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WA Country Health Service

# A CLINICAL BUFFET



**NIL RANWALA**  
**ALBANY HEALTH CAMPUS**  
**GENERAL MEDICINE AT**



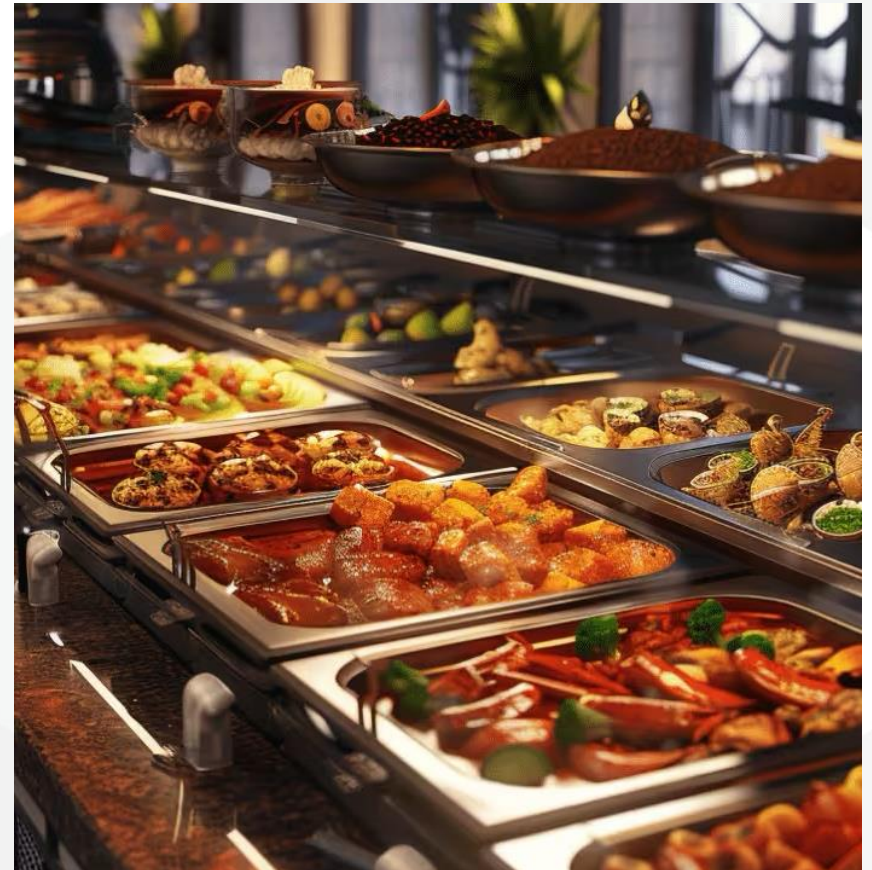
Our minds are like our stomachs; they  
are whetted by the change of their  
food, and variety supplies both with  
fresh appetite

*-Quintilian*





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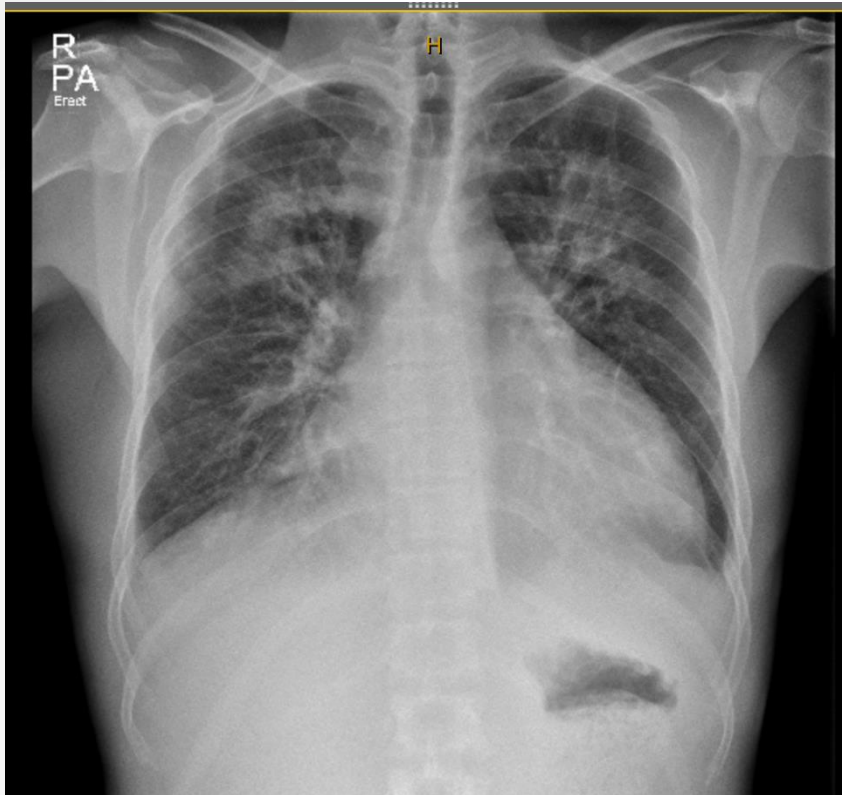
1. 43yo with dyspnoea
2. Bilateral ptosis
3. A blown pupil



## 43 YO WITH DYSPNOEA

- 43 M presents with 1 month of dyspnoea and anxiety.
- Nil PMHx
- Smoked “lots”, nil EtOH.
- Uses THC, IV methamphetamine
- No fevers, HR 120 BP 128/94
- CRP 6 Troponin 21





- TTE: Moderate dilation of LV with very severe global impairment of systolic function (LVEF 10%), non dilated RV with severely impaired systolic function. Moderate TR. Moderate MR. Moderate Dilated atrium.



