



# Guillain-Barré syndrome and related disorders

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# Disclosures

Novartis - educational grant

# Guillain-Barré syndrome and related disorders

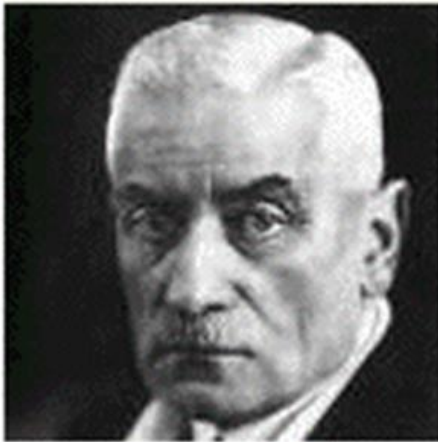
- What is Guillain-Barré syndrome?
- The GBS spectrum
- Making a diagnosis
- Early management



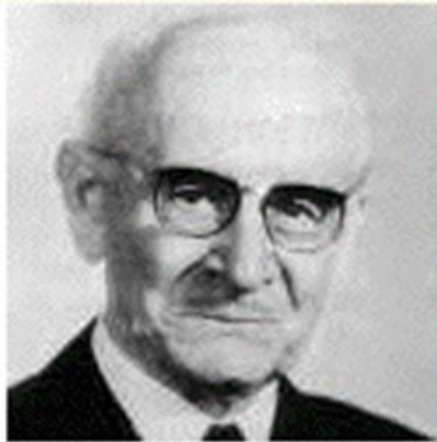
# Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS)

SUR UN SYNDROME DE RADICULO-NÉVRITE AVEC HYPERALBUMINOSE DU LIQUIDE  
CÉPHALO-RACHIDIEN SANS RÉACTION CELLULAIRE. REMARQUES SUR LES  
CARACTÈRES CLINIQUES ET GRAPHIQUES DES RÉFLEXES TENDINEUX,

par MM. GEORGES GUILLAIN, J.-A. BARRÉ et A. STROHL.



Georges Guillain



Jean-Alexandre Barré



André Strohl

# Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS)

- Commonest cause of acute flaccid paralysis
- Incidence 1.1 per 100,000
- male x 1.8
- 20% severely disabled, 5% die



# Miller Fisher syndrome (MFS)



## The New England Journal of Medicine

Copyright, 1956, by the Massachusetts Medical Society

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Number 2

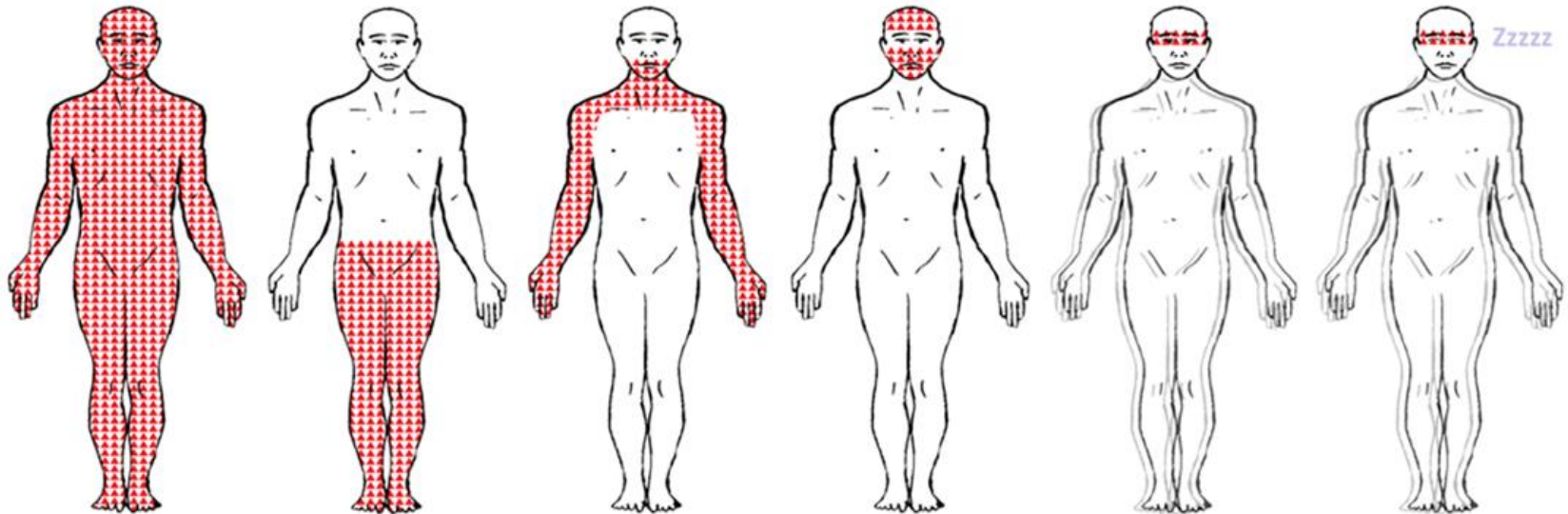
AN UNUSUAL VARIANT OF ACUTE IDIOPATHIC POLYNEURITIS (SYNDROME OF  
OPHTHALMOPLÉGIA, ATAXIA AND AREFLEXIA)\*

