimmune process in brain













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Group A Streptococcus intranasal infection promotes CNS infiltration by streptococcal-specific Th17 cells. J Clin Invest. 2016 Jan: 126(1):303-17. Dilegan 1. Smith ED, Latimer E, Harley E, Agallu D, Cleary PP, et al.
"Intranasal challenge of repeatedly GAS-inoculated mice promoted migration of GAS- specific Th17 cells from NALT into the brain, BBB breakdown, serum IgG deposition, microglial activation, and loss of excitatory synaptic proteins under conditions in which no viable bacteria were detected in CNS tissue. CD4+ T cells were predominantly located in the offactory bulb (OB) and in other brain regions that receive direct input from the OB. Together, these findings provide insight into the immunopathology of neuropsychiatric complications that are associated with GAS infections and suggest that crosstalk between the CNS and cellular immunity may be a general mechanism by which infectious agents exacerbate symptoms associated with other CNS autoimmune disorders."













"A pathway na diverse situatio	ned TH17 is now cr ns. The TH1 pathw	edited for causing a ay antagonizes the	nd sustaining tissue damag TH17 pathway in an intr	ge in these ricate fashion.	
The evolution of perspectives cells was con	our understanding egarding the basis dered paramount	of the TH17 pathwa of tissue damage, w ."	ay illuminates a shift in im here for over 20 years th	munologists' e role of TH1	
Clinical Pearl:		17 pathway			













Indications of Th1 and Th17 responses in cerebrospinal fluid from patients with Lyme neuroborreliosis: a large retrospective study. J NeuroInflammatico. 2011 Apr 20:3.36. Henringszon AJ. Tjernberg I. Matimusti EE, Forzberg P. Emerudi J.	
"Previous studies indicate that successful resolution of Lyme neuroborreliosis (NB) is associated with a strong T helper (Th) 1-type cytokine response in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) followed by a down-regulating Th2 response, whereas the role of the recently discovered Th17 cytokine response is unknown.	
To investigate the relative contribution of different Th associated cytokine/chemokine responses, we used a multiple bead array to measure the levels of CXCL10 (Th1 marker), CCL22 (Th2 marker), IL-17 (Th17 marker) and CXCL8 (general inflammation marker), in serum and in CSF from untreated patients with confirmed NB (n = 133), and non-NB patients (n = 96), and related the findings to clinical data. Samples from patients with possible early NB (n = 15) and possible late NB (n = 19) were also analysed, as well as samples from an additional control group with orthopaedic patients (n = 17), where CSF was obtained at spinal anaesthesia."	
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### Indications of Th1 and Th17 responses in cerebrospinal fluid from patients with Lyme neuroborreliosis: a large retrospective study.

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"The most prominent differences across groups were found in the CSF. IL-17 was elevated in CSF in 49% of the patients with confirmed NB, but was not detectable in the other groups. Patients with confirmed NB and possible early NB had significantly higher CSF levels of CXCL10, CCL22 and CXCL8 compared to both the non-NB group and the control group ( $\rho < 0.0001$  for all comparisons). Patients in the early NB group, showing a short duration of symptoms, had lower CCL22 levels in CSF than did the contirmed NB group ( $\rho < 0.0001$ ). Furthermore, patients within the contirmed NB group ( $\rho < 0.0001$ ). Furthermore, patients within the contirmed NB group ( $\rho < 0.0001$ ). Furthermore, patients within the contirmed NB group showing a duration of symptoms <2 weeks, tended to have lower CCL22 levels in CSF than did those with longer symptom duration ( $\rho = 0.023$ ). Cytokiner/chemokine levels were not correlated with clinical parameters or to levels of anti-Borrelia-antibodies.

Our results support the notion that <u>early NB is dominated by a Th1-type response</u>, eventually accompanied by a Th2 response. Interestingly, IL-17 was increased exclusively in CSF from patients with confirmed NB, suggesting a thitberto unknown role for Th17 in NB. However, for conclusive evidence, future prospective studies are needed."

### Th1-Th17 Ratio as a New Insight in Rheumatoid Arthritis Disease.

"The Th17, Th1 and dual Th17/Th1 cells are important players in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) disease. To assess their roles, the frequency and impact of these cells were investigated in patients with different disease activity. In 14 new cases and 41 established RA patients in comparison with 22 healthy controls, the percentages of Th17, Th1 and dual Th17/Th1 cells were determined by flow-cytometry and their correlations were investigated with disease activity score (DAS28). Moreover, serum levels of IL-6 and IL-17 as inducer and functional cytokines for Th17 were investigated. Finally, serum levels of anti citrullinated protein antibody (ACPA) and rheumatoid factor (RF) were assessed."

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Conflicting Clinical Goals		
Autoimmunity?     Inhibit NFkB-STAT3 Axis, Support Th1, Modulate Th2	+++	
Infection?     Support Th1 and Innate Immune Response, Inhibit Th2		
The Key Mistake to Avoid:		
If you inhibit the NFkB-STAT3 axis in a Th2 Dominant patient, they will a You must modulate the Th2 dominance first!	get worse!	
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