



Practical Pulmonary Pathology



COVID-19

2021-03-01











A koronavírusok lipidburokkal rendelkező, egyszálú RNS vírusok, amelyek légzőszervi és bélrendszeri infekciókat okoznak állatokban és emberekben. A humán koronavírusok közül négy folyamatosan jelen van környezetünkben, légzőszervi megbetegedéseket okoz, endemikus megjelenésük a téli hónapokra tehető.

Coronaviruses are enveloped, nonsegmented, single-stranded, positive-sense RNA viruses that have a characteristic appearance on electron microscopy negative staining



SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV have had different behaviors, SARS-CoV-2 will likely have unique features of its own

Guarner J. **Three Emerging Coronaviruses in Two Decades**. Am J Clin Pathol. 2020 Mar 9;153(4):420-421. doi: 10.1093/ajcp/aqaa029. PMID: 32053148; PMCID: PMC7109697.







Animal origins of human coronaviruses.

Cui J, Li F, Shi ZL. Origin and evolution of pathogenic coronaviruses. Nat Rev Microbiol. 2019 Mar;17(3):181-192.



Receptor recognition by SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV.

Cui J, Li F, Shi ZL. Origin and evolution of pathogenic coronaviruses. Nat Rev Microbiol. 2019 Mar;17(3):181-192.





https://www.cas.org/blog /ace2-covid-19-target



Hoffmann M, Kleine-Weber H, Schroeder S, Krüger N, Herrler T, Erichsen S, Schiergens TS, Herrler G, Wu NH, Nitsche A, Müller MA, Drosten C, Pöhlmann S. SARS-CoV-2 Cell Entry Depends on ACE2 and TMPRSS2 and Is Blocked by a Clinically Proven Protease Inhibitor. Cell. 2020 Apr 16;181(2):271-280.e8. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2020.02.052. Epub 2020 Mar 5. PMID: 32142651; PMCID: PMC7102627.

Vírus	Átmeneti gazda Intermediate host	Rezervoár	Receptor	Első felbukkanás
SARS-COV-2 2019	?	Denevér Bat	ACE2	Vuhan, Kína
SARS-COV	Cibetmacska	Denevér	ACE2	Guangzhou, Kína
2002-2003	Cat	Bat		
MERS-COV	Teve	Denevér	CD26/DPP4	Szaúd-Arábia
2012	Camel	Bat		

Wang H, Wei R, Rao G, Zhu J, Song B. Characteristic CT findings distinguishing 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) from influenza pneumonia. Eur Radiol. 2020 Apr 22.

COVID-19 HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU?

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a pandemic caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2, also called SARS-CoV-2. Despite the widespread awareness regarding COVID-19, many are still unaware about how it affects the human body.



SARS-CoV-2 starts its journey in the nose, mouth, or eves and travels down to the alveoli in the lungs. Alveoli are tiny sacs of air where gas exchange occurs.





More fluid enters the alveolus

during this process

Gas Exchange

Each sac of air, or alveolus, is wrapped with capillaries where red blood cells release carbon dioxide (CO.) and pick up oxygen (O.). Two alveolar cells facilitate gas exchange; Type I cells are thin enough that the oxygen passes right through, and Type II cells secrete surfactant - a substance that lines the alveolus and prevents it from collapsing.

Viral Infection

The spike proteins covering the coronavirus bind ACE2 receptors primarily on type II alveolar cells, allowing the virus to inject its RNA. The RNA "hijacks" the cell, telling it to assemble many more copies of the virus and release them into the alveolus. The host cell is destroyed in this process and the new coronaviruses infect neighbouring cells.

Immune Response

- After infection, Type II cells release inflammatory signals that recruit macrophages (immune cells).
- Macrophages release cytokines that cause vasodilation, which allows more immune cells to come to the site of injury and exit the capillary.
- Fluid accumulates inside the alveolus.
- The fluid dilutes the surfactant which triggers the onset of alveolar collapse, decreasing gas exchange and increasing the work of breathing.
- S Neutrophils are recruited to the site of infection and release Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) to destroy infected cells.
- Type I and II cells are destroyed, leading to the collapse of the alveolus and causing Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS).
- If inflammation becomes severe, the proteinrich fluid can enter the bloodstream and travel elsewhere in the body, causing Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS).
- BIRS may lead to septic shock and multi-organ failure, which can have fatal consequences.

