

## Pediatric Neuroimaging: Metabolic and Toxic Disorders Part II

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American Society of Neuroimaging  
37th Annual Meeting

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## DISCLOSURES

- CHAMPS - child and adolescent migraine prevention study
- Allergan - pediatric chronic migraine Botox study



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## Metabolic and Toxic Disorders - gray matter and both gray and white matter

### 1. Gray matter only

2. Cortical vs deep gray nuclei
3. Signal characteristics and location
4. Examples

### 5. Both Gray and white matter

6. Cortical vs deep gray nuclei
7. Signal characteristics and location
8. Examples



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## Gray Matter Disorders

- Once gray matter is determined decide-  
**cortical** vs **deep gray matter**
- Cortical:**  
MR Acute phase - sulcal effacement, cortical swelling, and reduced diffusion.  
MR Chronic phase - cortical thinning with sulcal enlargement.
- Deep Gray Matter:**  
CT - abnormal attenuation  
MR- abnormal T2 relaxation  
SPECT



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## DISORDERS INVOLVING GRAY MATTER ONLY

- Cortical gray matter
  - Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinoses
  - Mucopolipidoses type I
- Deep gray matter
  - Prolonged T2 in striatum
    - Leigh's syndrome
    - Juvenile Huntington disease
    - MELAS
    - Organic acidopathies
    - Hypoxic-ischemic injury (older infants, adolescents, and adults)
    - Hypoglycemic injury (older infants, adolescents, and adults)
  - Short T2 in globus pallidus
    - Pantothenate kinase associated neurodegeneration (formerly Hallervorden-Spatz disease—long T2 in center of short T2)
    - Oculodigital dental dysplasia
  - Long T2 in globus pallidus
    - Methylmalonic acidemia
    - Toxins (carbon monoxide, manganese, cyanide involves cerebellum too)
    - Kernicterus
    - Succinate semialdehyde dehydrogenase deficiency
    - Guanidinoacetate methyltransferase deficiency
    - Isovaleric acidemia

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## Gray Matter Location

- Cortical only:**  
neuronal ceroid lipofuscinoses, Rett syndrome, glycogen storage disease
- Deep Gray Matter only:**  
Striatum (caudate and putamen) -  
Mitochondrial disorders (Leighs, MELAS, glutaric aciduria)  
organic acidemias, juvenile Huntington disorder, asphyxia, hypoglycemia  
Globus pallidus -  
**short T2 (with or without central long T2)** = pantothenate kinase associated neurodegeneration, oculodigital digital dysplasia  
**long T2**= methylmalonic acidemia, succinate semialdehyde dehydrogenase deficiency, guanidinoacetate methyltransferase deficiency, L-2-hydroxyglutaric acidemia, poisoning (CO or cyanide), or kernicterus  
**T1 hyperintensity in an infant** =  
urea cycle disorders (if insular cortex is also involved)



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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 1.) Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (NCLs)

- one of the M/C progressive encephalopathies.
- 1 in 25,000 live births.
- Identified by age at onset or gene (CLN genes).

Infantile (CLN1)  
Late infantile (CLN2, 6)  
Juvenile (Battens disease) (CLN3)  
Early juvenile  
Adult dominant/adult recessive  
Progressive epilepsy with MR (CLN8)

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 1.) Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (NCLs)

- Signs and Symptoms-

vision loss  
progressive dementia  
seizures  
progressive impairment speech and motor function

- Diagnosis

chromosomal analysis  
EM study of lymphocytes in blood – lysosomal storage of curvilinear, granular fingerprint deposits.

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 1.) Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (NCLs)

**MRI**- variable cerebral and cerebellar progressive atrophy  
periventricular T2/FLAIR hyperintense rims  
prominent sulci and general cortical thinning  
enlarged ventricles  
low signal intensity thalami and globus palladi on T2 images  
(then thalamic atrophy)

**SPECT**- differences at different stages/progression

**Infantile** – loss NAA peak, decreased creatinine/choline, elevate inositol and lactate in gray and white matter.

**Late infantile**- reduced NAA peak gray and white matter, myoinositol, creatinine, choline elevated in white matter.

**Juvenile** – SPECT may be normal

Level of myo-inositol correlates with severity of disease.

