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CLINICAL CASE DISCUSSION ON NEONATAL INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE AND INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASE BEFORE 2 YEARS



ERS and ESPR Joint Webinar 20 June, 2023

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Speakers: Dr Chiara Sileo, Prof. Nadia Nathan

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Paris, France

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3 - 4% of newborns

Frequent causes

- Transient respiratory distress
- Maternofetal infection
- Meconium aspiration
- Effusion (pneumothorax, pneumomediastinum, chylothorax)

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Rare causes

- Cardiovascular disorders
 - Congenital heart malformation
 - Delayed decrease of pulmonary pressures
- Lung disorders
 - Malformations
 - Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
 - Esophageal atresia
 - Congenital pulmonary airway malformation
 - Others
 - Interstitial lung diseases (ILD)
 - Primitive ciliary dyskinesia / Cystic fibrosis
 - Diffuse developmental disorders of the lung
- ENR: choanal atresia, other malformations
- Neuromuscular disorders

3 - 4% of newborns

Frequent causes

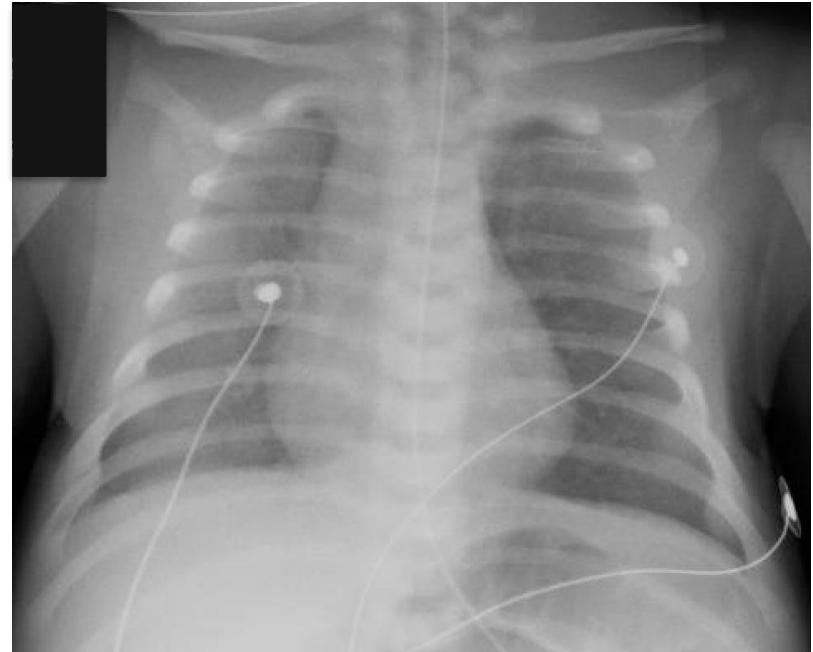
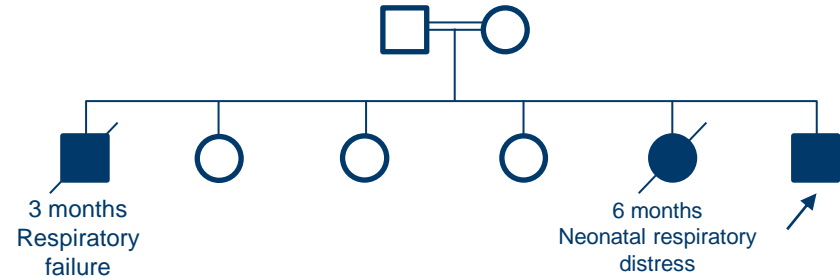
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- Consanguineous parents from Afghanistan
- Normal pregnancy
- Full-term neonate - 39 WG
- Normal birth weight

- Neonatal respiratory distress (H8)
- Signs of respiratory distress
- Hypoxaemia requiring oxygen support and NIV
- Pulmonary hypertension (PHT)
- Transfer to the intensive care unit



- No infection
- No malformation
- No extra-respiratory disorder
- High Resolution Computed Tomography (HRCT) at 25 days



Neonatal interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

- A. Chlamydia trachomatis infection
- B. Surfactant protein B deficiency
- C. Alveolar haemorrhage
- D. Alveolar capillary dysplasia
- E. ABCA3 deficiency

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2010 & 2018 childhood ILD (chILD) classification

ILD related to exposure/environment insults	ILD related to systemic diseases processes	ILD related to lung primary parenchyma dysfunctions	ILD specific to infancy
Hypersensitivity pneumonitis	Connective tissue diseases	Surfactant disorders	Neuroendocrine cell hyperplasia of infancy
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Pros : Consanguinity
Cons : Neonatal onset
 No hepatomegaly
 No splenomegaly
 No hypotonia

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Pros: Consanguinity (SP-B, ABCA3)
 Neonatal onset
 No extra-respiratory disorder
 CT pattern
 PHT
Cons:

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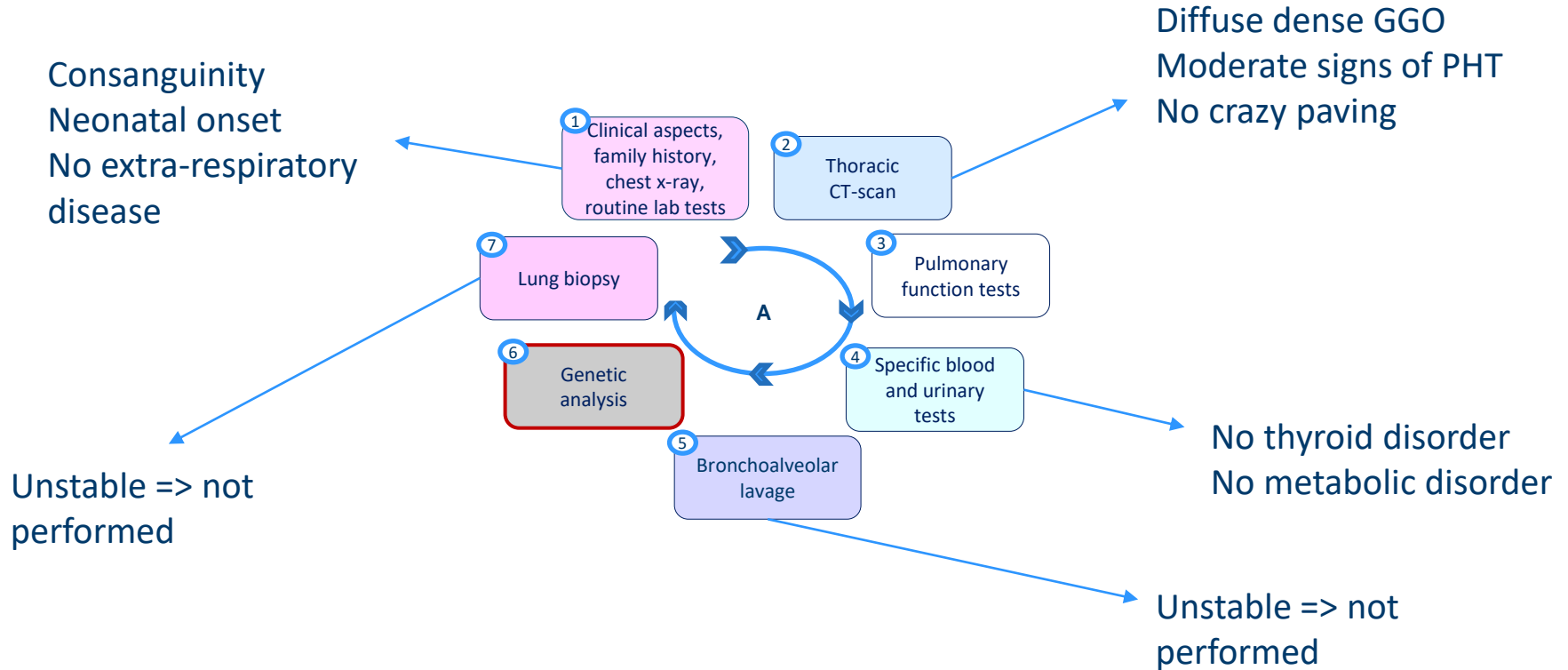
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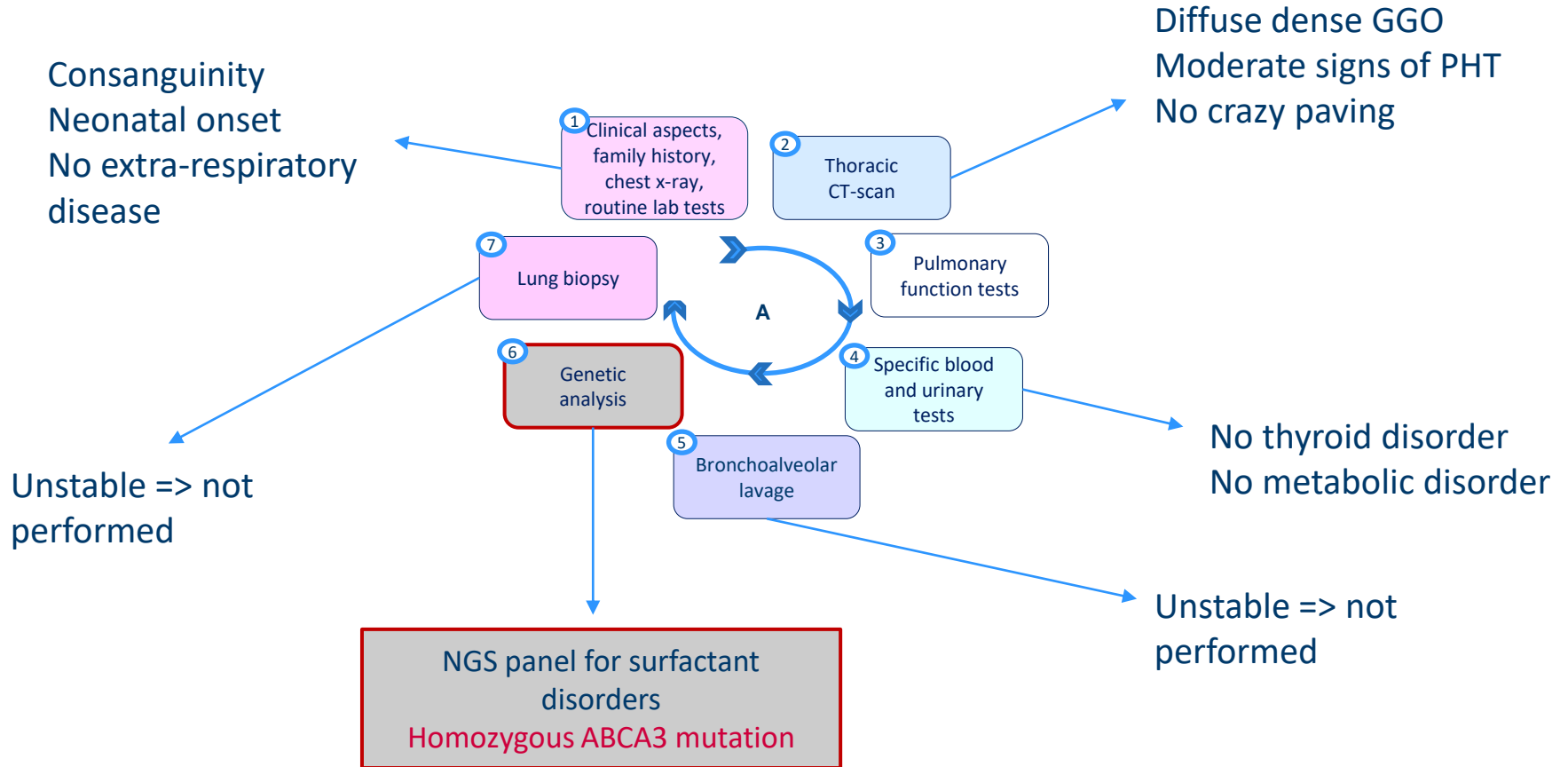
Pros: Neonatal onset
Cons: No congenital heart disease

