

# France : an ageing country with ageing infection

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- Mr C 71 year-old, Martiniquan
- Past Medical history : Tolosa Hunt Syndrome treated with Anti-TNF  $\alpha$ 
  - Positive IDR : Isoniazid+ Rifampicin prophylaxis
- History of Presenting complaint : Fever during 1 month (8 months after the onset of anti TNF $\alpha$  therapy)

# Initial presentation

- Temperature : 40°C
- No urinary or pulmonary or gastrointestinal symptoms.
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## Blood results :

- Na 146 mmol/l, K 4,3 mmol/l
- Urea 26 mmol/l creatinine 268 µmol/l
- AST 74 UI/L, ALT 32 UI/L, ALP 278 UI/L, GGT 264 UI/L
- Hb 9,6 g/dl, MCV 76, Platelet 51 G/L  
Leucocyte 0,3 G/L
- TP 98%, ratio TCA 1,1

# Initial presentation



# Main hypotheses



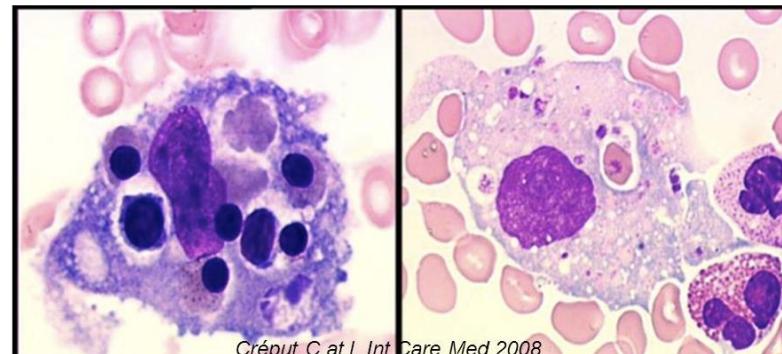
# Main hypotheses

- Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis ( HLH)
- Subacute Endocarditis



# Further investigation

- Infection : CBU, hemoculture, Echocardiogram, CT scan
  - No infection
- HLH : TG 2,7 g/L, ferritin 4000 µg/l, fibrinogen 2,4 g/l
  - myelogram : hemophagocytosis
  - H Score 317



# Diagnosis method for HLH

**Table 4.** The HScore

Parameter	No. of points (criteria for scoring)
Known underlying immunosuppression*	0 (no) or 18 (yes)
Temperature (°C)	0 (<38.4), 33 (38.4–39.4), or 49 (>39.4)
Organomegaly	0 (no), 23 (hepatomegaly or splenomegaly), or 38 (hepatomegaly and splenomegaly)
No. of cytopenias†	0 (1 lineage), 24 (2 lineages), or 34 (3 lineages)
Ferritin (ng/ml)	0 (<2,000), 35 (2,000–6,000), or 50 (>6,000)
Triglyceride (mmoles/liter)	0 (<1.5), 44 (1.5–4), or 64 (>4)
Fibrinogen (gm/liter)	0 (>2.5) or 30 ( $\leq 2.5$ )
Serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase (IU/liter)	0 (<30) or 19 ( $\geq 30$ )
Hemophagocytosis features on bone marrow aspirate	0 (no) or 35 (yes)

If HScore > 169, HLH Diagnosis : Se = 93% and Spe = 86%

# Etiology of HLH

- Infectious :
  - Negative Influenzae PCR , HBV-, HCV-, HIV -, EBV-, HSV-, Parvo B19 serologies, HHV6-, HHV8-, EBV- PCR
  - Negative Rickettsi- and Coxiella-, Chlamydia trachomatis, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Chlamydia pneumoniae, Bartonella serologies, legionella antigenuria, Koch bacillus sputum/urinary
  - Negative Anguillulose (Strongyloidiasis) antigens
- Immunology :
  - Negative ANA, ANCA, increased complement, ACE
- Haematology :
  - Negative Leukocyte immunophenotyping
  - PET scan : rate and liver hyperfixation
  - Bone Marrow : no evidence of lymphoma or Castelmann

# Clinical Course

- Clinically worsening with
  - Confusion
  - Dyspnea
  - Pancytopenia
  - Hemostasis