**Differential Dx:** Rett, Glycogen storage disorder

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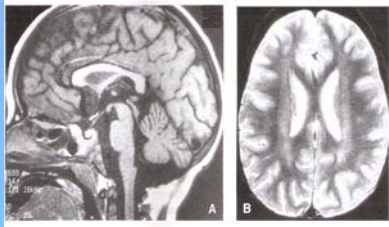
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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 1.) Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (NCLs)



**Figure 3-38** Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis, late infantile form, in a 3 year old. A: Sagittal SE 500/14 image shows moderate cerebellar atrophy. Note the small folia and large fissures. B: Axial SE 2200/80 image shows that the hemispheric white matter has higher signal intensity than in a normal three year old. However, the signal is not as high as in a typical leukodystrophy (compare with Figures 3-1 through 3-3). Note also that the cerebrum shows less atrophy than the cerebellum (A) at this stage of the disease.

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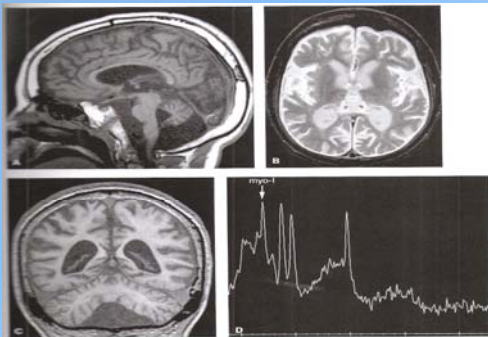
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#### 1.) Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinosis (NCLs)



**Figure 3-39** Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis, late infantile form. The disease is more advanced in this 7-year-old child than in the child in Figure 3-38. A: Sagittal SE 500/11 image shows thinning of the corpus callosum and moderate to severe cerebellar atrophy. B: Axial SE 2500/70 image shows hyperintensity in the cerebral white matter. C: Coronal 3D GRE 30/7 image shows marked atrophy of the corpus callosum and profound cerebellar atrophy. D: Single voxel proton MRS spectroscopy (TE = 25 ms) of the frontal white matter shows a small lactate peak and an abnormally large myo-inositol peak (arrow).

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 2.) Rett Syndrome

- Progressive neurodevelopmental disorder
- 1 in 10,000 prevalence in girls
- Mutation of the **MECP-2 gene** (80%)
- Usually fatal in boys (somatic mosaicism) or severely affected

#### • **Signs and Symptoms**

normal at birth

**microcephaly**

psychomotor retardation with truncal ataxia

Speech and cognitive delays

**stereotypic hand ringing**

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

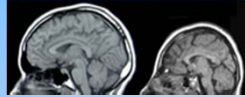
#### 2.) Rett Syndrome

**MRI-** normal or mild diffuse atrophy

cortical and WM volume loss in frontal and anterior temporal lobes and caudate

enlarged frontal horns

microcephaly



**DTI -** reduced FA in corpus callosum, internal capsule, frontal WM, anterior cingulate gyrus but normal in corona radiata.

**SPECT-** decreased NAA peak more in GM than in WM.

**Differential Dx:** NCL, Autism

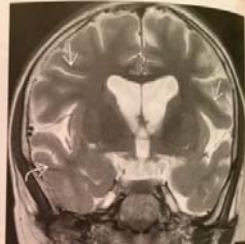
## Gray Matter Disorders

### Primarily in Cortex

#### 2.) Rett Syndrome



**H-414. Axial T2WI** in a 7-year-old girl with Rett syndrome shows enlarged frontal horns and atrophy frontotemporal and caudate volume loss. The hippocampus (H) appears normal.



**H-438. Coronal T2WI** in the same patient shows atrophy in the posterior frontal and temporal lobes. Midline volume loss with enlarged supraventricular cisterns and sylvian fissures is present.

## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

Diagnosis	Globus Pallidus	Caudate	Putamen	White Matter
Acute				
Hypoxia/ischemia—neonate	+	++	+	+/+
Hypoxia/ischemia—older child	+	++	+	+
Hypoglycemia—neonate	+/+	+	+	++
Hypoglycemia—older child	+	+	+	+
Cyanide intoxication	++	+	+	+
Carbon monoxide intoxication	++	+	+	+
Hemolytic-uremic syndrome	+	+	+	+
Chronic myelodysplasia	+	+	+	++ (rare)
Encephalitis	+	+	+	+
Chronic				
Leigh's syndrome	+	+	+	+
Coumadin disease	++	++	++	++
CMV (Congenital)	++	++	++	++
Juvenile Huntington's Dx	++	++	++	++
Wilson's disease	++	++	++	++
Glutamic aciduria type I	++	++	++	++
Glutamic aciduria type II	++	++	++	++
Methylglutaryl sulfonolactone	++	++	++	++
Methylglutaryl sulfonolactone	++	++	++	++
Phenothiazine (acute associated)	++	++	++	++
neurodegeneration (Haller/Condon-Spitz)	++	++	++	++
Propionic acidemia	++	++	++	++
Severe carnitine deficiency	++	++	++	++
dehydrogenase deficiency	++	++	++	++
Quadrupedal methyltransferase	++	++	++	++
deficiency	++	++	++	++
Severe carnitine	++	++	++	++
L-2-hydroxyglutamic aciduria	++	++	++	++
Chronic liver disease	++	++	++	++
Huntington's disease	++	++	++	++
Neuro-Sagittaria syndrome	++	++	++	++

++ very frequent involvement, + occasional involvement, - lack of involvement

## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

1.) **Huntington Disease**

- Chronic progressive neurodegenerative disorder
- 4-7:100,000, mean onset age 35-45 yrs
- 5-10% < 20 yrs juvenile onset disease
- Autosomal dominant with complete penetrance
- Short arm chromosome 4, protein huntingtin repeat CAG trinucleotide (>38 repeats)

• **Signs and Symptoms**

choreiform movements  
cognitive decline  
death within 10-20 yrs  
Juvenile = more rigid, dystonic with cerebellar signs

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

1.) **Huntington Disease**

**CT/MRI-** caudate atrophy and T2 prolongation (as disease progresses)

convex and enlarged frontal horns  
variable generalized diffuse atrophy, prominent in frontal lobes  
putaminal atrophy and hyperintensity  
volumetric studies show volume loss before symptom onset

**PET** – decreased glucose uptake in striatum before CT is abnormal

**Differential Dx:**  
**Adult:** Multiple system atrophy (MSA), corticobasal degeneration, frontotemporal degeneration.  
**Juvenile:** Wilson disease, PKAN

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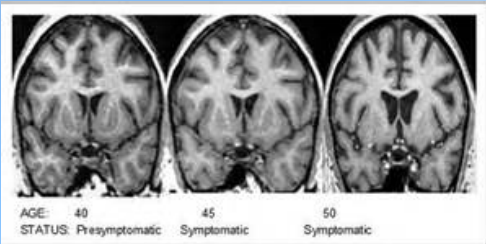
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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

1.) **Huntington Disease**



AGE: 40 45 50  
STATUS: Presymptomatic Symptomatic Symptomatic

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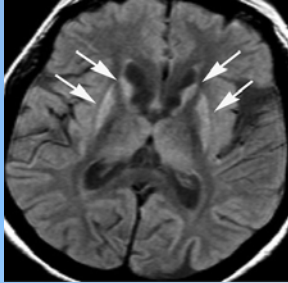
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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

#### 1.) Huntington Disease



Source: Faust AJ, Keizer DL, Braunwald E, Hauser SL, Longo DL, Jamason JL, Lencastre J.  
Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine, 17th Edition. <http://www.accessmedicine.com>.  
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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

#### 2.) Pantothenate kinase-Associated

##### Neurodegeneration (PKAN) (Hallervorden-Spatz disease)

- rare familial autosomal recessive disorder
- Excessive iron in th globus pallidus and substantia nigra.
- PKAN2 gene chromosome 20p12.2-13
- Medial GP shrinks but red nucleus is spared.
- Granular pigment, neurofibrillary tangles
- Infantile, late-infantile (2-5 yr), juvenile/classic (7-15 yr), adult-onset  
faster progressive with young onset.