Pros: Neonatal onset
 PHT
Cons: No extra-respiratory disorder
 CT pattern

Diagnostic workup in chILD



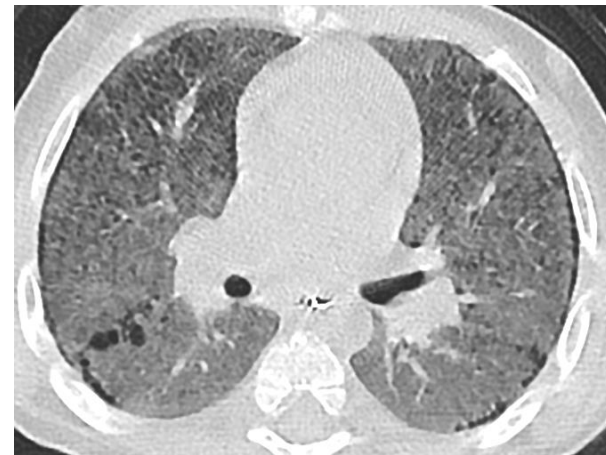
Diagnostic workup in chILD



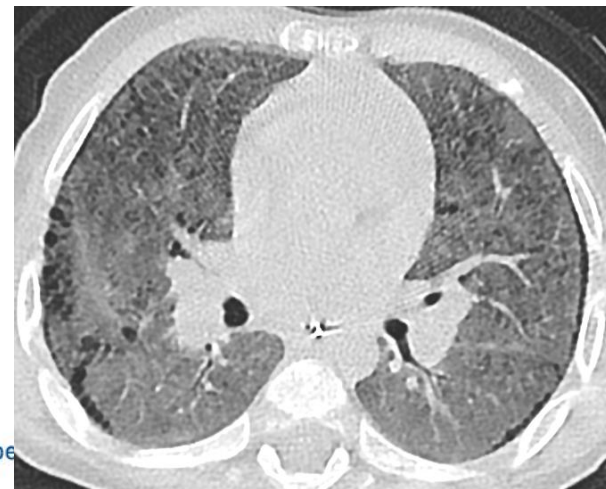
CASE 1 (M.)

Treatment and follow-up

- IV corticosteroid pulses
- Azithromycin
- Hydroxychloroquine
- NIV => oxygen support
- Enteral nutrition
- Immunizations



14 months

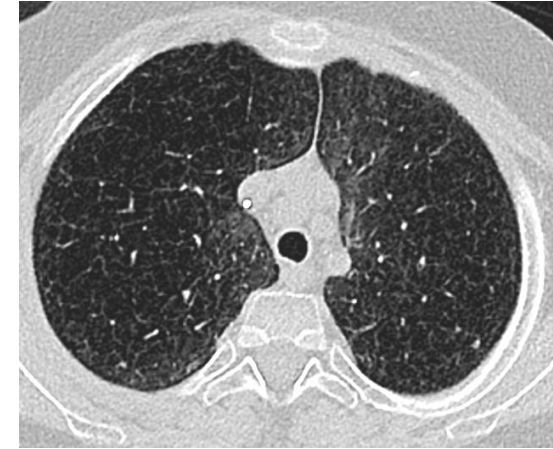


CASE 1 (M.)

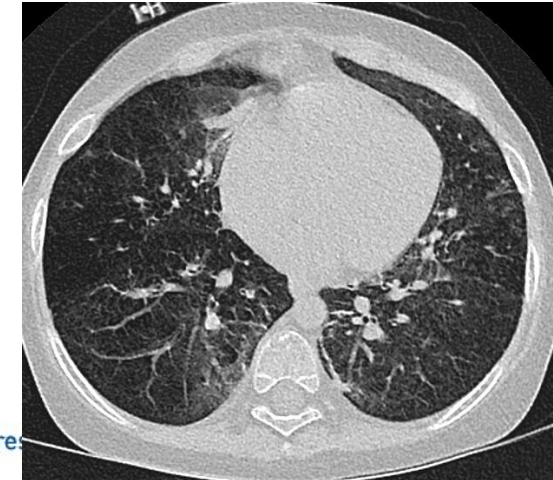
Treatment and follow-up

- IV corticosteroid pulses ... 84
- Azithromycin ... ongoing
- Hydroxychloroquine ... stop because of retinitis
- NIV => oxygen support ... ongoing + NIV 20h/24
- Enteral nutrition ... ongoing
- Immunizations

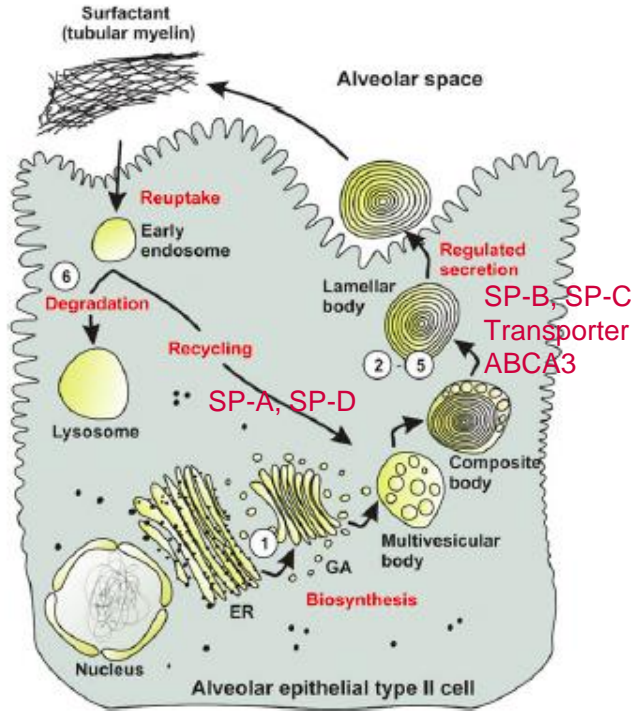
- Waiting list for lung transplantation at 4 years and 9 months (duration 1 year and 5 months)
- Death at 6 years and 2 months (O neg)



6 years



Surfactant disorders



4 surfactant proteins

- SP-A, SP-B, SP-C, SP-D

Genes *SFTPA1*, *SFTPA2*, *SFTPB*,
SFTPC, *SFTPB*

Transporter into lamellar bodies: ABCA3

Transcription factor: NKX2.1

Most severe forms: SP-B and ABCA3 mutations

ABCA3 (ABCA3) mutations: typical forms

- Phospholipid transporter, ATP binding cassette family
- **Inheritance:** recessive
- **Phenotype:**
 - Neonatal or infant respiratory distress
 - Failure to thrive
 - Evolution towards death or severe ILD with fibrosis



3 months

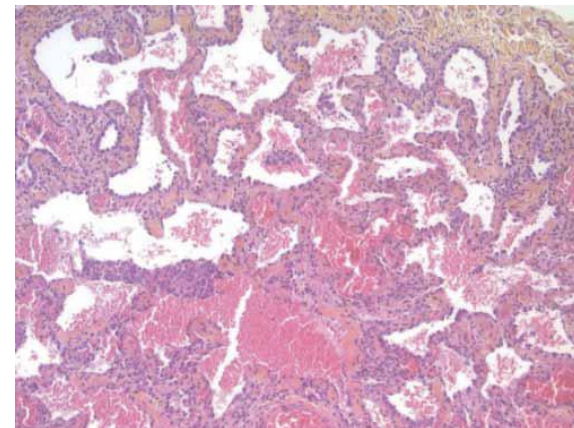
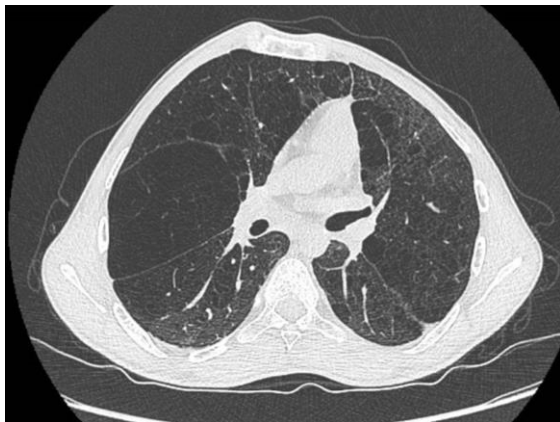


15 years

ABCA3 (ABCA3) mutations: typical forms

Adult evolution and/or adult onset

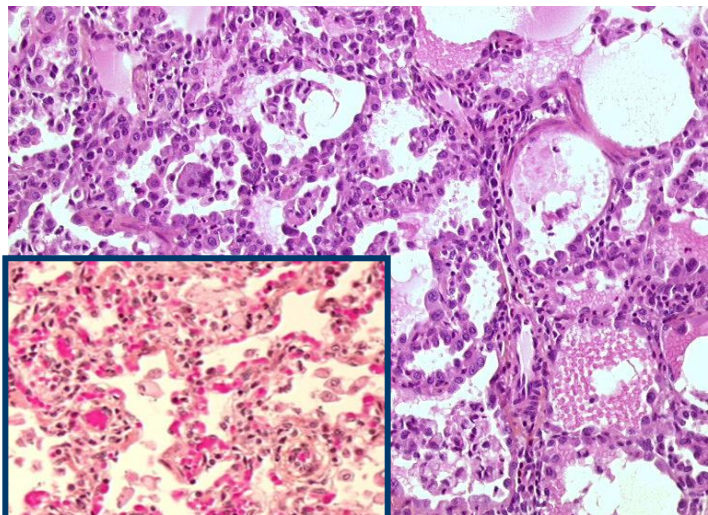
Lung fibrosis in adults: « combined emphysema and fibrosis »