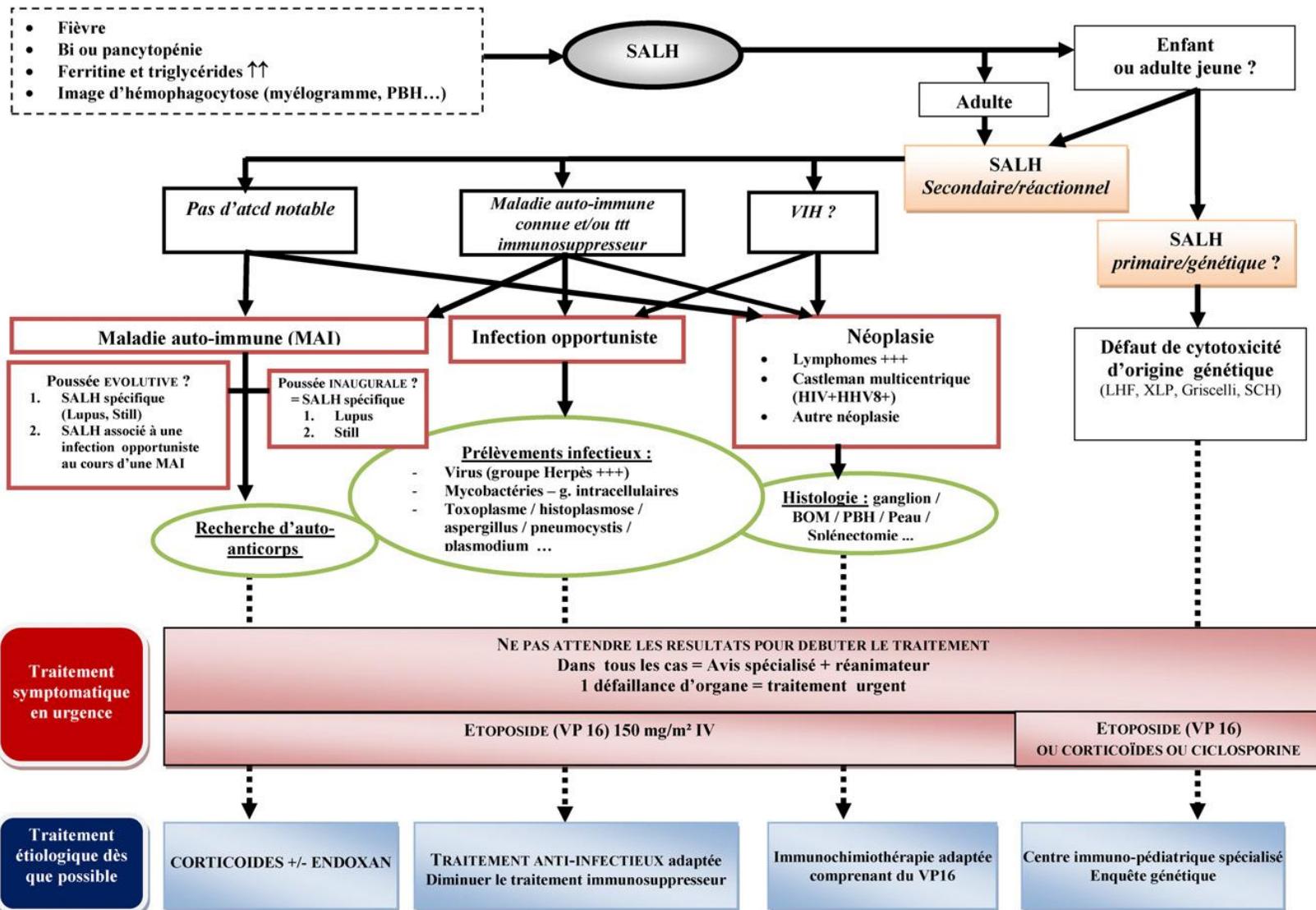
Treatment?

# Clinical Course

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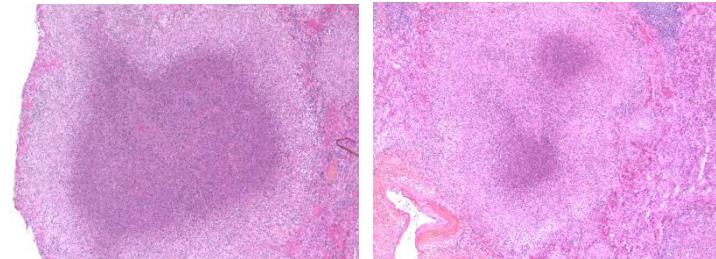


Etoposide ( VP 16)



# New Investigation

- Liver biopsy :
  - Histology : HLH and granuloma formation without caseum area
  - No evidence of an infection (negative mycological and bacteriological Culture ( with leishmanie), Koch bacillus PCR, EBV PCR, HHV8 PCR)
  - No B or T cell clone
- Splenectomy
  - Histology : caseating granuloma
  - Koch bacillus +



# Treatment

- Isoniazid (5 mg/kg) + Rifampicin 10 mg/kg+ Ethambutol (15 mg/kg) + Pyrazinamide (20 mg/kg)
  - + B6 vitamin supplementation
- Vaccination after splenectomy:
  - Haemophilus, meningococcus ACYW135, pneumococcus
- Amoxicillin post splenectomy

# Key learning points

- Biotherapy
  - Infection risk
  - Indeed prophylaxis
- Non invasive test :
  - expansive tools
  - Could be negative
- Splenectomy :
  - Invasive test
  - Should be realized without delay if the first result were negative

# In France, we're not Chauvinist