##### • Signs and Symptoms

gait disturbance  
delayed psychomotor development  
hyperkinesia (50%) - - - > dyskinesia - - - > rigid  
MR

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

#### 2.) PKAN

**MRI-** T2W1 hypointensity in GP and SN with "eye of the tiger"

Small focus of central hyperintensity medial GP caused by gliosis

\* not all cases have the eye of the tiger –

Short T2 in GP with blooming on GRE/SWI in a kid is a

Neurodegeneration with brain accumulation (NBIA), may be PKAN

No enhancement, no restricted diffusion

DTI - + FA in GP and SN

**MRS** – decreased NAA peak and reduced NAA:Cr ratio = neuroaxonal loss

**Differential Dx:** Aceruloplasminemia and neuroferritinopathy = both adult.  
Wilson disease, Leigh disease, mitochondrial encephalopathy, infantile  
striatal necrosis = hyperintense and involve caudate and putamen.

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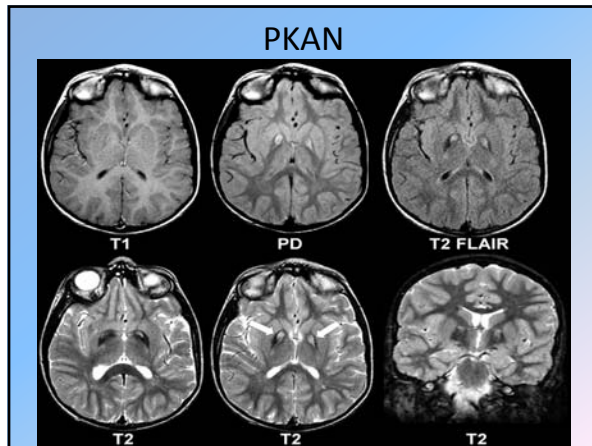
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### Gray Matter Disorders

#### Deep Gray Matter

- Toxic exposure should always be considered in children and adolescents.

3.) **Cyanide Poison –**

- The most potent and deadly poison
- Chronic exposure can result in encephalopathy
- Can be a solid, liquid or a gas.
- In fabric, plastic, almond, pits of fruits, lima beans, and cassava root.
- Inactivates cytochrome oxidase in mito respiratory chain.
- **Pathology:** Hemorrhagic basal ganglia necrosis and laminar cortical necrosis
- **Signs and symptoms:** unresponsive, hemodynamic instability, lactic acidosis. Fatal 95% of cases. Survivors = pseudo-parkinsonism.

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### Gray Matter Disorders

#### Deep Gray Matter

3.) **Cyanide Poison –**

**MRI –** symmetric T1 hyperintensity in basal ganglia from necrosis  
 serpentine linear cortical hyperintensity T2WI and FLAIR  
 spares hippocampi  
 T1+C = enhanced affected areas

**Diff Dx –** hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE)

Figure 3-47 Cyanide poisoning. Coronal FLAIR images show abnormal hyperintensity of the globi pallidi (A) and diffuse severe swelling and hyperintensity of the cerebellar cortex (B).

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

#### 4.) Carbon monoxide (CO) Poison –

- Odorless, colorless, tasteless
- CO binds irreversibly with Hgb, decrease O<sub>2</sub> transport
- Carboxyhemoglobin > 20% = brain and cardiac damage
- Damage to vascular endothelium
- **Pathology:** Symmetric globus pallidus necrosis and cerebral WM necrosis with delayed myelination- can appear several weeks after the injury
- **Signs and symptoms:** nausea, headache, vomiting, impaired consciousness. Seizures, coma, death. Delayed encephalopathy, cognitive/memory deficits, Parkinson-like symptoms.

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## Gray Matter Disorders

### Deep Gray Matter

#### 4.) Carbon monoxide (CO) Poison –

**CT** – Symmetric hypodensity in GP

**MRI** – T1WI hypointensity GPc

T2/FLAIR bilateral hyperintense medial GP (less putamen/caudate) with putamen and caudate less affected.

