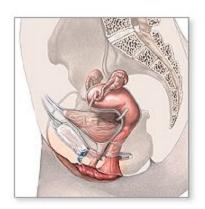
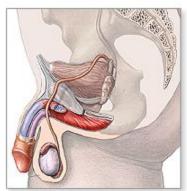
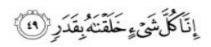
2- Transplacental infection

Microbiology 435's Teamwork Reproductive Block





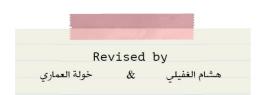


Learning Objectives:

- To recognize the different types of infant infections.
- To know major transplacentally transmitted pathogens causing congenital infections.
- To know the structure, epidemiology, clinical manifestations, diagnosis, treatment and preventive measures of (Toxoplasma, TP, ParvoV, VZV, Rubella V & CMV)

Please note that treponema pallidum (syphilis), and herpes will not be discussed in this lecture, as they will be in other upcoming lectures.





Resources: 435 females only slides and notes (should be enough according to the doctor), Lippincott, Wikipedia, others...

Editing file: <u>Here</u> Credit: Team members

Infant Infections

Classification	Timing of events	Mechanisms	
Congenital	In utero	Trans placental	
Perinatal	During labour and delivery through infected birth canal	Exposure to genital secretions & blood	
Neonatal	After birth	 Direct contact with the mother breast feeding or nosocomial exposure 	

Congenital Infections (Transplacental Infections)

	Introduction			
Etiology:	 Mostly by viruses, previously known as (TORCH) infections: T= Toxoplasmosis (Toxoplasma gondii) the main pathogen cause TPI. it is a protozoan parasite O=Others: Treponema pallidum (causes syphilis), Parvovirus & Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV). R=Rubella Virus C=CMV H=Herpes, Hepatitis & HIV *mainly perinatal (during delivery), not congenital infection 			
Risk of Intrauterine infection & fetal damage	 Type of organism (Teratogenicity) Type of maternal infection Primary "for the 1st time" Recurrent "the mother has been exposed to the infection before and she formed Ab., In case of reactivation of latent disease, these Ab. will protect the fetus." Time during pregnancy (1 st "most severe", 2nd, 3rd Trimesters) Primary Maternal infection in the first half of pregnancy poses the greatest risk to the fetus, because cell division is intensive and organs are starting to develop, thus any disturbance during this period will cause congenital anomalies 			
Common Findings of congenital infection	 Wide spectrum of manifestations. Ranging from asymptomatic infections to severe infections which result in death and cause abortion. Majority of congenital infections are "asymptomatic" at birth who are sick at birth tend to have significant signs and symptoms, including: Intrauterine growth retardation (IUGR) = small fetus "low birth weight" Hepatosplenomegaly (HSM) with jaundice Thrombocytopenia resulting in rash Microcephaly or hydrocephalus Risk of developing neurological or eyes abnormalities later in their life 			

Neonatal serological Dx in the infant

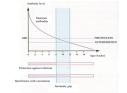
IgM= acute
IgG= chronic

Detection of specific IgM antibodies (BUT the Absence of fetal IgM at birth does not exclude infection, because most of the anomalies are due to primary infection at ~20 week of gestation, so the baby's immune system haven't developed yet)

IgM is a pentamer, it is too big to cross the placental barrier. If IgM is positive it is diagnostic, if it is negative we can't exclude the infection as the baby's immune system didn't develop fully yet.

Persistence of specific Ig<u>G</u> antibody more than 12 months¹. حطو ا تحتها عشر بن خط

The transplacental (maternal) Ab. appear during the first 3-6 months after birth and then decrease and disappear after 12 months. Thus if we detect IgG after 12 months, that means it is produced actively from the infected infant, not by the mother.