Published 11 months ago on April 10, 2020By Nick Routley





Decreased perfusion in the posterior lungs (B) corresponds to a small amount of consolidation seen in Panel A.

August 27, 2020 N Engl J Med 2020; 383:886-889 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2022068



a Representative image of post-mortem chest CT scan revealing bilaterally diffuse ground-glass opacities and consolidations. b Lung, gross (inset: hemorrhage on the pleural surface). c Gross cross section of the right lung. d Gross cross section of the right lower lobe with fluid-filled bronchi

Suess C, Hausmann R. Gross and histopathological pulmonary findings in a COVID-19 associated death during self-isolation. Int J Legal Med. 2020 Jul;134(4):1285-1290. doi: 10.1007/s00414-020-02319-8. Epub 2020 Jun 5. PMID: 32504146; PMCID: PMC7273129. Pulmonary pathology of COVID-19: a review of autopsy studies Alain C. Borczuk

KEY POINTS

The histology of COVID-19 lung injury is diffuse alveolar damage, often temporally heterogeneous.

Thrombosis, especially microthrombi, are common in lung and extra-pulmonary sites.

Lung injury can lead to lung fibrosis.

A less common neutrophil-rich COVID-19 pneumonia may provide insight into disease pathogenesis, perhaps in a subset of severe cases.









a Low power demonstrating the predominance of acute diffuse alveolar damage. b Intermediate power demonstrating edema, hemorrhage, and fibrin deposition. c High power demonstrates atypical enlarged intra-alveolar cells characterised by large nuclei with increased mitotic figures (arrow). d Immunhistochemical staining with TTF-1 confirmed the atypical enlarged cells with type II pneumocytes



a High power demonstrating collections of intra-aveolar foamy macrophages. b Immunhistochemical staining with CD68 highlighted the abundance of macrophages in lung tissue. c High power demonstrating reactive changes of the bronchial epithelium with enlarged nuclei and increased mitotic figures (arrow). d Low power demonstrating patchy nonspecific pericardial infiltration with aggregates of inflammatory cells (inset: high power demonstrating the predominance of lymphocytes mixed with plasma cells without neutrophils or granulomas)



Three distinct histological patterns were identified in severe COVID-19 affected lungs: A. Acute pulmonary injury: defined as exudative inflammatory changes that include exudative diffuse alveolar damage (DAD), alveolar edema, neutrophilic pneumonia and hemorrhage;

B. Early fibroproliferative changes: defined as a mixed pattern of acute and fibroproliferative changes, with organization of the exudative process and deposition of loose extracellular matrix;

C. Predominant pattern of fibroproliferation (fibroproliferative DAD).

We tested the agreement between US image patterns and histological alterations in 10 COVID-19 fatal cases by blindly comparing the diagnosis made by ultrasound and those obtained by histopathological analysis.

Histological–ultrasonographical correlation of pulmonary involvement in severe COVID-19 Renata Aparecida Almeida Monteiro, Ellen Pierre de Oliveira, Paulo Hilário Nascimento Saldiva, Marisa Dolhnikoff & Amaro Nunes Duarte-Neto & BIAS – Brazilian Image Autopsy Study Group

Original Source: Intensive Care Medicine (2020)



Unique transcriptional changes in coagulation cascade genes in SARS-CoV-2-infected lung epithelial cells: A potential factor in COVID-19 coagulopathies Ethan S. FitzGerald, View ORCID ProfileAmanda M. Jamieson doi: https://doi.org/10.1101 /2020.07.06.182972

The hyper-activation of the extrinsic blood coagulation cascade and the suppression of the plasminogen activation system in SARS-CoV-2 infected epithelial cells may drive diverse coagulopathies in the lung and distal organ systems.

The gene transcription pattern in SARS-CoV-2 infected epithelial cells is distinct from IAV infected epithelial cells with regards to the regulation of blood coagulation.

Gross and Histopathology of COVID-19 With First Histology Report of Olfactory Bulb Changes George S. Stoyanov, Lilyana Petkova, Deyan L. Dzhenkov, Nikolay R. Sapundzhiev, Iliyan Todorov



Necrotizing olfactory bulbitis as observed in both cases.

A and C: severe edema (white arrows) and diffuse inflammatory cell infiltration (black arrows), H&E stain, original magnification 100x; B and D: diffuse degenerative changes, H&E stain, original magnification 400x.

