

# The Atlantic Provinces Medical Peer Review



## MANAGEMENT OF SPECIFIC DISEASE ENTITIES

### Neurology # 3 – Multiple Sclerosis

It is important to note that these guidelines are meant to be of assistance to assessors in making observations. They should not be taken as standards of any of the Atlantic Provinces Licensing Authorities.

Risk factors: living in temperate zone; north European descent; family history

Etiology: unknown; various theories: auto-immune, viral or combined

#### Signs & Symptoms:

- ✓ ataxia, Babinski sign; blurred, double or loss of vision; clonus; clumsiness: dysarthria
- ✓ labile emotion; fatigue; genital anaesthesia; hand paralysis; hemiparesis; hyperesthesia
- ✓ hyperactive deep tendon reflexes; uncoordination; loss of position sense; loss of vibration sense;
- ✓ monoparesis; ocular paralysis; paresthesias; sexual impotence; trigeminal neuralgia; urinary frequency, hesitancy and/or incontinence

#### Diagnosis:

- ✓ history and physical
- ✓ Lab: CSF; tests to exclude other disorders: CSF and serum, FTA-ABS, sedimentation rate, HTLV-I ; screens for clinically suspected vasculitic disorders; imaging: MRI
- ✓ diagnostic procedures: visual evoked response; somatosensory evoked potentials; brainstem auditory evoked responses; cerebrospinal fluid (oligoclonal bands, increased IgG
- ✓ differential diagnosis: ALS; Behcet disease; brainstem or cerebellar tumor; central nervous system infection; Friedrich or hereditary ataxia; leukodystrophy; neurofibromatosis; pernicious anemia; progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy; ruptured intervertebral disk; small cerebral infarcts spinal cord tumor; syphilis; syringomyelia; systemic lupus erythematosus; vasculitides

#### Therapies:

- ✓ patient requires regular follow-up; outpatient care as long as possible; long-term care for physical therapy or complications such as pyelonephritis
- ✓ medications: methylprednisone, baclofen; prophylactic antibiotics for UTI's; anti-depressants; interferon-beta; copolymer-1

	N/A	E	S	D
Clinical history and physical exam are documented.				
It is evident that appropriate tests have been ordered and completed.				
Appropriate therapies are used and regularly reviewed.				

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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