Manali et al. ERJ open research 2019

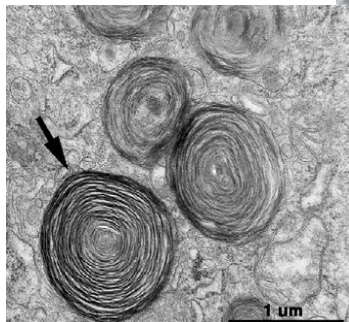
ABCA3 (ABCA3) mutations: typical forms

- Enlarged alveolar walls
- Alveolar epithelial cells hyperplasia
- Alveolar proteinosis
- EM: dense inclusions in abnormal and small lamellar bodies

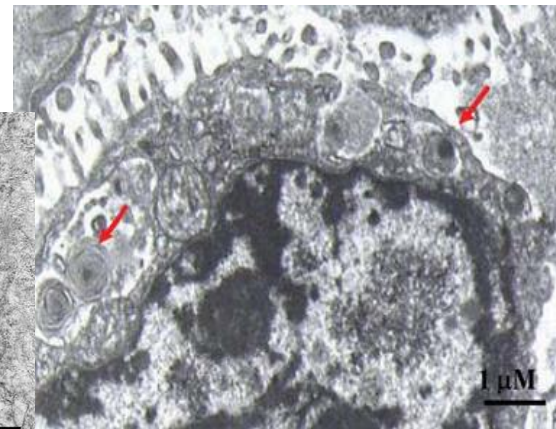


Control

ABCA3 mutant



Control

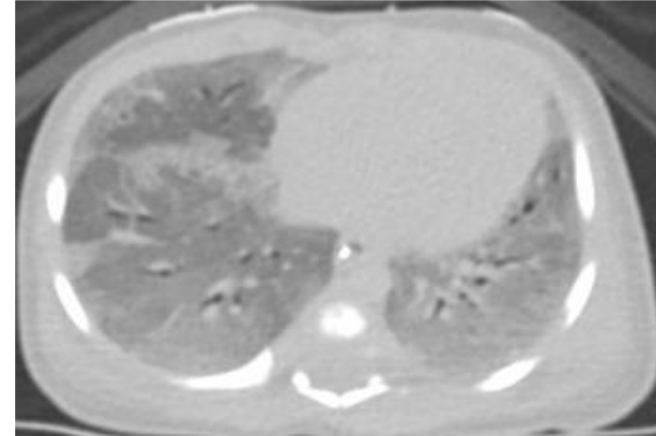


ABCA3 mutant

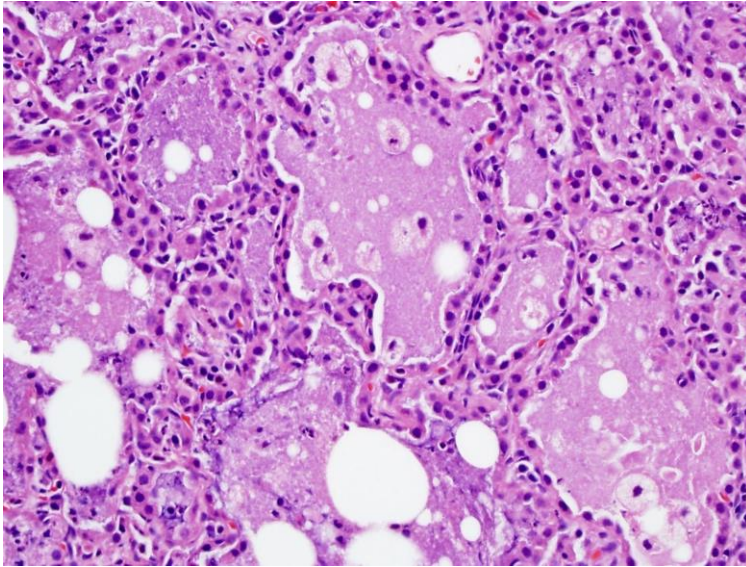
SP-B (*SFTPB*) mutations

Typical form

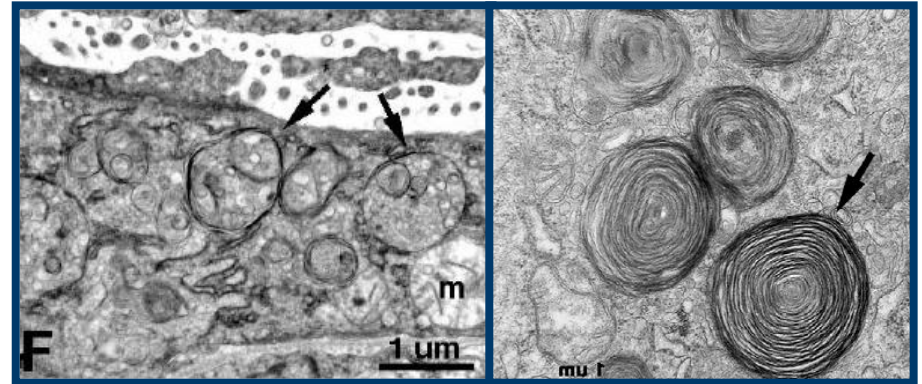
- **Transmission** : recessive
- **Phenotype** :
 - Severe **neonatal** respiratory distress
 - Pulmonary hypertension
 - Refractory hypoxemia
 - **Lethal prognosis**



SP-B (*SFTPB*) mutations



- Alveolar proteinosis
- Thick and stiff alveolar walls
- AEC2 hyperplasia



SFTPB mutant
Vanishing lamellar bodies

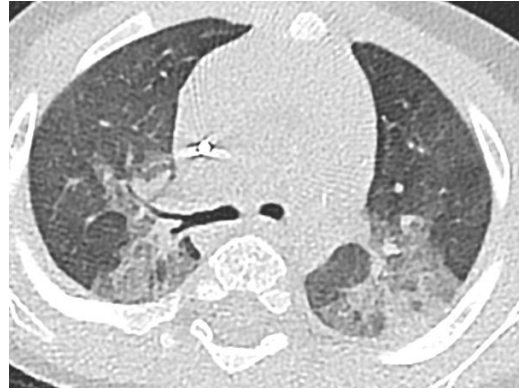
SFTPB WT

Transcription factor for

- Brain
- Thyroid (thyroglobulin)
- Lungs (SP-B, SP-C, ABCA3)

Typical forms

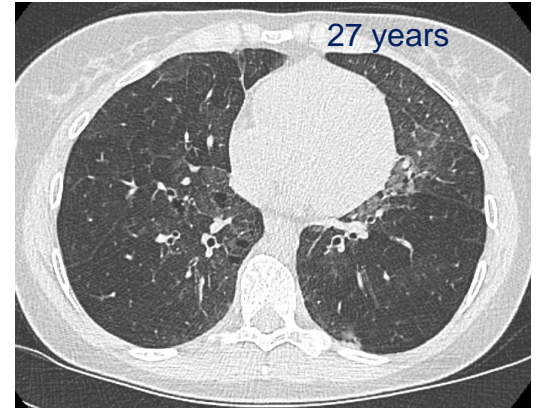
- Heterogeneous from birth to adulthood presentation
- Transmission : dominant
- Phenotype : “brain-lung-thyroid” syndrome with various degrees of
 - Hypotonia / Benign chorea
 - ILD / lung fibrosis
 - Hypothyroidism



16 months



27 years



Neonatal respiratory distress

When to suspect a surfactant disorder?

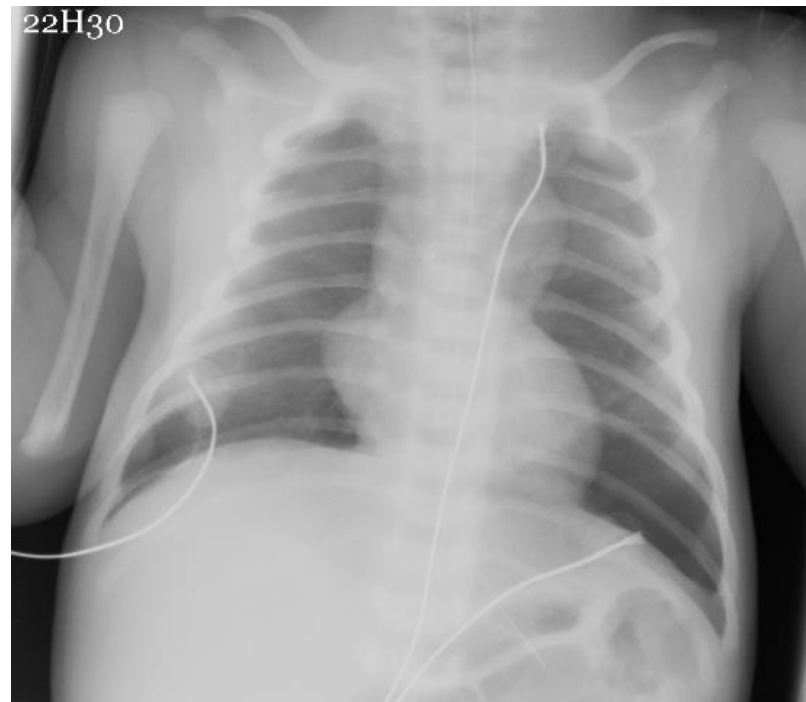
- Term newborn
- Consanguinity (SP-B, ABCA3)
- No extra-respiratory disease (SP-B, ABCA3)
- OR peripheral hypothyroidism / hypotonia (NKX2.1)
- Moderate to severe PHT
- Diffuse GGO
- Transient efficacy of exogenous surfactant

CASE 2 (L.)