MILLER FISHER, M.D.†

BOSTON

# Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS)

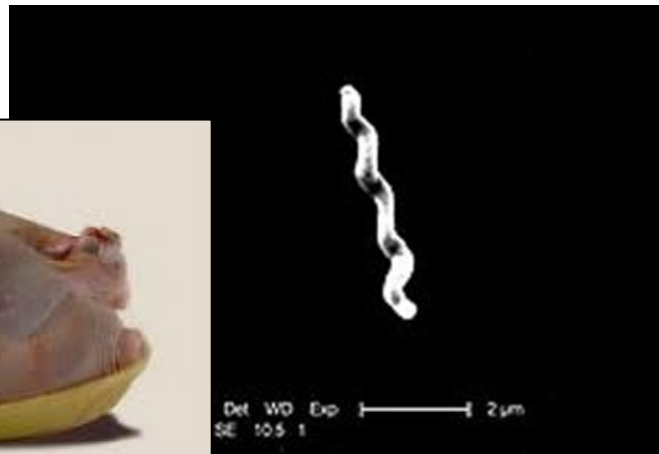
- Spectrum of related disorders





# Infectious triggers

- >60% antecedent infectious symptoms

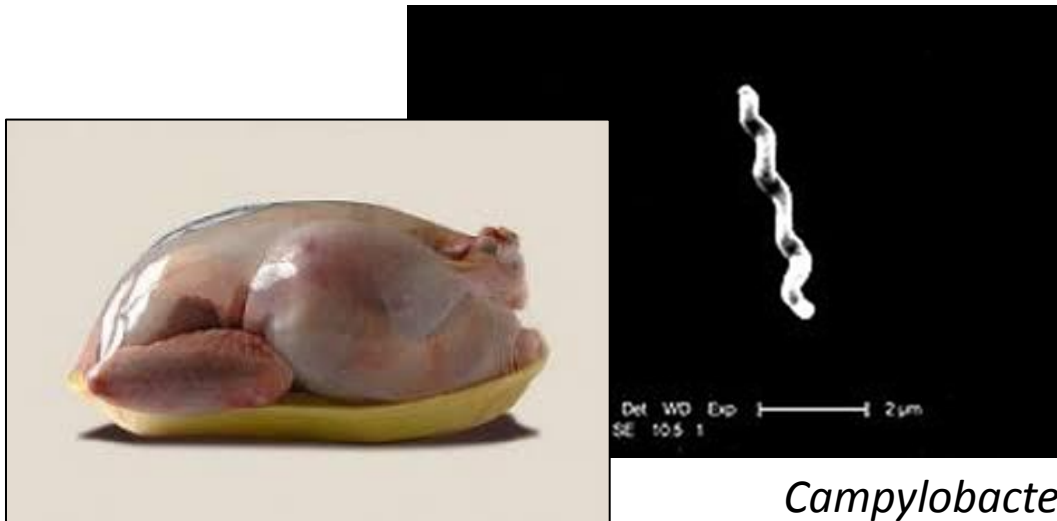


*Campylobacter jejuni*



# Infectious triggers

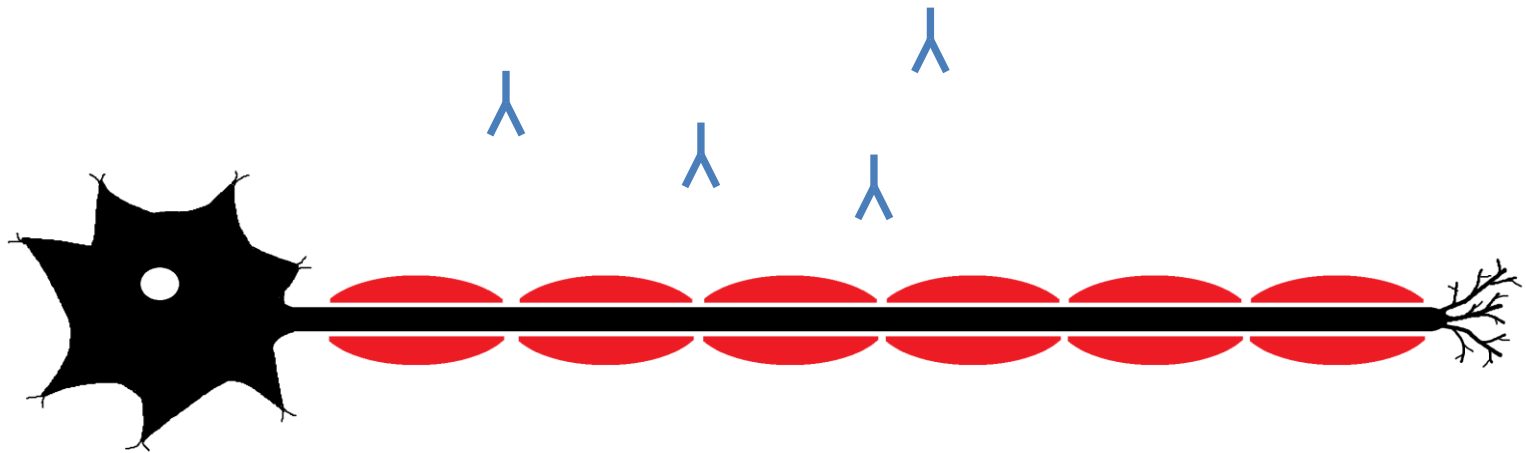
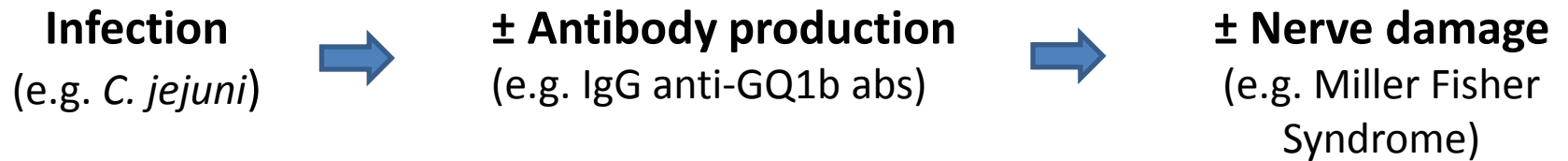
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*Campylobacter jejuni*