Pulmonary involvement

- ACE2 receptor on type II alveolar epithelial cells
 → lung tropism
- SARS-CoV-2: alveolar injury and interstitial inflammation
- Proinflammatory factors, cytokine storm and immune system activation
- Diffuse pulmonary intravascular coagulopathy
- Silent hypoxia and atypical ARDS

Renal involvement

- ACE2 in podocytes, mesangial cells, epithelium of the Bowman's Capsule, proximal cells brush border and collecting ducts
- Uncontrolled systemic inflammatory response → kidney injury
- Alterations in renal hemodynamics

Hematological manifestations

- Direct ACE2-dependent infection of lymphocytes, cytokine-induced lymphocyte apoptosis->lymphopenia
- Systemic inflammation→increased inflammatory indices
- Endothelial dysfunction and immune deregulation → blood hypercoagulability

Skin manifestations

- Direct virus infection
- Related to underlying vasculopathy
- Secondary to host immune response
- Treatment-related

Nervous system involvement

- Direct CNS invasion: hematogenously or via the retrograde neuronal route eg olfractory neurons
- Hyper-inflammatory status: cytokine-mediated brain damage
- Host immune response effects
- Cerebrovascular disease on the ground of hypercoagulation
- ACE-2 in host olfactory and gustatory pathways → anosmia, ageusia
- Direct PNS and skeletal muscle infection

Cardiovascular manifestations

- Heart: direct ACE2 related → acute MI, myocarditis, decompeansated HF, tachyarrhythias.
- Heart: indirect → inflammatory reaction leading to decompensation of underlying disease
- Endotheliopathy
- Kawasaki-like syndrome

Gastrointestinal and liver involvement

- ACE2 on enterocytes in the ileum and colon
- Direct infection and apoptosis of epithelial cells in the GI tract → diarrhea, vomiting, nausea
- Liver: direct infection and apoptosis of hepatocytes, hypoxia, sepsis, drug-induced toxicity

Endocrine manifestations

- Molecular mimics to the host ACTH → cortisol insufficiency
- Direct infection → degeneration and necrosis of the adrenal gland
- ACE2 expressed on hypothalamic and pituitary tissues → direct hypothalamic damage and hypophysitis

Gavriatopoulou M, Korompoki E, Fotiou D, Ntanasis-Stathopoulos I, Psaltopoulou T, Kastritis E, Terpos E, Dimopoulos MA. Organ-specific manifestations of COVID-19 infection. Clin Exp Med. 2020 Nov;20(4):493-506. doi: 10.1007/s10238-020-00648x. Epub 2020 Jul 27. PMID: 32720223; PMCID: PMC7383117.

Lung diseases

- Acute lung injury (ARDS)
- Inflammation: pneumonia

nota bene: pneumonitis – non-organic hypersensitive reaction

- COPD (chronic obstructive lung disease)
- Restrictive lung diseases
- Neoplasma- primary & secondary

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Major symptom - dyspnea

- cigarette smoking!!!
- Site of disease:
- bronchi- chronic bronchitis,
- bronchioles-bronchiolitis,
- acini- emphysema
- "Non-smoking" etiology Asthma
 - **Bronchiectasis**

- Obstructive airway disease
- increase in resistance to airflow due to obstruction at any level of aiways;
- reduced maximal airflow rates (FEV1)

(forced expiratory volume in 1 second, FEV1%VC)

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Chronic bronchitis



• Emphysema

Medscape@ www.medscape.com Normal Centrilobular) Emphysema Image: Centrilobular and the second seco

Bronchial asthma



• Bronchiectasis



Chronic Bronchitis

- **Diagnosis:** persistent cough with sputum for 3 months in 2 consecutive years
- More infections, purulent sputum, hypercapnia, hypoxia than emphysema; clinically called "blue bloaters"
- Causes: 4-10x more common in smokers, also chronic irritation, infections

A person with chronic bronchitis who demonstrates evidence of cyanosis and pedal <u>edema.</u>



Chronic Bronchitis

- Simple bronchitis: mucoid sputum wo obstruction
- Intermittant bronchial spasmus
- Chronic obstructive bronchitis w emphysema (heavy smokers)





Reid index:

ratio of thickness of mucus gland layer to thickness of wall between epithelium and cartilage;

normal is 0.4, increased in chronic bronchitis



Emphysema

- Permanent enlargement of air spaces distal to terminal bronchiole with wall destruction but without fibrosis
- Acinar and airspace enlargement is usually due to tobacco related wall destruction



Patients breathless from <u>CHRONIC</u> lungdisease but still able to maintain sufficient oxygenation of the blood to avoid <u>CYANOSIS</u>.