- First child
- Unremarkable pregnancy
- No consanguinity

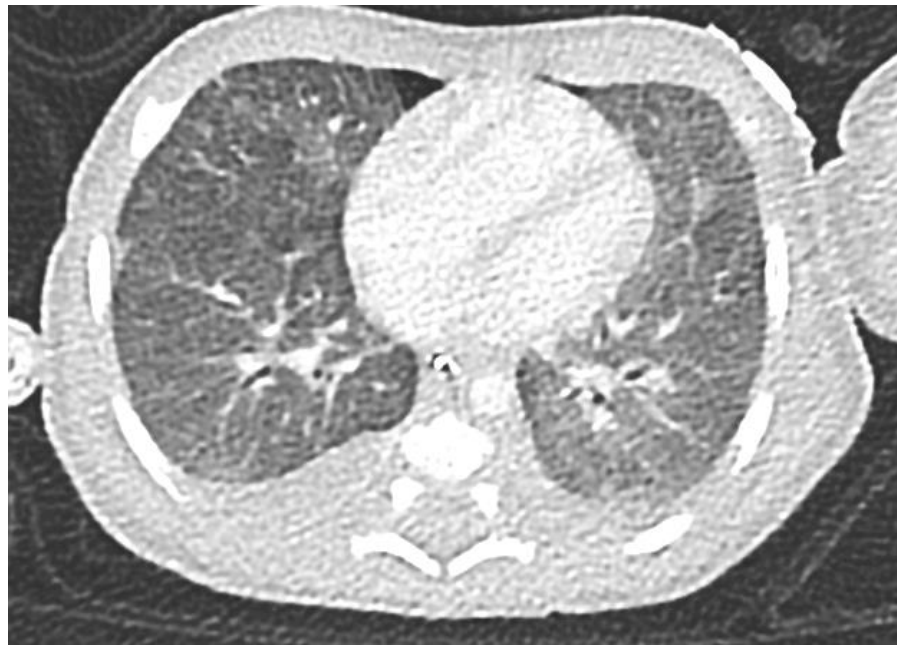
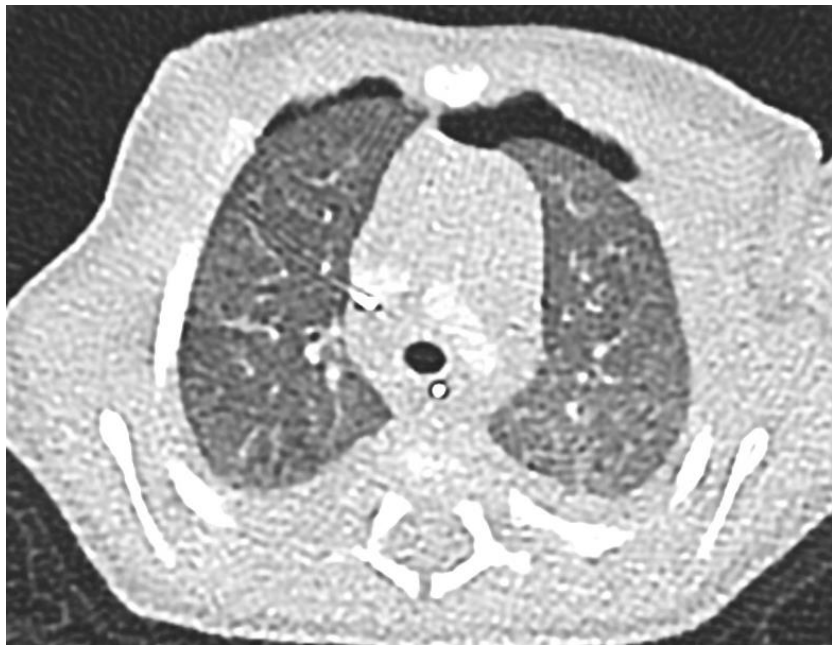
- Full-term newborn
- Immediate NRD
- Severe PHT
- Refractory hypoxaemia => ECMO

- Duodenal atresia



CASE 2 (L.)

HRCT at 14 days



Neonatal interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

- A. Ureaplasma uralyticum infection
- B. Brain-lung-thyroid syndrome (NKX2.1)
- C. Pulmonary interstitial glycogenosis
- D. Alveolar capillary dysplasia
- E. Acinar dysplasia

Neonatal interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

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Pros: Neonatal onset

Cons: No consanguinity (SP-B, ABCA3)
 No hypothyroidism
 Severe PHT
 CT pattern
 Extra-respiratory disorder

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 No hypothyroidism
 Severe PHT
 CT pattern
 Extra-respiratory disorder

Pros: Neonatal onset

Cons: No congenital heart disease

Pros: Neonatal onset

Severe PHT
 Sub-normal CT-scan
 Digestive extra-respiratory disorder

Cons:

Which investigation could confirm the diagnosis?
(MCQ)

- A. Lung biopsy
- B. Caryotype
- C. Bronchoalveolar lavage
- D. Echocardiography
- E. NGS molecular testing

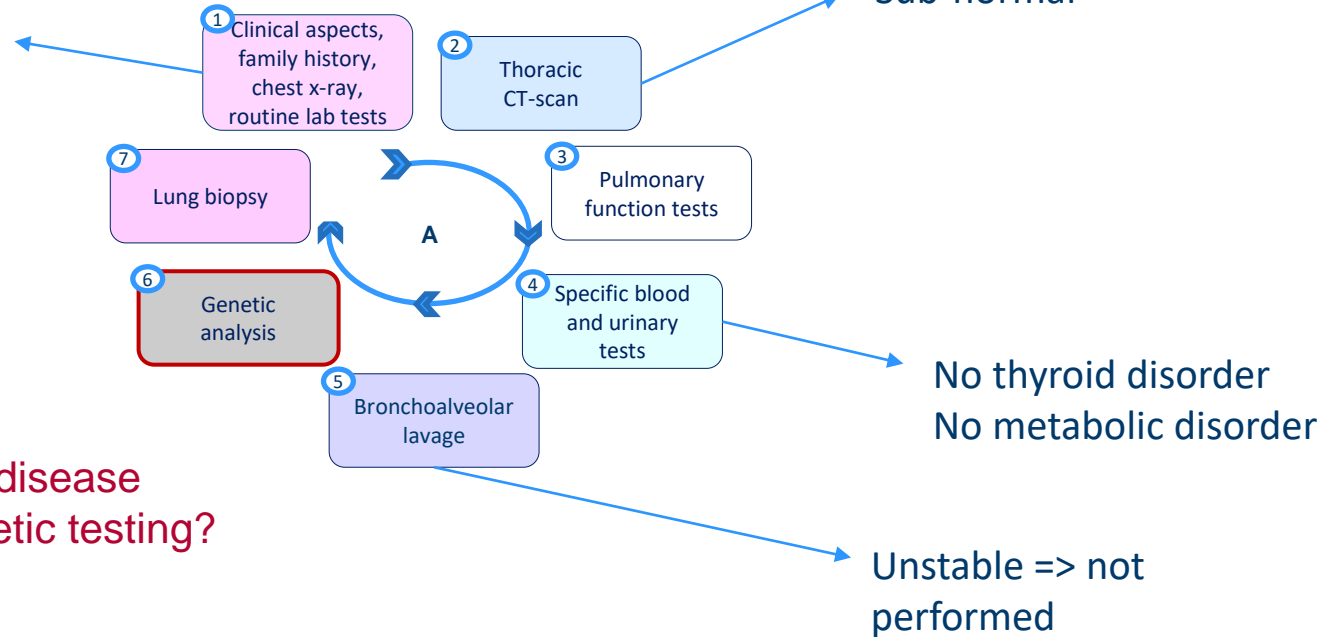
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Diagnostic workup in chILD

Digestive and lung disease

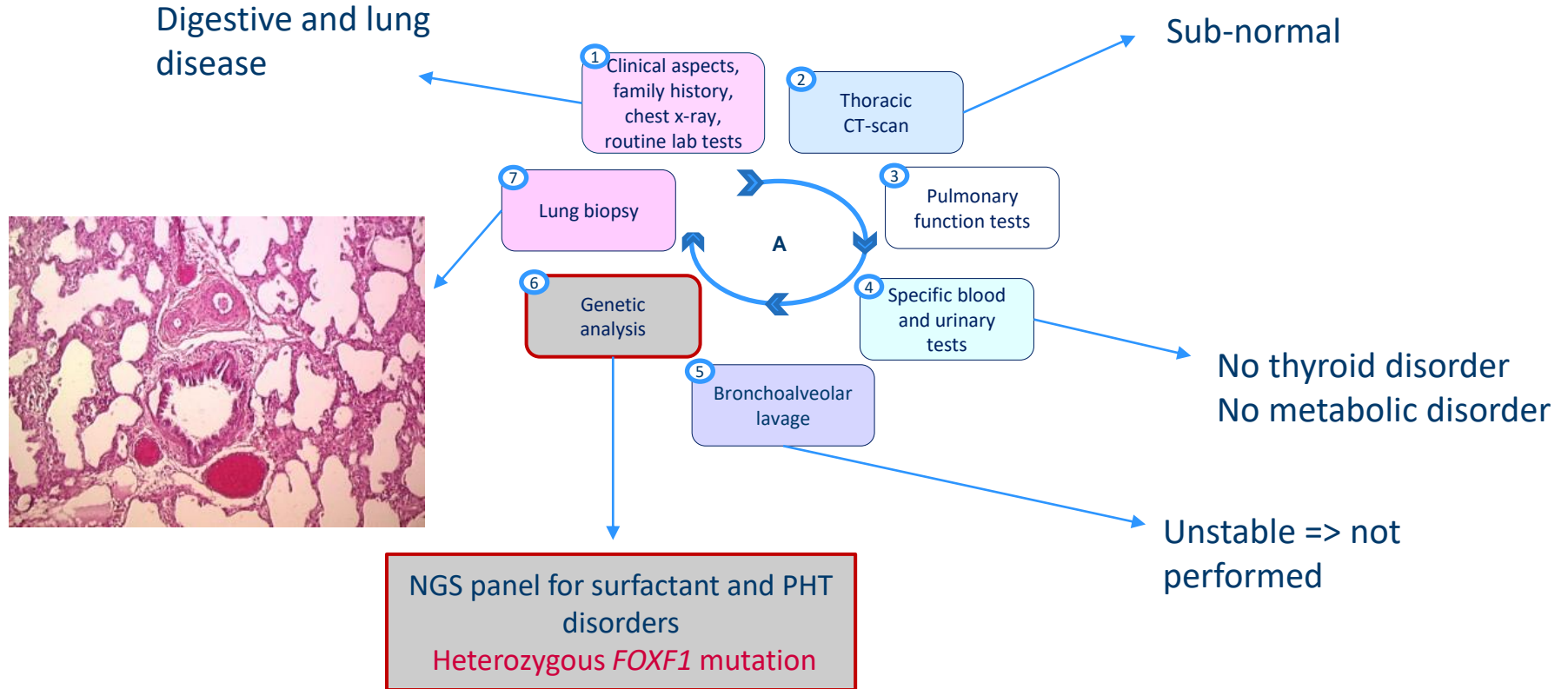
Sub-normal



Severe lung disease
Biopsy / genetic testing?
Both +++

Unstable => not performed

Diagnostic workup in chILD



CASE 2 (L.)

