

Whipple's Disease

- Rare, multisystem mainly GIT

Cause → Tropheryma whippelii → Gram positive bacilli

Pathophysiology → Infection → Damage and flattening

← of villi
Densely packed foam macrophages in the lamina propria. lymph drainage

↓
Obstruction of fat malabsorption.

Clinical features → GIT & Joints are common.

Middle age men of Caucasian.

① GIT → Diarrhea, Steatorrhea, weight loss, Protein losing enteropathy, Arterial Hepato spleno megaly

② Musculoskeletal → Seronegative joint arthropathy, Spondylitis

③ ~~CNS~~ Neurological → Apathy, Fits, Dementia, Meningitis.

④ Cardiac → Pericarditis, Myocarditis, Endocarditis.

⑤ Pulmonary → Cough chronic, pleurisy.

⑥ Haematology → Anaemia.

⑦ Other → Fever and pigmentation.

Investigation

- T. Whipple positive is. Periodic Acid schiff stain

- Polymerase chain reaction → T. Whipple

→ Biopsy of small Bowel → immunohistochemistry

→ Test of lysozyme in CSF

Treatment

- Antibiotics