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# **METHAMPHETAMINE INDUCED CARDIOMYOPATHY**



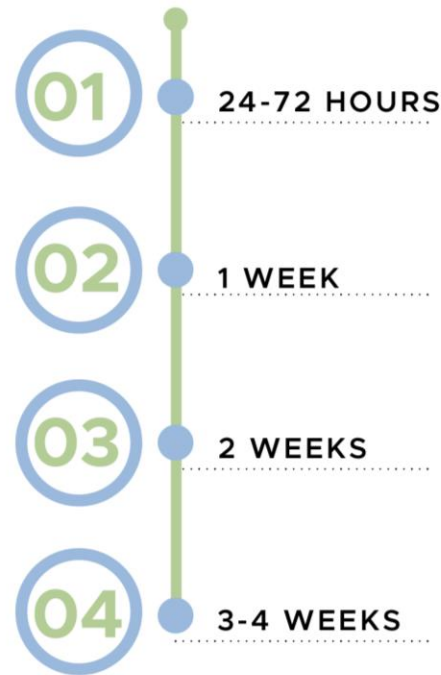
- Diagnosis made by history and excluding Ddx
- Mechanism: Direct cell toxicity + sympathetic activation
- More common in binge use + those who use other substances
- Treat as per HFrEF
- Increased risk of LV thrombus (33%)
- Cardiac MRI useful - fibrosis + LV thrombus
- Prognosis: duration of use, **cessation**, LV size/EF, fibrosis
- Consider advanced heart therapies including ICD, CRT, VAD, cardiac transplant





# TIPS TO AID CESSATION

- Meth Helpline- 24/7
  - Phone: 1800 874 878
  - Email: [alcoholdrugsupport@mhc.wa.gov.au](mailto:alcoholdrugsupport@mhc.wa.gov.au)
  - Live Chat: [drugaware.com.au](https://drugaware.com.au)
- Utilise family and friends
- GP and DAA services
- Treat underlying Mental Health
- No evident to support pharmacological treatments aid cessation



Likely feel exhausted. May Experience extreme anxiety, panic, and suicidal thoughts. Paranoia and hallucinations



Strong meth cravings can appear. May Experience feelings of hopelessness. Poor concentration, aches, pains, and headaches also common. Rapid weight gain may be triggered.



Likely still experience mood swings, depression, and other symptoms



Should start to feel much better after a month. Mood should settle. Sleep pattern should return to normal. Energy levels will improve



## BILATERAL PTOSIS

- 85 M retired marine engineer
- 3 days of worsening bilateral ptosis, right worse than left
- Dysphagia to fluids and pain in thighs and with hip flexion
- PMHx – Mesothelioma Dx in May 2024
- CK 3080
- Troponin 52



1<sup>st</sup> dose of Ipilimumab and Nivolumab - 6 weeks ago



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# **IMMUNE-CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR INDUCED MYASTHENIA GRAVIS**



- Immune checkpoint inhibitor induced Myasthenia Gravis is rare with high mortality (25%)
- Onset ~4 weeks after initiation of ICI
- Progresses quickly (7 days from onset to crisis)
- Can occur with myositis and myocarditis
- Antibody negative in 33% of cases
- Monitor FVC (20mL/kg), consult oncology and neurology
- High dose steroids
- Early IVIG/Plasmapheresis
- Considered decision regarding restarting ICI



## A BLOWN PUPIL

- 63 M w acute onset diplopia
- BG: BPAD, OSA, HTN (controlled), Parkinsonism, recent L cataract surgery, nil DM
- Clinically R ptosis and 3rd R pupil - down and out, b/l proptosis ?longstanding
- R Pupil dilated – no direct or consensual response to light
- Nil other neurology
- CTA - nil aneurysm, nil SAH
- MRI nil clear compressive lesion, no stroke, ?inflammatory change at R orbital apex





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# UNDIFFERENTIATED 3RD NERVE PALSY



- A surgical CN III palsy - If pupil is involved - look for compressive lesion
- A medical CN III palsy – if pupil spared - most commonly ischemic – will improve in 3 months, treat CV RF
- All 3rd nerve palsies should get CT Angiogram\*  
+ MRI/MRA

#### **Brainstem**

Oculomotor nuclei  
lesion (CVA, MS)

(Bilateral ptosis,  
pupil sometimes  
involved)