Alveolar capillary dysplasia (with misalignment of pulmonary veins)

- **Diffuse developmental disorder**

Vascular and alveolar abnormalities, poor capillary bed

Abnormal localization of pulmonary veins in the broncho-arterial axis, thickened alveolar walls

- **Typical forms**

- Full-term newborn
- Severe PHT (90%) with refractory hypoxemia (60%)
- Extra-exrespiratory malformations (50-80%)
 - Heart
 - Intestine (rotation abnormalities ++)
 - Uro-genitary

- **Evolution: Most cases are fatal**

Bishop NB et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2011

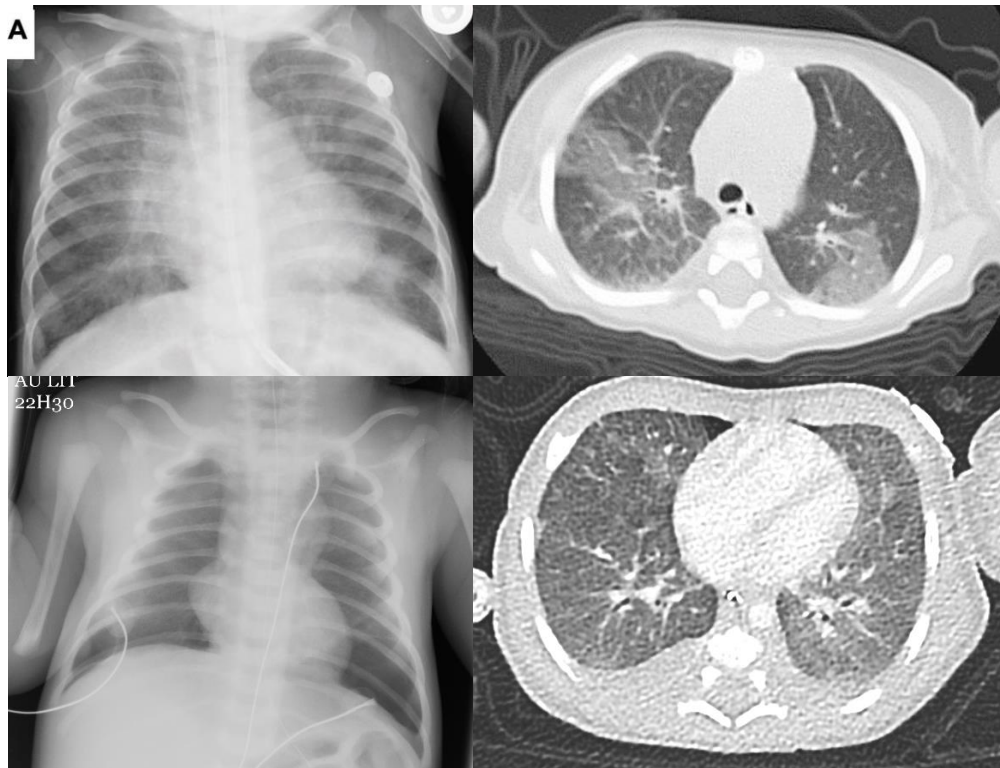
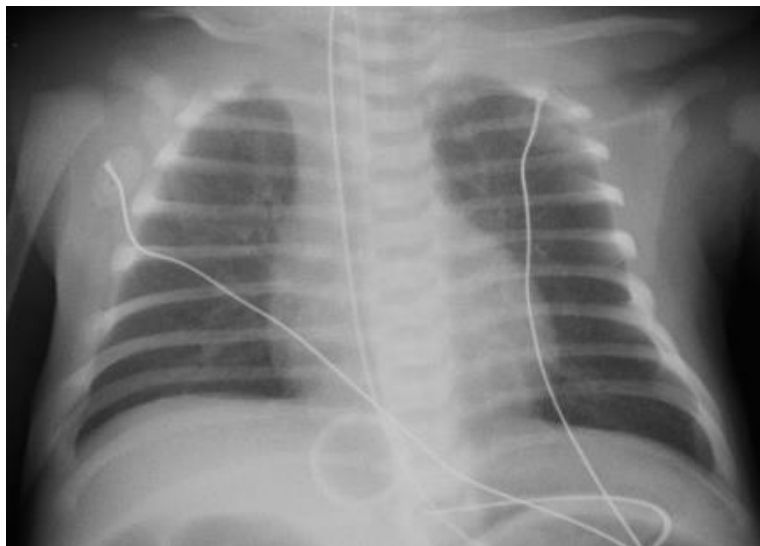
Slot E et al. *Pulm Circ.* 2018

Szafranski P et al. *Am J Hum Genet.* 2014

Pasutto F et al. *Am J Hum Genet.* 2007

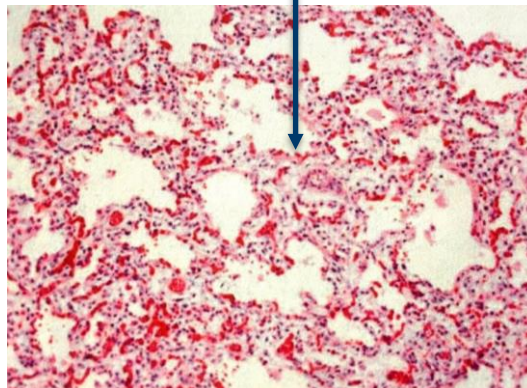
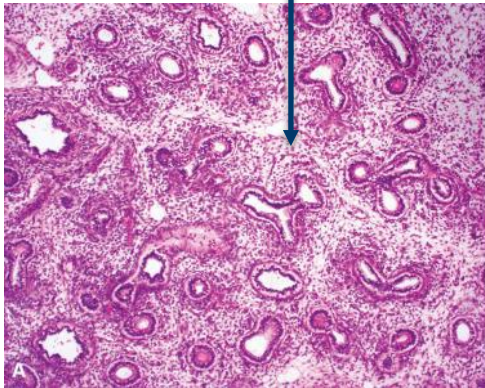
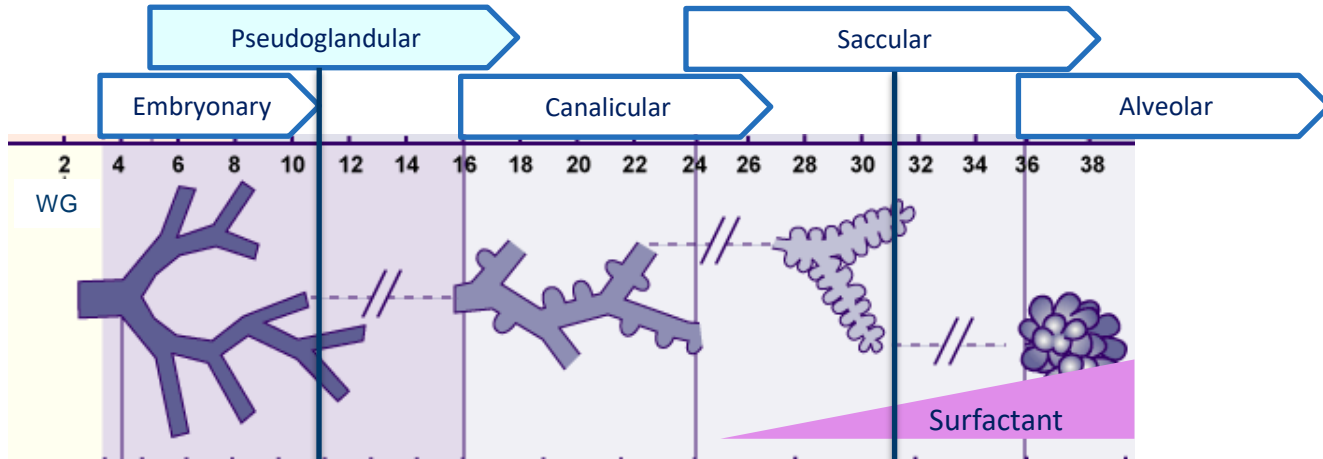
CASE 2 (L.)

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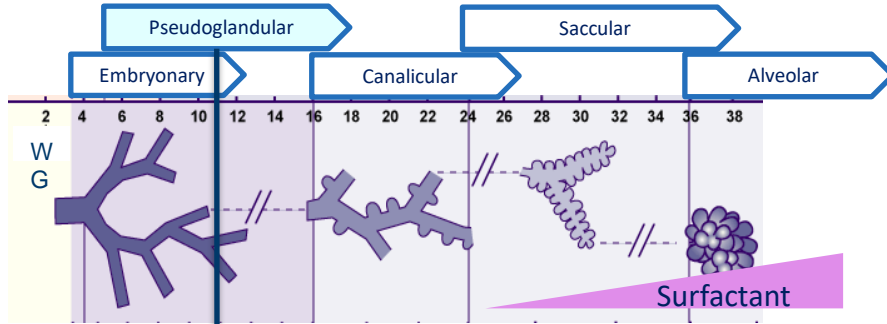


Ito et al. *Eur J Pediatr.* 2015
Szafranski P et al. *Am J Hum Genet.* 2014
Radiology department, Trousseau hospital

Other developmental disorders of the lung



Acinar dysplasia

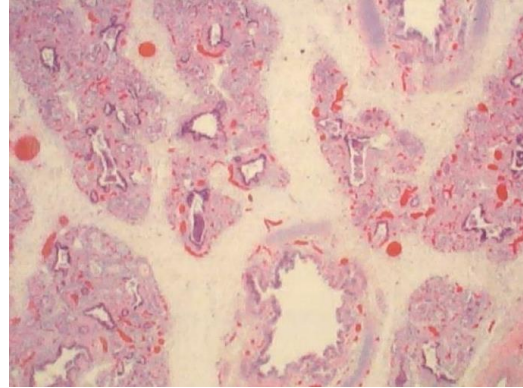
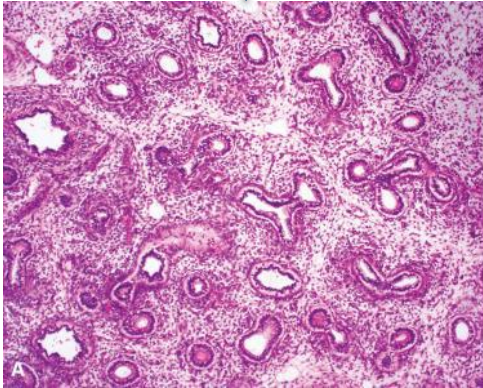


Early arrest of development at the pseudoglandular stage

- Airways present but no alveolus
- Low developed capillary bed

6F/1M

Extra-respiratory disorders: renal dysplasia, right aorta arch, cerebral and adrenal bleedings or calcifications



Syndromic acinar dysplasia

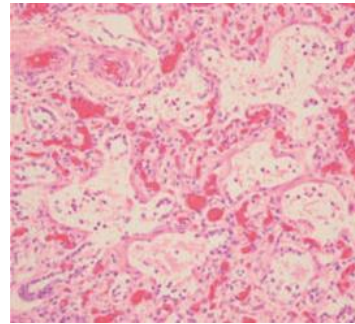
TBX4: Small patella syndrome + acinar dysplasia

- Bone malformations, mainly hips, legs, feet
- Heterogeneous acinar dysplasia with PHT at the forefront



