

# A child with sickle cell and PIMS-TS

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Guy's and St Thomas'  
NHS Foundation Trust



# 10 year old boy in the Emergency Dept

## Presentation

2/7 Pain back, chest,  
thigh

Afebrile on arrival

No cough/D+V/dysurea/  
muco-cutaneous change

Off food/drink

No unwell contacts

## Background

Sickle cell anaemia (ss)

Takes hydroxyurea,  
PenV, folic acid, abidec

Previous painful crises  
Enuresis ongoing  
Epistaxis 2019  
Osteomyelitis 2014

## Initial assessment

8/10 pain, obs normal

Examination normal

Hb 100g/L (baseline) Plt  
145 x10<sup>9</sup>, Lymph 2.1,  
Neutr 6.6, CRP 6mg/L,

WCC, U+Es, LFTs normal

CXR normal

# Sickle crisis

+ Difficult pain management

Pain management

Encourage oral hydration

Consider imaging if change

Monitor for fever



# Progression of illness

D1-2

## **Pain management**

Requiring PCA &  
clonidine

D 3

## **Fever ?Source**

HR rising; prior CRP  
rising 63

Abdomen pain

Commenced Ceftriaxone

+ Increased macrogol

D4

## **PIMS-TS?**

Fever 38.5

Abdomen pain persists

Thigh/chest/back pain

Examination:

Abdomen tender LIF

Tender hip but full ROM

# Investigations

## Virology

Covid PCR neg; serology positive [later]

## Bacteriology

Blood + urine culture negative

## Cardiology

ECG normal, ECHO emerging coronary changes

## Bloods:

Hb 88 g/L

WCC 11.4 Lymph 0.4, Neutr  $7.3 \times 10^9$

Ferritin 880 ug/L

Ddimer 8.5 mg/L

Na 133 mmol/L

Albumin 39 g/L

CRP 266 mg/L

Xray abdomen: constipation



# Case definition (RCPCH)

1. Persistent fever, inflammation, organ dysfunction
2. Exclusion of other microbial cause
3. +/-SARS-CoV-2\*

## Additional features

Lethargy and Myalgia  
Abdominal pain/Diarrhoea/Vomiting  
Rash/Conjunctivitis  
Hypotension  
Raised CRP  
Raised Ferritin (>500)  
Lymphopenia / Neutrophilia  
Raised Fibrinogen  
Raised D-Dimer  
Platelets initially low or normal  
Raised Troponin and B-NP  
Renal dysfunction

\*Not present at time

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# 1. PIMS TS

2. Sickle crisis  
+ Painful thighs

3. Sepsis?

4. Abdominal pain

1. IVIG 2g/kg  
Methylpred 10mg/kg  
Tocilizumab D2 of diagnosis  
Aspirin LD  
Dalteparin  
Colecalciferol 100,000 IU

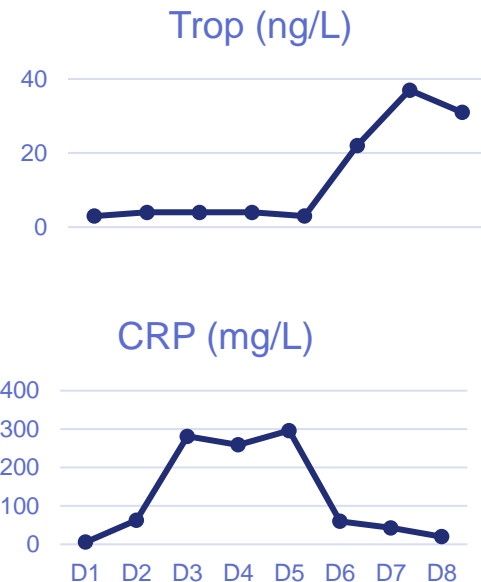
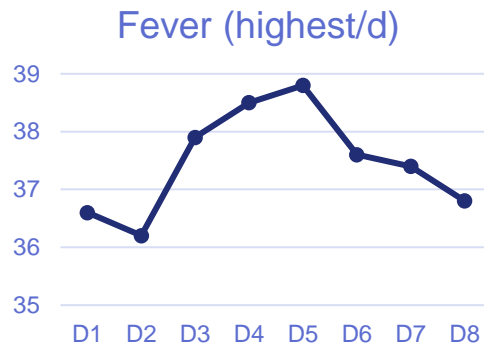
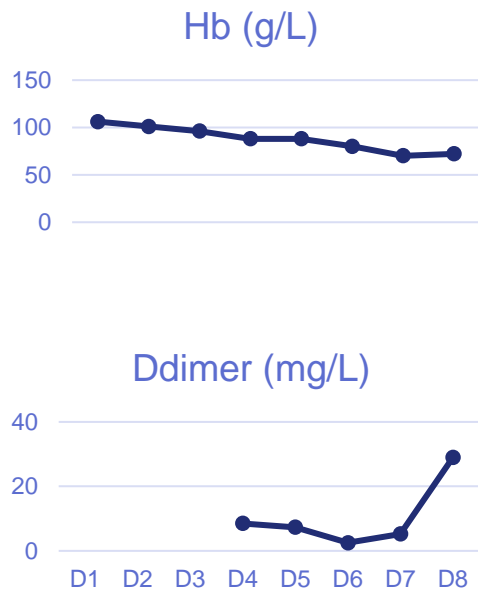
2. Analgesia  
Hydroxyurea