ركزوا إننا قلنا لو استمر وجوده معناها بدأ يطلع من طفل "مصاب "لكن لو شفناه وعمره كان ٨ شهور ورجعنا اختبرناه وعمره سنه وشهر وما لقيناه معناها الطفل مافيه إلا العافية

Management

Preventative and therapeutic measures are possible for **some** of the agents

1. Toxoplasma Gondii

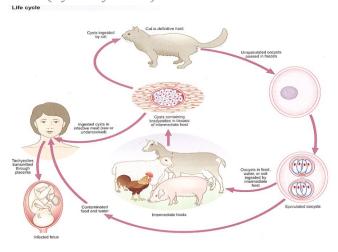
Toxoplasma: Morphology

- Obligate intracellular parasite (protozoa) that has three forms:
 - o Oocysts: Shed in cat feces عشان كذا دايم يقولون للحوامل لا تقربين القطط
 - **Tachyzoites:** (tachy = rapid) rapidly dividing forms, seen in body fluids (acute phase).
 - **Bradyzoites:** (brady=slow) slowly dividing forms that are contained in cysts in muscle and brain tissue and in the eye (chronic phase).

Cell-mediated immunity will stop Tachyzoites and cause the formation of cysts containing Bradyzoites to limit its spread, if the patient is immunocompromised, the Bradyzoites "remember they are inside the cyst not in the blood" will activate in the form of Tachyzoites to cause an acute infection again "in the blood"

Transmission (zoonotic disease)

- Ingestion of **oocyst** (through fecal oral route): fingers, soil, water contaminated with cat feces
- Ingestion of **cyst** (containing bradyzoites) in undercooked **meat**.
- Blood transfusion and organ transplant.
- Transplacental route (by tachyzoites)





Life cycle 1:12

¹ This applies for persons ≥12 months of age when maternal antibodies are no longer present.

Manifestatio ns	 Most cases of congenital toxoplasmosis are due to primary maternal infection. Rarely caused by <u>reactivation</u> of a latent infection (bradyzoites transform into tachyzoites in the immunocompromised patient e.g. pregnancy, HIV, cancer) The highest transmission rate is in the <u>third</u> trimester. The most severe symptoms are if transmission occurred during the <u>first</u> trimester. i.e. If the mother gets the infection in the third trimester, there is a high possibility that it will be transmitted to the fetus, but baby's symptoms are going to be the less severe "thanks god". Most (70-90%) are asymptomatic at birth but are still at high risk of developing abnormalities later, especially of the eye (chorioretinitis) and neurologic disease (Mental retardation). The classic triad of symptoms: Chorioretinitis², Hydrocephalus & Intracranial calcifications³. Other signs include: rash, Hepatosplenomegaly, jaundice, lymphadenopathy, microcephaly, seizures, thrombocytopenia, deafness. Abortion & intrauterine death higher with infection in 1st trimester. 			
*Important to differentiate between primary and recurrent inf.	Pregnant mother Infant	■ Serology: IgM, IgG, IgG avidity⁴, and IgG seroconversion⁵ compared to booking blood⁶ VERY IMP EXPLANATION: If the maternal blood positive for IgM but negative for IgG indicate primary infection, however if the maternal blood positive for IgG & IGM We can't know so we have to do IgG avidity test, if IgG avidity test shows LOW avidity that indicate primary infection, But if it shows HIGH avidity that indicate recurrent infection ■ Prenatal Dx: PCR (detection of the Toxoplasma genome from amniotic fluid), Culture or Serial Ultrasound (to detect anomalies) ■ Postnatal Dx: □ Serology by detecting IgM (again, negative results doesn't exclude infection), or persistent IgG more than 12 months □ PCR □ Culture (isolation of Toxoplasma) □ Evaluation of infant (e.g., neuroimaging, ophthalmic/pituitary/CNS functions). Because as we said, most infants are asymptomatic at birth.		
Treatment	 Spiramycin⁷. indicated to MOTHER to treat primary maternal infection, it decreases the transmission of Toxoplasma to the fetus but it doesn't treat the fetus once the infection has occurred Pyrimethamine combined with sulfadiazine. once transplacental infection has been confirmed, we must shift the treatment to these drugs. It is also recommended for infant with symptomatic and asymptomatic congenital infections for one year after, delivery. يعني اكتشفنا إن الجنين أصيب نبدأ نستعمل هذا الدواء لين تولد بالسلامة بعدها نعطيه للطفل بعد الو لادة لمدة سنة 			
Prevention	 No vaccine is available. Avoid exposure to cat feces; Wash: hands with soap and water, wash fruits & vegetables, wash surfaces that touch fruits, vegetables & raw meat. Cook all meats thoroughly 			