FGFR2: Ectrodactily + acinar dysplasia

- Only one report
- Neonatal severe PHT



Neonatal respiratory distress

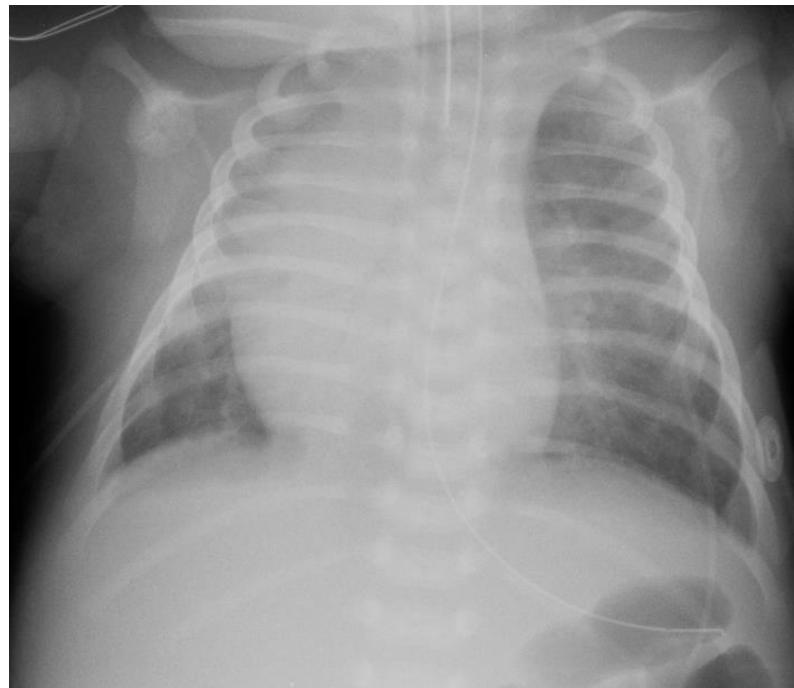
When to suspect a diffuse developmental disorder of the lung?

- Term newborn
- Severe PHT
- Extra-respiratory malformations
- No impact of exogenous surfactant
- Sub-normal / heterogeneous CT-scan

CASE 3 (A.)

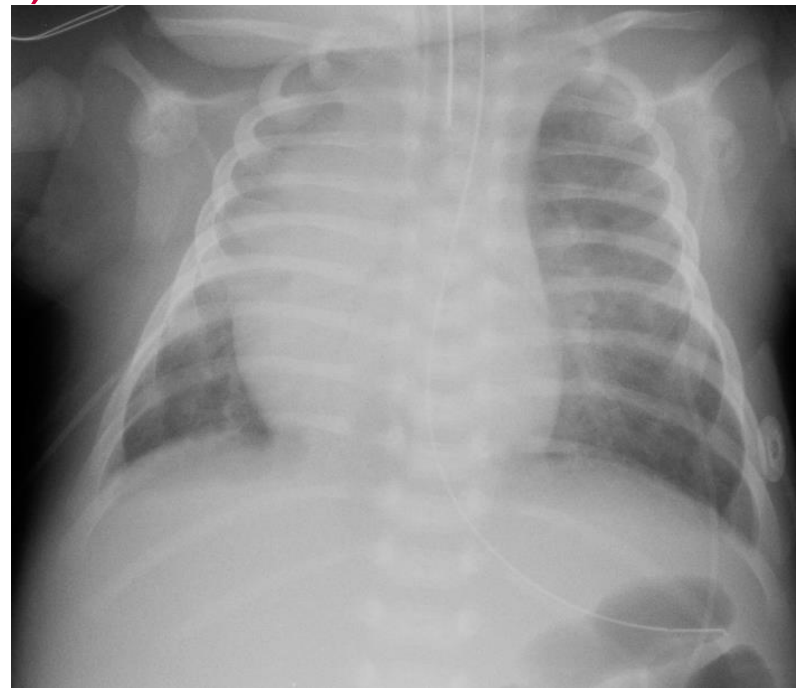
- First child
- Unremarkable pregnancy
- Consanguinity

- Full-term newborn
- Immediate moderate NRD
- No PHT



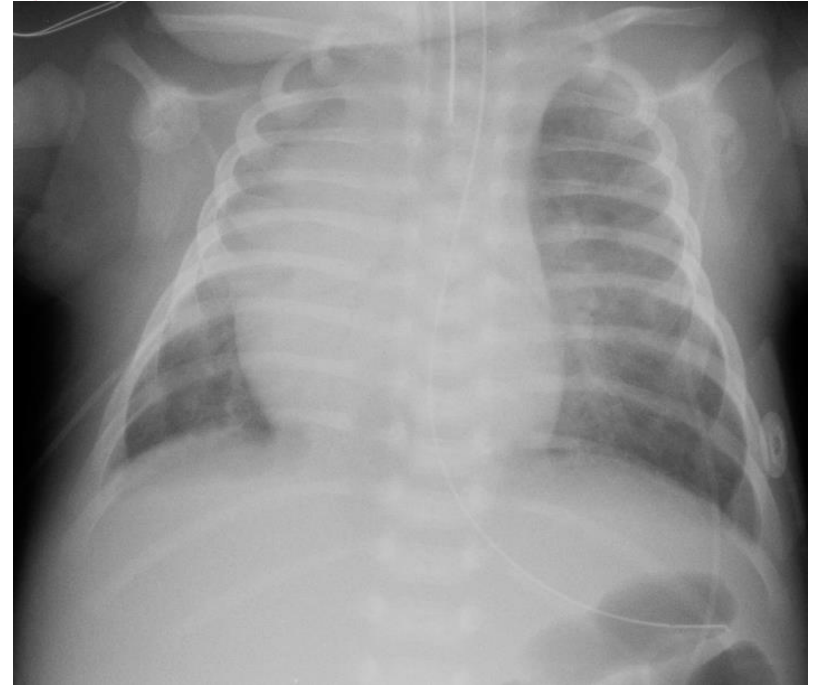
What can you describe on the chest X-ray? (MCQ)

- A. The chest x-ray is in oblique projection
- B. Thicken bronchial walls with alveolar opacities
- C. Cardiomegaly
- D. Enlarged thymus
- E. Interstitial opacities



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CASE 3 (A.)

- Situs inversus
 - Neonatal rhinitis
- ⇒ PCD suspicion
- ⇒ Genetic test
- ⇒ Nasal/bronchial biopsy for ciliary EM

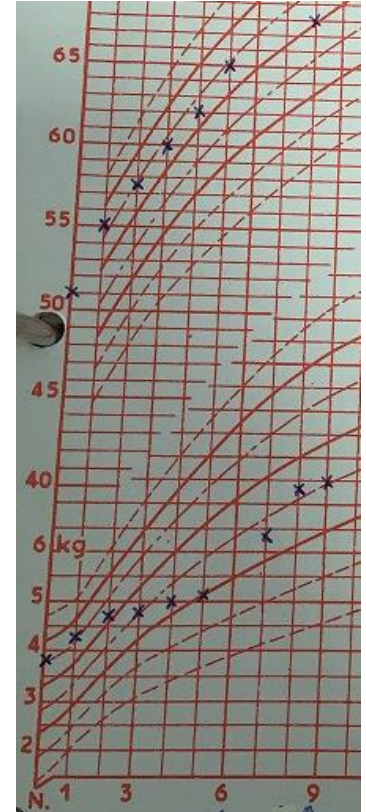
Neonatal respiratory distress

When to suspect an ILD differential diagnosis?

- **Primary ciliary dyskinesia?**
 - Consanguinity
 - Neonatal rhinitis
 - Situs inversus
- **Cystic fibrosis?**
 - Consanguinity
 - Meconial ileus
- **Congenital heart disease?**
 - Cardiomegaly
 - Signs of cardiac insufficiency

CASE 4 (S.)

- 2nd child, full-term newborn, no neonatal respiratory distress
- Well being until 4 months
- No severe infection
- Persistent tachypnea observed since the age of 4 months
 - Retractions
 - Persistent crackles
 - Pectus excavatum
 - Oxygen therapy at 4 months
- Growth impairment requiring enteral nutrition at 7 months
- Biology: No abnormality



CASE 4 (S.)

Radiologic diagnosis



Childhood interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

- A. Immune deficiency (opportunistic infection)
- B. Brain-lung-thyroid syndrome (NKX2.1)
- C. Neuroendocrine cell hyperplasia of infancy
- D. SP-C disorder
- E. Alveolar haemorrhage

Childhood interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

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		Viral infections	

Pros: Always possible ... SP-C? NKX2.1?

Cons: No consanguinity (SP-B, ABCA3)
No hypothyroidism, no hypotonia
CT pattern

Pros:

Cons: Delayed onset
No PHT
CT pattern
No extra-respiratory disorder

Pros: Age at onset
CT pattern
« well-being child »
Liptzin score

Cons:

Liptzin score for NEHI / PTI

NEHI score (0 to 10)

Criteria	Present = 1, Absent = 0
Onset before 12 months	
Failure to thrive	
No clubbing	
No baseline cough	
No baseline wheezing	
Chest wall abnormality (ex: pectus excavatum)	
Crackles	
Hypoxemia	
Tachypnea	
Retractions	
TOTAL (≥7 highly suggestive of NEHI)	



Liptzin score for neuroendocrine cell hyperplasia of infancy (NEHI) / persistent tachypnea of infancy (PTI)

NEHI score (0 to 10)

Criteria	Present = 1, Absent = 0
Onset before 12 months	1
Failure to thrive	1
No clubbing	1
No baseline cough	1
No baseline wheezing	1
Chest wall abnormality (ex: pectus excavatum)	1
Crackles	1
Hypoxemia	1
Tachypnea	1
Retractions	1
TOTAL (≥7 highly suggestive of NEHI)	10



