

NMO – Neuromyelitis Optica

Devic's Disease

Optic Neuritis

- Inflammation of the optic disk
- r/o Demyelinating Myelopathies (MS, NMO)
- DD:
 - Parameningeal/ meningeal/ intraocular inflammation assoc. w/ viral infections
 - Toxins (e.g. methanol, ethambutol)
 - Neurosyphilis
 - Vit. B12 Def.

Optic Neuritis – Cont.

- S/S:
 - Unilateral impairment of visual acuity
 - Time span: hrs -> days. Max. w/in 1 week
 - Headache, globe tenderness, eye pain
- Diagnosis:
 - Central scotoma on visual field test
 - Decreased visual acuity
 - Fundus: unilateral disk swelling
 - Pupils: equal but reduced reaction to illumination

Optic Neuritis – cont.

- In demyelinating disease – acuity usually improves over 2-3 weeks.
- Tx:
 - IV methylprednisolone 1 g/d for 3 days
 - PO prednisone 1 mg/kg/d for 11 days
- Prognosis:
 - Progression to MS w/in 15 yrs (74% ♀, 34%♂)

NMO

- Once considered a variant of MS
- Assoc. w/ specific antibody: NMO-IgG which targets water channel Aquaporin-4
- S/S:
 - Optic Neuritis
 - Acute Myelitis: spastic weakness, paralysis, loss of sensation, autonomic dysfunction
- MRI:
 - Extends over at least 3 spinal segments
 - No widespread involvement of white matter

NMO – Cont.

- Tx:
 - Long term immunosuppression - Azathioprine
 - IV corticosteroids
 - Plasmapheresis
 - Rituximab
- Prognosis:
 - No Cure – relapsing disorder