² inflammation of the choroid (thin pigmented vascular coat of the eye) and retina. Presenting as edema & bleeding

³ Calcification anywhere in the Skull

⁴ IgG antibodies produced following primary infection have low avidity (low binding strength). Two to four months following infection, IgG antibodies mature to high-avidity (high binding strength). Therefore, avidity assays can be used to assess low avidity (which indicates recent infection) versus high avidity (past infection).

⁵ seroconversion (1st sample IgG negative, 2nd sample IgG positive) is clear evidence for recent primary infection.

وكينق بلود : الى هو عينة دم تؤخذ من الحامل اول ماتحمل (وهي معافاة مافيها شي)), فنقوم نقارن هذي العينه بعينة دم جديدة تؤخذ خلال المرض 6 spiramycin is a macrolide antibiotic and antiparasitic It is used to treat toxoplasmosis and various other infections of soft tissues.

2. Parvovirus B19				
Morphology	 Family: Parvoviridae. parvo=small. (the smallest of the DNA viruses) Structure: nonenveloped, Icosahedral capsid & ssDNA genome. في الغالب الفاير وسات اللي تحتوي على DNA يكونون دبل لكن البار فو فاير وس استثناء 			
Epidimiology	 Worldwide distribution Humans are known hosts. the only reservoir, so it's not zoonotic like the Toxoplasma. Transmission: Respiratory route Transplacental route Blood transfusion 			
Clinical presentation	Acquired infection (after birth)	 Immunocompetent host: Erythema infectiosum⁸ is the most common clinical presentation (slapped-cheek appearance, acute febrile illness). Immunocompromised pts⁹ 		
	Congenital infection (before birth)	Risk of congenital infection is greatest when infection occur in 1 st 20 wks • Infection in the 1 st trimester → IUD (Intrauterine death) 2-6 % • Infection in the 2 nd trimester → HF (Hydrops fetalis)* • Infection in the 3 rd trimester → Lowest risk *Parvovirus is known to cause fetal loss (hydrops fetalis) through: severe anaemia (due to the destruction of the RBCs by B19) → congestive heart failure (myocarditis) → generalized oedema & fetal death.		
Daignosis	Pregnant mother	Investigations of mother in general always by serology ■ Specific IgM, IgG seroconversion.		
Prenatal Prenatal investigations in general always by PCR or culture "but you shat the case first, could we culture or not" Ultrasound (to detect hydrops "edema") Doesn't grow in cell culture. PCR should be performed to detect the viral DNA The diagnosis based on PCR only in this case because the hydrops detect ultrasound is not always caused by the parvovirus.				
Treatment	No specific treatment. Intrauterine blood transfusion provides blood to fetus when fetal RBCs are being destroyed. We can treat symptoms e.g. digoxin for CHF			
Prevention	*Hygiene practice * No vaccine available (still in TRIAL تجریبي)			

⁸ Fifth disease is a mild rash illness caused by parvovirus B19. This disease, also called erythema infectiosum, got its name because it was fifth in a list of historical classifications of common skin rash illnesses in children.
⁹ B19, has been isolated and identified as the cause of transient **aplastic crisis** in patients with **sickle cell disease** and implicated in adult acute polyarthritis.