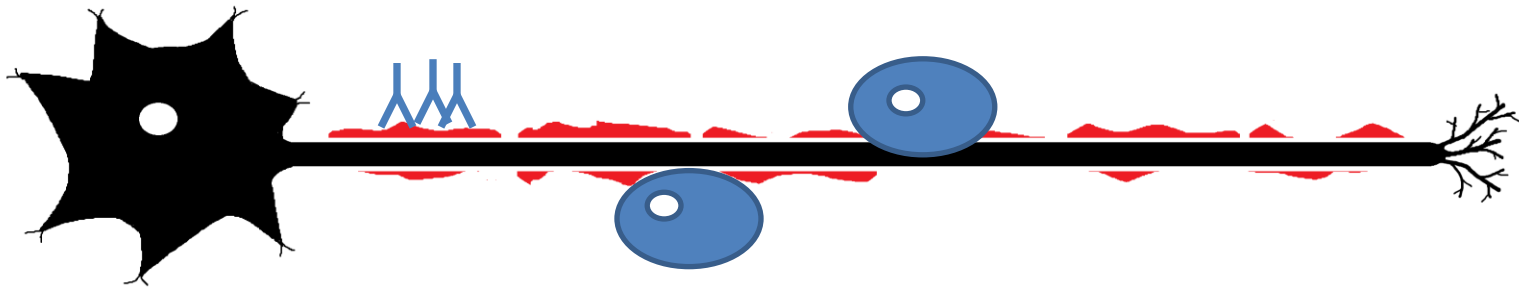
- *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*
- CBV, EBV, VZV
- Hepatitis E, Influenza A, Zika virus

# Infection and molecular mimicry



 = IgG antibody

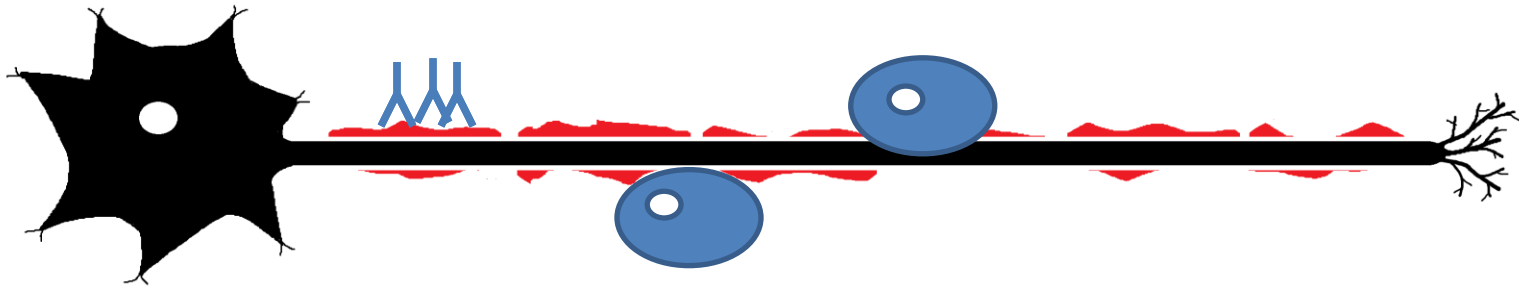
## Demyelinating neuropathy – Target unknown