Emphysema

emphysema



Emphysema

Subtypes

- Centriacinar/lobular smoking
- Panacinar/lobular (α -AT def)
- Distal acinar
- Irregular





Source: ACP Medicine @ 2004 WebMD Inc.

Asthma

- reversible bronchoconstriction
- atopic: T_H2 and IgE mediated immunologic reaction to allergens characterized by acute and late-phase reactions
- non-atopic: viral infections and air pollutants
- eosinophils are key inflammatory cells
- basement membrane thickening and hypertrophy of smooth muscle of bronchi



Spiral shaped mucous plug in asthma patients





CHARCOT-LEYDEN CRYSTALS
Bronchiectasis

Etiology

- Bronchial obstruction
- Cystic fibrosis
- Chronic (necrotizing) infection of bronchi and bronchioles associated with permanent dilatation of these airways
- **Symptoms:** cough, fever, purulent sputum

Sec amyloidosis!!!!

• Gross:

markedly distended peripheral bronchi, **usually in lower lobes**, can **trace to pleural** surface;



Kartagener Syndrome/Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD)





- Situs inversus, <u>bronchiectasis</u> and sinusitis, due to defective ciliary action
- PCD is a

genetically heterogeneous disor der affecting motile of cilia which are made up of approximately 250 proteins.

Source: Anthony L. Mescher: Junqueira's Basic Histology, 14th Edition. www.accessmedicine.com Copyright © McGraw-Hill Education. All rights reserved.



Restrictive Lung Disease

reduced expansion (compliance) of lung parenchyma with decrease in total lung capacity;

NORMAL FEV1

1. Fibrosing diseases

- Interstitial / infiltrative lung diseases - ILD interstitial fibrosis
- Pneumoconioses
- Autoimmune disease
- 2.Granulomatous diseases (i.e. sarcoidosis)
- 3. Eosinophilic
- 4.Smoking-related

Fibrosing diseases

- Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) (usual interstitial pneumonia - UIP)
- 60+ (male>female)
- recurrent alveolitis
- Diagnosis of exclusion (no asbest, no vascular

disease etc)

TGF-beta 1!!

Non-specific interstitial pneumonia









Pneumoconioses

Diseases

Definition

Silicosis Coal-worker's pneumoconiosis Asbestosis (talcosis, siderosis, aluminosis,berylliosis)

dust in the lung diseases of the lung related to the inhaled dust

Silicotic lung

- a. Fibrotic nodules
- b. Progressive massive fibrosis
- c. Alveolar proteinosis

Coal worker's pneumoconiosis (CWP)

Primary macules < 7 mm

Nodular lesions _> 2.0 cm

Progressive massive fibrosis



Asbestosis

The histologic changes vary from bronchiolocentric fibrosis to honeycomb lung.

An asbestos body consists of a central core fiber of asbestos that is coated with an iron-protein-mucopolysaccharide laye. Iron stains e.g. Prussian blue, can make detection easy.





Granulomatous inflammation (non-infectious)

Boeck's sarcoidosis

 Multisystemic disease of unknown origin that involves lung in 90% of

cases



• Presents as bilateral hilar lymphadenopathy (BHL)

- **65%** recover without further problems; **20%** have permanent pulmonary loss;
- Skin: erythema nodosum



- Diagnosis of exclusion, culture and special stains – Ziehl-Neelsen
- Treatment: steroids for severe symptoms, advanced disease

Diff dg!!!!!!

Complications

Regardless of the etiology for restrictive lung diseases, many eventually lead to extensive fibrosis



Complications

Both restrictive and obstructive lung diseases can affect the pulmonary arterial circulation.

The loss of normal lung parenchyma leads to pulmonary hypertension that leads to thickening of the small arteries



Lung transplantation

27% chronic obstructive pulmonary

disease (COPD), including emphysema;

16% idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;

14% cystic fibrosis;

12% idiopathic (formerly known as "primary")

pulmonary hypertension;

5% <u>alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency;</u>

2% replacing previously transplanted lungs

that have since failed;

24% other causes,

including bronchiectasis and sarcoidosis.