	3. Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV)
Morphology	 Family: <u>Herpes</u>viridae Structure: dsDNA, Enveloped, Icosahedral Virus
Transmission	Respiratory & Transplacental routes
Clinical presentation	Acquired infection ¹⁰ : 1) Varicella (Chickenpox →): (Primary illness) follows initial exposure to the virus and is typically a relatively mild, self-limited childhood illness with Generalized vesicular Rash. * Primary infection in a pregnant lady carries a greater risk of severe disease, in particular: pneumonia (rare) 2) → Then the virus travels to dorsal root ganglia and stay there for years (become latent)
	3) Zoster (Shingle الحزام الناري): (Recurrent infection) When there is diminished immunity, the virus may reactivate & spread to the corresponding dermatome causing localised vesicular painful Rash. Intrauterine infections:
	 Congenital infection: Congenital varicella syndrome (CVS) incidence is ~1-2% Occur when mother acquires the infection during 1st 20 weeks of Pregnancy Characterised by:
Diagnosis	 Direct Examination: Culture: Vesicular fluid (VF) for virus isolation (take long time) شکل حویصلات جلدیة فیها سائل یتم عزل الفایروس من هذا السائل لغرض التشخیص chicken box More rapid: Cells scraping from the base of vesicles (from the lesion itself) → ImmunoFluorescent test to detect viral antigen (Ag) PCR to detect DNA-VZV (rapid results) Serological test: IgM Ab.

¹⁰ Reye syndrome, an acute encephalopathy accompanied by fatty liver, can sometimes follow VZV or influenza infections in children. Epidemiological evidence suggests that use of aspirin or other salicylate-containing compounds to treat pain and fever during the viral illness is associated with the development of Reye syndrome. It is also important to avoid aspirin following vaccination against chickenpox.

Infant		 Prenatal Dx: Ultrasound PCR: VZV DNA in fetal blood¹¹ or amniotic fluid or placental villi VZV IgM in fetal blood. 				
		 Postnatal Dx: VZV IgM (again, negative results doesn't exclude infection) virus isolation (culture) PCR: VZV DNA in vesicular fluid or CSF (in case of CNS infection "encephalitis") 				
Treatment	Acyclovir (antiviral) for the mother and the fetus					
Prevention	 Pre exposure: varicella vaccine: live-attenuated vaccines "at 1 year + pre-school" Post exposure: VZIG (Varicella zoster immune globulin). who needs to take VZIG? Susceptible (non immune) pregnant women who have been exposed to VZV. Infants whose mothers get infected by VZV < 5 before to 2 days after delivery. 					

	o infants whose mothers get infected by VZV < 5 before to 2 days after derivery.				
	4. Rubella Virus				
Morphology	 Family: <u>Toga</u>viridae Structure: ssRNA, Icosahedral capsid, Enveloped Virus 				
Epidemiology & Pathogenesis Picture	 Humans are the only reservoir Transmission: Respiratory route Transplacental route A world wide distribution, but now decreased due to vaccination. 				
Manifestations في هذي المحاضرة أغلب الأعراض نتراوح ما بين عادية إلى شديدة	Acquired infection Maculopapular rash (Rubella=German measles عصبة الالمانية " Maculopapular rash (Rubella=German measles " اللفح الجلدي، ترجمتها طفح بقعي " البقعة ما نقدر نطلع منها شيء لأن من الأساس ما فيها سائل " Congenital infection Risk of acquiring congenital rubella infection varies and	من هذا النوع من أنواع ا	risk to fetus		
	depends on gestational age of the fetus at the time of maternal infection, Ranging from normal \sim to congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) \sim to intrauterine death (IUD).	0-12 wks 13-16 wks >16 wks	70-80% 20% Infrequent		
Deafness	Congenital Rubella Syndrome: Triad of abnormalities Affecting Ears, eye & heart: • Ears: Sensorineural hearing loss. most common manifestate bilateral, present at birth but usually detected later • Eyes: Cataracts, glaucoma, some time blindness • Heart: Cardiac malformations (patent ductus arteriosus) • Others: Neurologic defects, growth retardation, bone depatosplenomegaly, thrombocytopenia (result in rash of blueberry muffin" lesions)	l isease,	ateral or berry muffin" spots		

¹¹ Fetal blood sampling (FBS) (cordocentesis) is the collecting of fetal blood directly from the umbilical cord or fetus.