#### **Basilar segment**

PcoM Aneurysm  
Raised ICP

(Pupil involved)

#### **Intracavernous segment**

Cavernous sinus  
thrombosis/invasion  
Carotid aneurysm  
Tolosa-hunt syndrome

(CN IV,V1,V2, VI and  
pupil involved)

#### **Intraorbital**

Tumours in  
orbital  
cavity  
Orbital cellulitis

(Pupil involved,  
proptosis,



- Transferred to FSH
- Ophthalmology review with review of MRI images – nil biopsy of EOM feasible, ?all motion artefact
- HbA1c 5.9 TG 2
- Treated as ischemic oculomotor palsy however for repeat MRI in 6 weeks time
- ?Tolosa hunt syndrome



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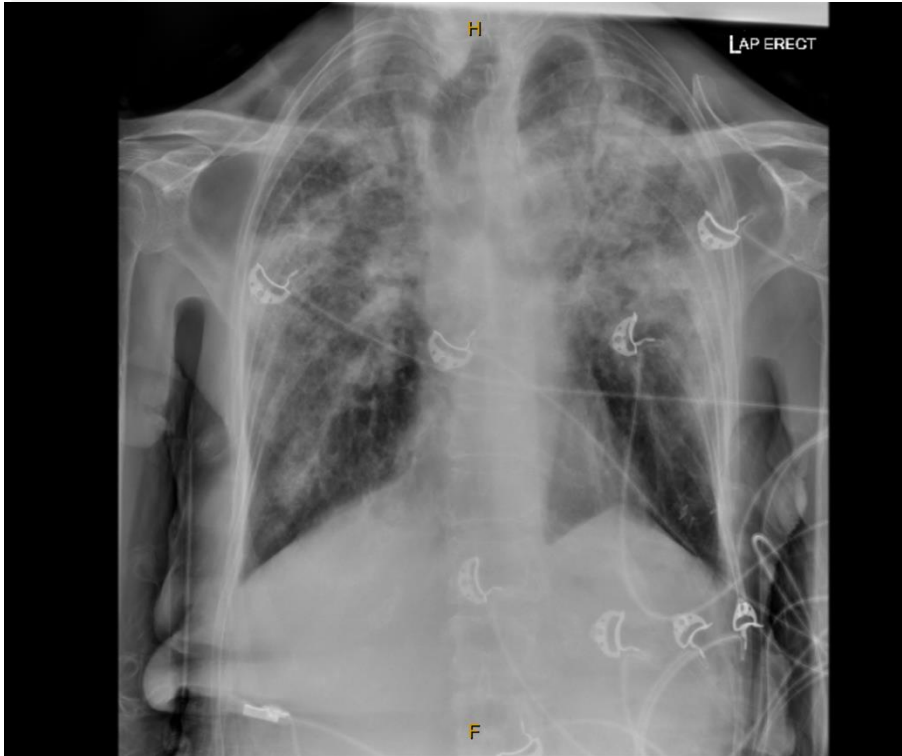
# THANK YOU!

Dr Prue Howson  
Dr Omar Faruque  
Dr Lloyd Nash  
Dr Andriana Stathakis



## PERIPHERAL BLOOD EOSINOPHILS OF 6

- 83 F from RACF with 3 weeks of worsening dyspnoea
- PMHx: Alzheimer's dementia, acoustic neuroma, osteoporosis
- 18kg weight loss in last 4 months
- RR 22 O2 94% on 3L
- Respiratory PCR – negative
- Hb 141 WCC 21.21 plts 679 – neutrophils 11 eosinophils 6 (12x ULN)



CT CHEST W/OUT CONTRAST  
LUNG C- COR, IDOSE (2)

★ 21 days, 10 hrs ago

Se: Oct 18, 2024 10:45 AM

CT #204

Thk: 3mm

1  
92





- Became increasingly delirious and agitated. Difficult to maintain O2 delivery with frequent desaturation
- Decision made to transition to comfort care in-line with her AHD and discussions with her EPG



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# EOSINOPHILIC PNEUMONIA



## Acute eosinophilic pneumonia

- Men 20-40s
- Smokers
- No Hx of atopy
- Mimics CAP and ARDS
- Symptoms < 1month
- BAL > 25% eosinophils/biopsy consistent
- Blood eosinophilia usually absent
- CT - ground glass opacities, interlobular septal thickening, pleural effusions, thickened bronchovascular bundles, centrilobular nodules

## Chronic eosinophilic pneumonia

- Women 20-40s
- Non-smokers
- Hx of atopy
- Subtle and progressive
- Constitutional Sx
- Symptoms 2-4 weeks
- BAL > 40% eosinophils
- Blood eosinophilia present
- CT – dense, patchy consolidation and ground glass changes affecting outer aspects of mid, upper lung



## ALSO CONSIDER

- Eosinophilic granulomatosis with polyangiitis
- Drug induced eosinophilic pneumonia
- Hypereosinophilic syndrome
- Allergic broncho-pulmonary aspergillosis
- Loeffler syndrome
- Cryptogenic organizing pneumonia
- Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and sarcoidosis
- ARDS