Can have rim hypointensity (hemorrhage)

One third = delayed leukoencephalopathy

Restricted diffusion in GP

**Diff Dx:** HIE, organophosphate poisoning, Wilson, Leigh, CJD

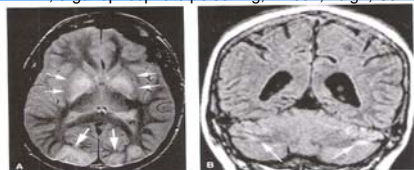


Figure 3-46 Carbon monoxide poisoning. A: Axial SE 2800/90 image shows T2 prolongation in bilateral globus pallidus (small white arrows) and occipital cortex (large white arrows). B: Coronal FLAIR image shows some hyperintensity (arrow) of the cerebellar cortex.

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## Gray Matter and White Matter

- If both are affected must decide- cortical vs deep gray matter (w/wout cortical)
- **Cortical:**  
Normal long bones and spinal column  
cortical dysgenesis (pachy/polymicrogyria)  
Abnormal long bones and spinal column
- **Deep Gray Matter:**  
Primary thalamic involvement  
Primary globus pallidus involvement  
Primary striatal involvement



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# DISORDERS INVOLVING GRAY MATTER AND WHITE MATTER

## A. Cortical gray matter only

1. Normal bones
  - a. Cortical dysgenesis
    - i. Congenital cytomegalovirus infection
    - ii. Fukuyama congenital muscular dystrophy
    - iii. Walker-Warburg syndrome
    - iv. Muscle-eye-brain disease
    - v. Other congenital muscular dystrophies
  - b. No cortical dysgenesis
    - i. Alpers disease
    - ii. Monks disease

## 2. Abnormal bones

- a. Mucopolysaccharidoses
- b. Lipid storage disorders
- c. Peroxisomal disorders

## B. Deep gray matter involvement

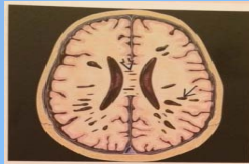
1. Primary thalamic involvement
  - a. Krabbe disease
  - b. GM<sub>2</sub> gangliosidosis
  - c. GM<sub>1</sub> gangliosidosis
  - d. Wilson's disease
  - e. Profound neonatal hypotensive encephalopathy

## 2. Primary globus pallidus involvement

- a. Canavan disease—thalamus involved, large NAA peak on MRS
- b. Kearn-Sayre syndrome—with subcortical white matter
- c. Methylmalonic acidemia—with deep white matter
- d. Toxins (carbon monoxide and cyanide)
- e. Maple syrup urine disease—with dorsal brainstem
- f. L-2-hydroxyglutaric aciduria—with subcortical white matter and cerebellar dentate nuclei
- g. Dentatorubral and pallidum atrophy
- h. Urea cycle disorders—with insular involvement
- i. Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease with dorsal brainstem

## 3. Primary striatal involvement

- a. Leigh's syndrome
- b. MELAS
- c. Wilson's disease
- d. Ethylmalonic acidemia (E)
- e. Propionic acidemia (P)
- f. Glutaric aciduria Type I (Glutaryl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency)—with anterior temporal lobe hypoplasia
- g. Methylglutaryl coenzyme A deficiency
- h. Mitochondrial ATP synthetase deficiency (10)
- i. 3-methylglutaconic aciduria
- j. Beta-ketothiolase deficiency (10)
- k. Malonic acidemia (10)
- l. Alpha-ketoglutaric aciduria (11)
- m. 3-ketothiolase deficiency (8)
- n. Biotinidase deficiencies (10)
- o. Toxins
- p. Hypoxic-ischemic injury in older child or adult
- q. Hypoglycemic injury in older child or adult
- r. Cystinosis



31-44. MPS with multiple dilated PVSs (→) radially oriented in the WM. Note posterior predominance; involvement of the corpus callosum (→).



31-45. T1WI in a toddler with MPS IIH (Hurler disease) shows markedly enlarged PVSs in the WM including the corpus callosum (→).

QUIZ #2

**Gray Matter  
and  
Gray/White matter**

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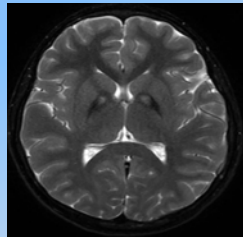
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- 1.) Where is the issue?
- 2.) What is the **diagnosis**.
- 3.) What would you recommend?



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**To be continued**

- Sorry - Still adding slides for quiz and the mixed gray and white matter disorders.

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