Pregnant mother	Serological diagnosis: Rubella specific IgM or IgG seroconversion		
Infant	Prenatal Dx: Ultrasound (to detect signs of the congenital anomalies) Culture (from amniotic fluid) PCR (from amniotic fluid, fetal blood) Postnatal Dx: Serology: Rubella specific IgM but the absence of IgM does not exclude the infection. Persistent IgG in the infant's serum beyond 9-12 ms of age Culture PCR		
	No antiviral available *مافیه علاج محدد إلى الآن		
All pregna Note that	Routine antenatal screening: egnant ladies should do Routine antenatal screening to detect Rubella specific IgG. that we are looking for IgG indicating immunity. Not IgM which would indicate infection. بدايةً من البوكينق بلود نشوف عندها الأجسام المضادة الخاصة بالروبلا: موجودة؟ الحمدلله ماعليها ضرر بس نر اقبها ك مو موجودة؟ هنا نحرص عليها وما نخليها تقرب من أي شخص مصاب ونر اقبها		
	 vaccination: Usually given with MMRV " (Measles, Mumps, Rubella & Varicella) Vaccine " 		
0	Non immunised women should take the vaccine before or after pregnancy but not during pregnancy, bc it's live attenuated vaccine should not given to the immunocompromised.		
	• Rout All pregna Note that نبها کمان • vacc		

5. Cytomegalovirus (CMV)				
Characteris tic	 Family: Herpes viridae Structure: dsDNA, Enveloped, Icosahedral Virus After the initial exposure to the virus → the virus Establishes in latent form → When there is diminished immunity, the virus may reactivate and cause recurrent infection. 			
Epidemiology	Humans are the reservoir, worldwide distribution.			
Transmissi on (tn)	Horizontal transmission	 Young children: saliva by shared cups and spoons Later in life: sexual contact, Blood transfusion & organ transplant 		
	Vertical transmission	Vertical transmission is the transmission from mother to baby, can be: 1) transplacentally (in utero/congenital), 2) during delivery (prenatal) 3) by breastfeeding (postnatal/neonatal) • 40% transmission in primary CMV infection. • Only 1% transmission in Recurrent CMV infection due to presence of maternal antibodies		

The majority of cases are <u>asymptomatic</u> at birth, BUT 15% of cases may develop Hearing Manifestati defect and mental retardation, 4% Cytomegalic inclusion disease* & 1% may die (abortion). ons **Cytomegalic Inclusion Disease** is characterised by: • **CNS abnormalities:** microcephaly, Ventriculomegaly, and **periventricular** calcification (like toxoplasma, however CMV causes specifically periventricular calcification). • **Eve:** chorioretinitis • **Ear:** sensorineural deafness **Liver:** Hepatosplenomegaly (HSM) and jaundice. • **Lung**: pneumonitis **Heart:** myocarditis Thrombocytopenic purpura ("blueberry muffin" spots) Maternal serology: remember how to differentiate between 1ry & recurrent... **Pregnant Diagnosis** mother CMV IgM, IgG, IgG avidity (low: primary infection, high: reactivation) Infant **Prenatal:** PCR, culture (from the amniotic fluid, takes time thus mostly PCR is used), CMV specific IgM, Ultrasound (to detect any anomalies) Postnatal: • Isolation of CMV or detection of its genome: in first 3 wks of life From Body fluids: urine, saliva, blood, after 4 weeks doesn't mean congenital infection, because it is possible to acquire the infection during delivery or postnatally. By using: Standard tube **culture** method, Shell vial assay (modified cell culture) or PCR). PCR is very rapid and sensitive but it is not available in all hospitals. • **Histology:** Detection of Cytomegalic intranuclear **Inclusion Bodies** in affected tissue (owl's eye) Serology: CMV IgM

The doctor asked these questions in the end: very imp.

1. The organisms that are transported through the placenta? TORC

Symptomatic infants: Ganciclovir for at least 6 weeks

• Asymptomatic infants: not recommended, because of the sides effect of Ganciclovir

• Education about CMV & how to prevent it through hygiene and handwashing

- 2. what is toxoplasma and what are the congenital infections caused by it?
- 3. what is parvovirus and what does it cause?

