

Tubulointerstitial Nephritis and Uveitis Syndrome (TINU)

Diagnostic Criteria

Standardization of Uveitis Nomenclature Criteria 2021

Clinical Criteria

1. Anterior uveitis with or without intermediate/posterior involvement
 1. Anterior chamber cell
 2. If vitritis, choroiditis or retinal vasculitis anterior chamber inflammation is also present
2. Tubulointerstitial nephritis
 1. Biopsy proven -OR-
 2. Elevated urine β -2 microglobulin -AND-
 3. Abnormal urinalysis or elevated creatinine

Exclusion criteria

- Positive Syphilis serology
- Evidence of Sarcoidosis
 - bilateral hilar adenopathy -OR-
 - tissue biopsy with non-caseating granulomata

Prevalence in Pediatric Populations

- Up to 32% in those with sudden onset bilateral anterior uveitis
- In those with biopsy proven tubulointerstitial nephritis, 46% had uveitis but 84% if they were screened at the outset, then 3 and 6 months later.(3)
 - [Saarela V et al Tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis syndrome in children: a prospective multicenter study. Ophthalmology. 2013;120\(7\):1476-1481.](#)

Disease Course

- 88% have a chronic course with frequent relapses
- Active disease can last > 2 years
- 50% recurrence in some studies upon cessation of steroids

Treatment

- Topical and oral steroids is the most common treatment.(3)
 - Prednisone 2 mg/kg/day to start given BID max dose of 60 mg
 - Tapering dose depends on kidney function testing
- Given frequent long term need for steroids consider steroid sparing agents when possible
- The following have been used in various studies
 - methotrexate (may accumulate in the kidneys and cause toxicity)
 - mycophenolate mofetil
 - azathioprine
 - TNF α inhibitors
 - adalimumab
 - infliximab
 - golimumab
 - tocilizumab

Resources

1. Tubulointerstitial Nephritis and Uveitis Syndrome in Pediatric Patients. Janetos TM et al. Ocular Immunology and Inflammation. 2023;31(10):1955-1964
2. Standardization of Uveitis Nomenclature (SUN) Working Group. Classification Criteria for tubulointerstitial nephritis with uveitis syndrome. Am J Ophthalmol. 2021;228:225-261
3. Saarela V et al Tubulointerstitial nephritis and uveitis syndrome in children: a prospective multicenter study. Ophthalmology. 2013;120(7):1476-1481.

>uveitis

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