Another patient same diagnosis

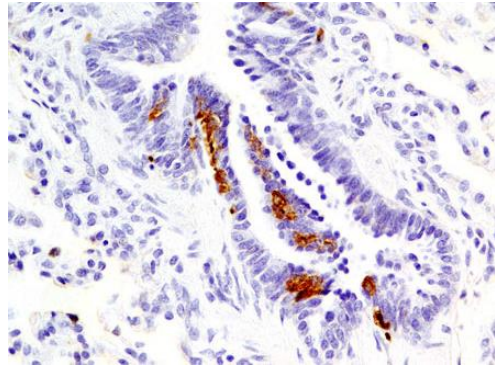
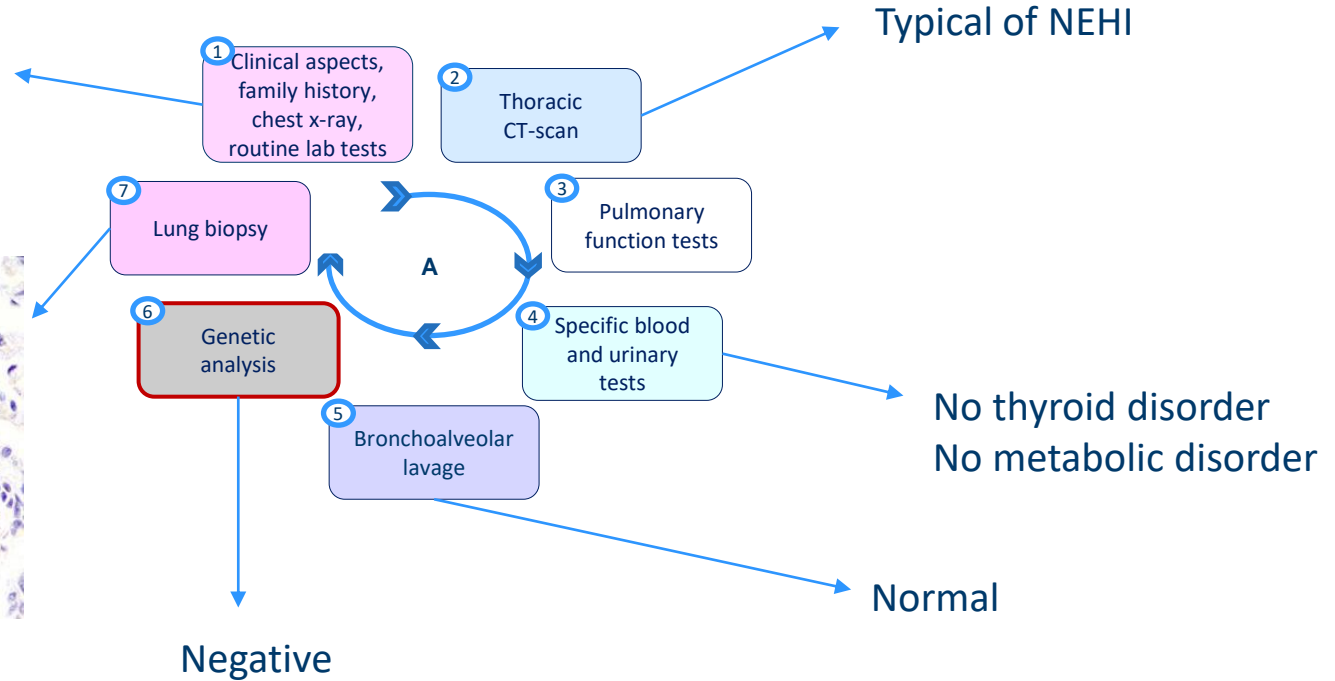


3 months



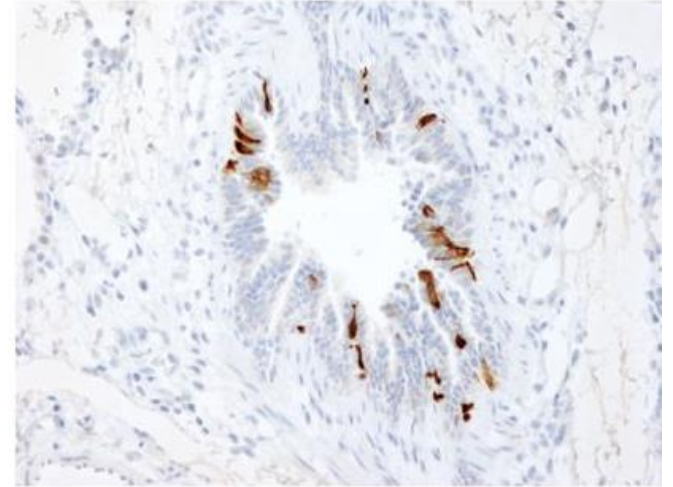
Diagnostic workup in chILD

Liptzin score +

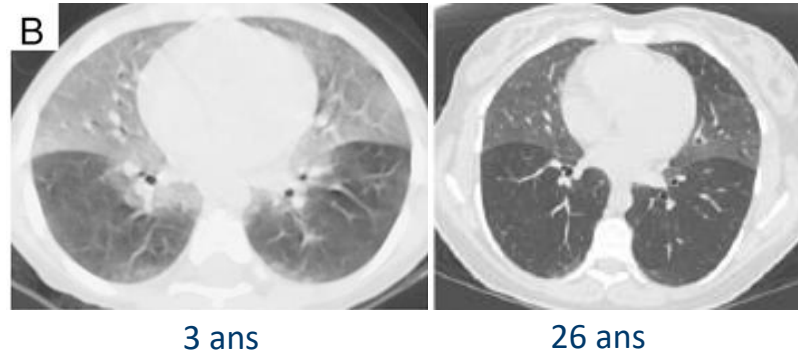
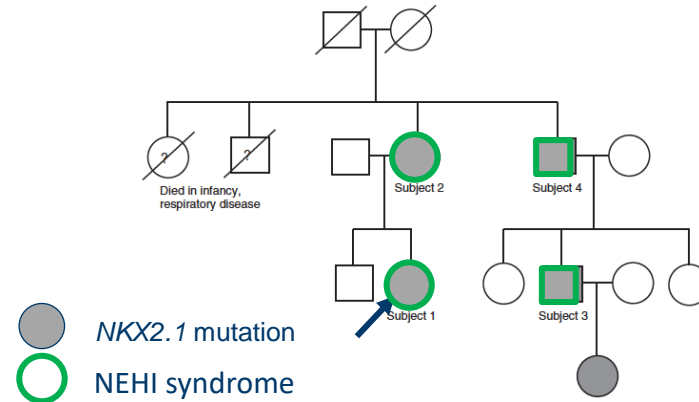


PTI / NEHI

- NEHI: high number of NE cells in the distal bronchioles
- Diagnosis: lung biopsy with bombesin staining
- IV corticosteroid pulses (or no treatment?)
- Evolution: good!
 - Weaned from oxygen at 2,5 years
 - Weaned from EN at 3 years



PTI / NEHI: a genetic cause?



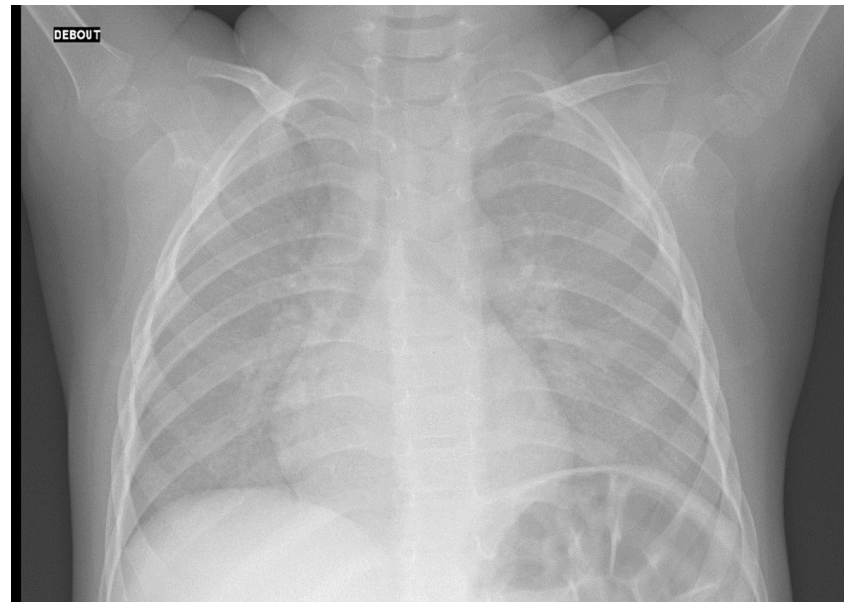
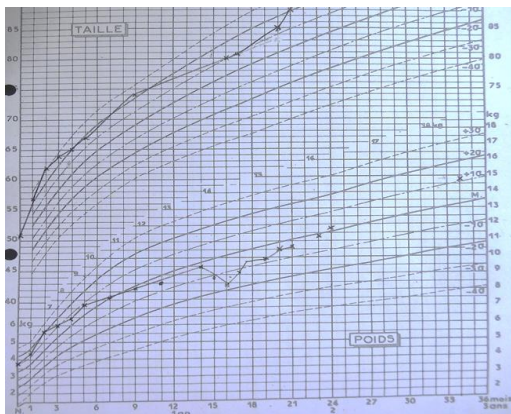
ILD in childhood

When to suspect a NEHI?

- Liptzin score + CT-scan pattern
- Negative genetic tests for surfactant genes

CASE 5 (J.)

- 2nd child, full-term newborn, no neonatal respiratory distress
- Well being until 18 months ... BUT growth impairment since the age of 7 months
- RSV bronchiolitis at 18 months with oxygen requirement ... persisting with crackles and unusual chest X-ray



CASE 5 (J.)