• Vaccine is **not** available (TRIAL)

Treatment

Prevention

- 4. what does the Varicella Zoster Virus cause?
- 5. what are the congenital triad for rubella?
- 6. what are the most important manifestations caused by CMV?
- 7. Which of these infections can be prevented "by vaccine"? rubella + VZV
- 8. what is the infection that the human is not the reservoir? toxoplasma

L2: SUMMARY OF TRANSPLACENTAL INFECTIONS



Notes:

All are mostly asymptomatic, All viruses have Icosahedral capsid, toxoplasma is zoonotic, In neonates, Serology by detecting IgM (-ve doesn't exclude), or persistent IgG > 12 months In transmission, we mentioned routes other than transplacental route (for all)

Common Findings: Chorioretinitis, **growth & mental** retardation, Hepatosplenomegaly, Thrombocytopenia, Microcephaly, risk of intrauterine death(highest in 1st trimester/primary inf.)

	Toxoplasma Gondii	Parvovirus B19	Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV)	Rubella Virus	Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
Morphol ogy	intracellular parasite	Parvoviridae, <u>non-</u> <u>enveloped</u> , ssDNA .	<u>Herpes</u> viridae dsDNA, Enveloped,	Togaviridae ss R NA, Enveloped	<u>Herpes</u> viridae dsDNA, Enveloped
Route	Ingestion of cyst/ oocyst, Blood	Respiratory Blood	Respiratory	Respiratory	Saliva, sexual, Blood, & Vertically
Congeni tal inf.	The classic triad of symptoms: Chorioretinitis, Hydrocephalus & Intracranial calcifications	Hydrops fetalis (anaemia, CHF, oedema & fetal death)	Scarring of skin Hypoplasia of limbs CNS & eye defects	Deafness, Cataracts, glaucoma, <u>patent</u> ductus arteriosus, CNS, "blueberry muffin" lesions	Ventriculomegaly, periventricular calcification, deafness,pneumonit is, myocarditis, "blueberry muffin"
Acquire d inf.		Erythema infectiosum	Varicella (Chickenpox) Zoster (Shingle)	Maculopapular rash (German measles)	
Materna l investi.	IgM, IgG, IgG avidity, and IgG seroconversion	IgM, IgG seroconversion.	IgM, Culture (vesicular fluid), IF (Ag in cells), PCR	IgM, IgG seroconversion	IgM, IgG, IgG avidity
Prenatal	PCR, Culture or US	PCR, US	PCR, US, IgM (fetal blood)	PCR , Culture or US	PCR, culture, US, IgM,
Postnatal	IgM, IgG , PCR, Culture,Evaluation		IgM , Culture, PCR	IgM, IgG, PCR, Culture	PCR, culture, histo (owl's eye), IgM,
Treatme nt	Spiramycin Pyrimethamine + sulfadiazine.	Intrauterine blood transfusion	Acyclovir		Ganciclovir only if symptomatic
Preventi on	Preventive measures	Preventive measures	Preexposure: live-attenuated vaccines Postexposure: Ig for pregnants, Infants	screening for IgG. vaccination: for Non immunised women + avoid pregnancy for 3 months.	Preventive measures

MCQs

- 1- Majority of congenital infections are asymptomatic at birth :
 - a) True
 - b) False
- 2- what is the route of transmission of Toxoplasma gondii:
 - a) Ingestion of oocyst
 - b) Ingestion of cyst in undercooked meat.
 - c) Blood transfusion and organ transplant
 - d) All
- 3- congenital infection could be because of reactivation of a latent infection:
 - a) True
 - b) False
- 4- To prevent Toxoplasma Gondii congenital infection you should:
 - a) Stay home when ill
 - b) share personal items
 - c) Avoid exposure to cat feces
 - d) Avoid touching your eyes

- 5- Risk of congenital infection with Parvovirus B19 is greatest when infection occur in:
 - a) 1st trimester
 - b) 2nd trimester
 - c) 3rd trimester
- 6- Congenital Rubella Syndrome abnormalities :
 - a) Sensorineural hearing loss
 - b) Cataracts and glaucoma
 - c) Renal failure
 - d) A+b
- 7- Intranuclear inclusion bodies [Owl's -eye] is seen in:
 - a) CMV
 - b) Rubella virus
 - c) HIV
 - d) All

Ans: a, d, a, c, a, d, a