3. Continue ceftriaxone

4. Omeprazole  
Laxatives increase Movicol BD  
Surgical review [nil concern]



# Investigations and progress



**Methylpred**  
**IVIG**

**Tocilizumab**

# Progression of illness

D5-D6

## **Apyrexia 24hrs**

MRI showed chronic avascular necrosis + bone infarcts not septic

Epistaxis >20mins Hb 70

D7

## **Chest pain + palpitation**

Twave inv ECG leads 1-3

Trop & BNP rise

CTPA - no PE

Coronary dilation

D8 morning

## **Abdo + leg pain persistent**

Blood transfusion

# PIMS TS

- + Coronary artery dilatation
  - + Chest pain/ palpitations
  - + Sickle crisis
  - + Painful thigh
  - + Epistaxis with Hb drop
  - + Sepsis?
  - + Abdominal pain / constipated
-

# D8 Clinical Deterioration

- Drowsy >> lower GCS
- New onset headache + vomiting
- Hypertension
- New Left facial droop
- New Left sided weakness in upper and lower limbs

# Impression and Initial Management

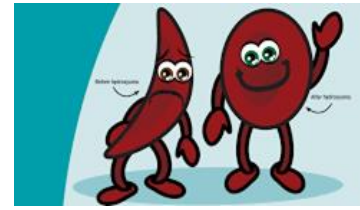
- ? Raised ICP secondary to stroke
- Neuroprotective measures including intubation
- Transferred arranged to PICU
- Start Levetiracetam
- Stop Dalteparin, aspirin and sedation

# CT Brain



**Rt sided Haemorrhagic stroke frontal lobe with midline shift**

# Current situation



## Update from Kings' 13/06

Craniotomy, surgical evacuation, ICP monitoring

Transfused peri-operatively

Slow improvement in GCS off sedation

ACA + MCA infarction on CT head

Extensive saphenous vein+ IVC thrombus >> IVC filter

Spiking temperature with raised CRP: IV Pip-taz, off steroids

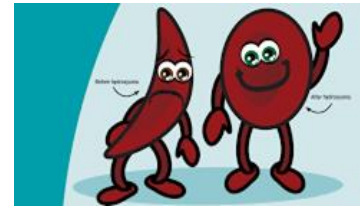
# CT Brain



Infarcts ACA/ MCA region



# Conclusion



## Difficult case

10 yo with sickle crisis

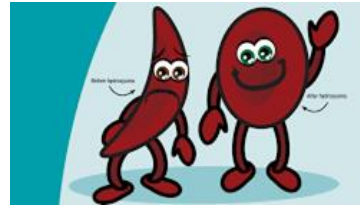
Addition to + complicated by

PIMS-TS

Haemorrhagic stroke

Extensive thrombi

# Challenges



## Difficult questions

PIMS vs sepsis vs sickle crisis

Abdominal pain differentials

Difficulties in anticoagulation

Sickle management in Covid and PIMS-TS illness

# Thanks!

+ Any questions?



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## Acknowledgements:

- Paediatrics
- Haematology
  - PID
- Rheumatology
  - Cardiology
    - PICU
- Nursing team