18 months

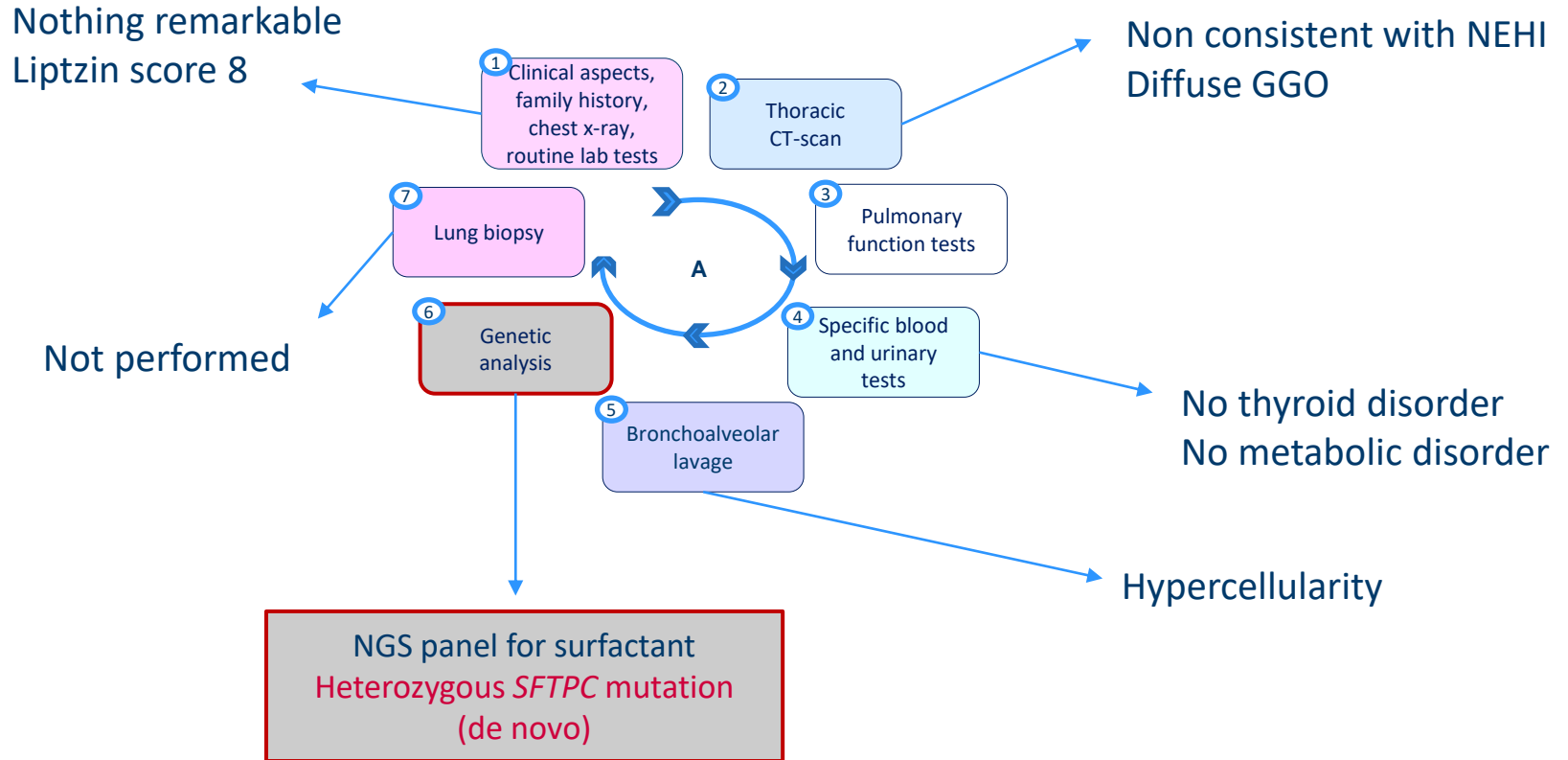
Childhood interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

- A. Immune deficiency (opportunistic infection)
- B. Brain-lung-thyroid syndrome (NKX2.1)
- C. Neuroendocrine cell hyperplasia of infancy
- D. SP-C disorder
- E. Alveolar haemorrhage

Childhood interstitial lung disease: which one? (MCQ)

- A. Immune deficiency (opportunistic infection)
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- D. SP-C disorder
- E. Alveolar haemorrhage

Diagnostic workup in chILD



CASE 5 (J.): Evolution

- Oxygen therapy for 2 years
- No enteral nutrition
- IV methylprednisolone pulses ... 10
- Azithromycin ... still
- Hydroxychloroquine ... still

Stable over time with preserved activities

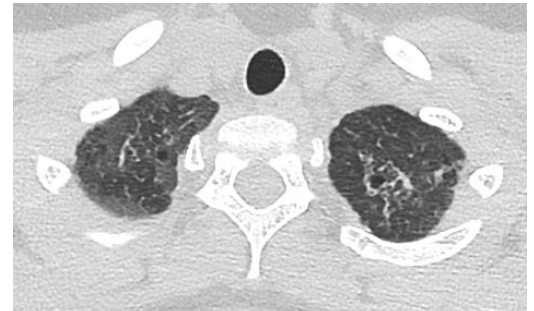
Meals are still an issue

Current lung function: FVC 43%, DLCO 44%

CASE 5 (J.)



18 months

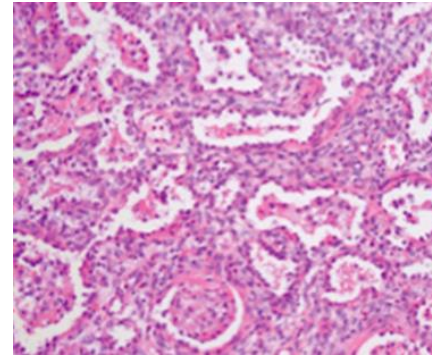
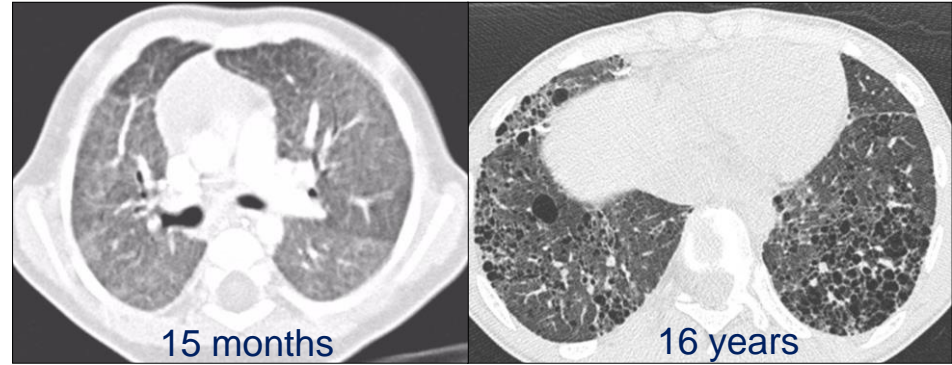


10 years

SP-C (SFTPC) Mutations

Typical forms

- **Transmission:** Dominant inheritance
- **Phenotype:**
 - Neonatal or infant respiratory distress, often following a viral infection
 - Failure to thrive
 - Evolution towards severe fibrosing ILD



ILD in childhood

When to suspect a SP-C disorder?

- Phenotypic heterogeneity
- Early onset
- Following a viral infection
- Diffuse GGO on CT-scan

Take home messages

chILD diagnostic assessment based on CT-scan pattern before 2 years

Diffuse and dense GGO	
Diffuse and \pm dense GGO peripheral and/or parenchymal traction cysts, traction bronchiectasis, reticulations	
Paramediastinal, paracardial, middle lobe, lingula GGO	
Sub-normal	

Take home messages

chILD diagnostic assessment based on CT-scan pattern before 2 years

Diffuse and dense GGO	Surfactant disorder
Diffuse and \pm dense GGO peripheral and/or parenchymal traction cysts, traction bronchiectasis, reticulations	
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Take home messages

chILD diagnostic assessment based on CT-scan pattern before 2 years

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Take home messages

chILD diagnostic assessment based on CT-scan pattern before 2 years

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Sub-normal	

Take home messages

chILD diagnostic assessment based on CT-scan pattern before 2 years

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Diffuse and \pm dense GGO peripheral and/or parenchymal traction cysts, traction bronchiectasis, reticulations	Surfactant disorder
Paramediastinal, paracardial, middle lobe, lingula GGO	NEHI, PTI
Sub-normal	Diffuse developmental disorder of the lung

Take home messages

Stepwise approach to chILD diagnosis

Who

Investigations

Diagnosis

Workup step 1

General Paediatrician
Suspect ILD

Clinical evaluation
and family history

Chest x-ray
Lab and urine
routine tests

**ILD
suspicion**

Who

Investigations

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routine tests

**ILD
suspicion**

Workup step 2

Paediatric pulmonologist / Expert centre
Confirm ILD, eliminate differential diagnosis, classify disease

Serological and other blood tests, pulmonary
function tests (age dependent)

HR thoracic CT-scan

Bronchoscopy,
BAL

Genetic tests

Lung biopsy (or biopsy
of other targeted organ)

Workup step 1

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HR thoracic CT-scan

Bronchoscopy,
BAL

Genetic tests

Lung biopsy (or biopsy
of other targeted organ)

Confirmed ILD diagnosis

With CT, specific lab tests, BAL

- PTI
- Exposure-related ILD
- Hypersensitivity pneumonitis
- DAH
- Systemic / auto-immune disease
- Metabolic disorder

With molecular genetics

- Surfactant disorder
- Pulmonary alveolar proteinosis
- Autoinflammatory disorders

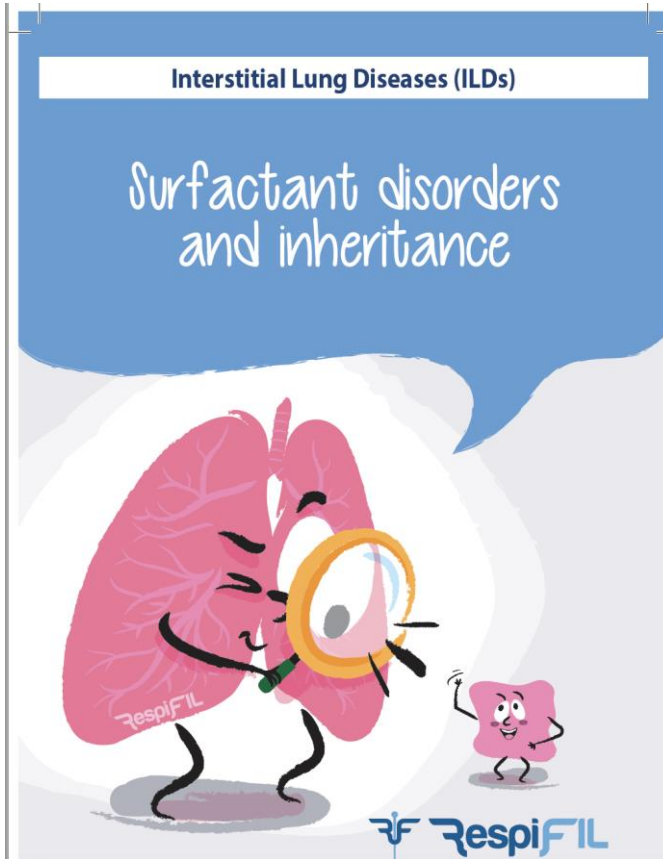
With lung biopsy

- NEHI
- Pulmonary interstitial glycogenosis
- Sarcoidosis

With both

- Syndromes with ILD involvement
- Diffuse developmental disorder of the lung

Undefined ILD



<https://respifil.fr/maladies/livrets-information-patients/>



e-learning on thoracic CT-scan in chILD

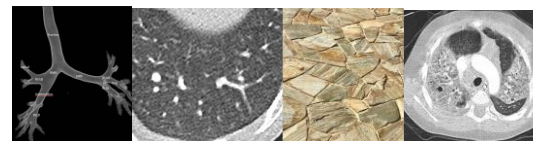
- Alistair Calder (UK), Chiara Sileo (FR), Nadia Nathan (FR)
- Funded by the French RespiRare network (15,000€)
- Open access, free, with certificate of completion
- Online at the end of 2023

Children's Interstitial Lung Disease
CT Interpretation Guide



Module 1: An introduction to CT techniques in children's lung disease

Children's Interstitial Lung Disease
CT Interpretation Guide



Module 2: Anatomical, pathological and developmental basis for CT signs in chILD

A case to be discussed? Multidisciplinary team meetings:
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