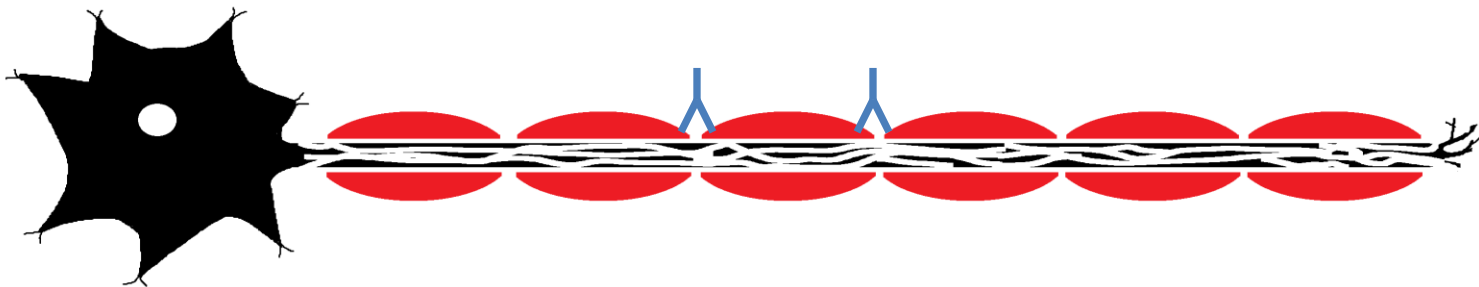
 = inflammatory cell

 = IgG antibody

## Demyelinating neuropathy – Target unknown



## Axonal neuropathy – Gangliosides (e.g. GM1, GQ1b)

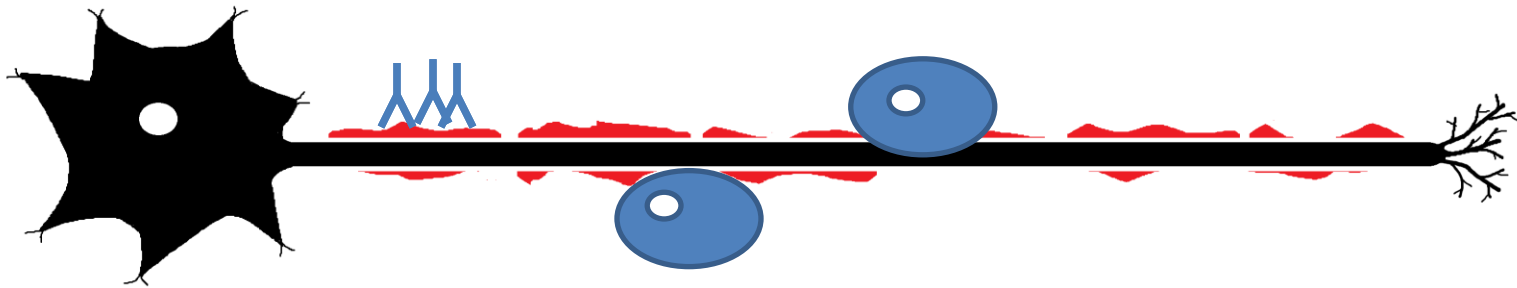


 = inflammatory cell

 = IgG antibody

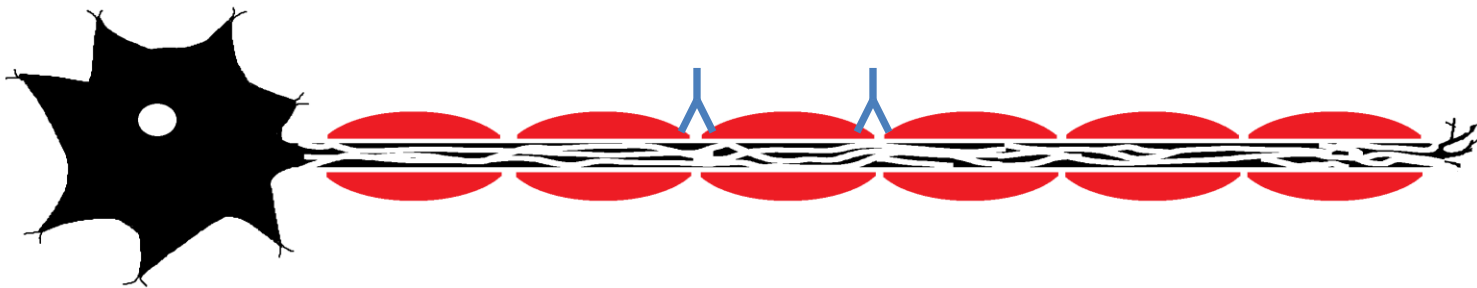
## Acute inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (AIDP)

Demyelinating neuropathy – Target unknown



## Acute motor axonal neuropathy (AMAN)

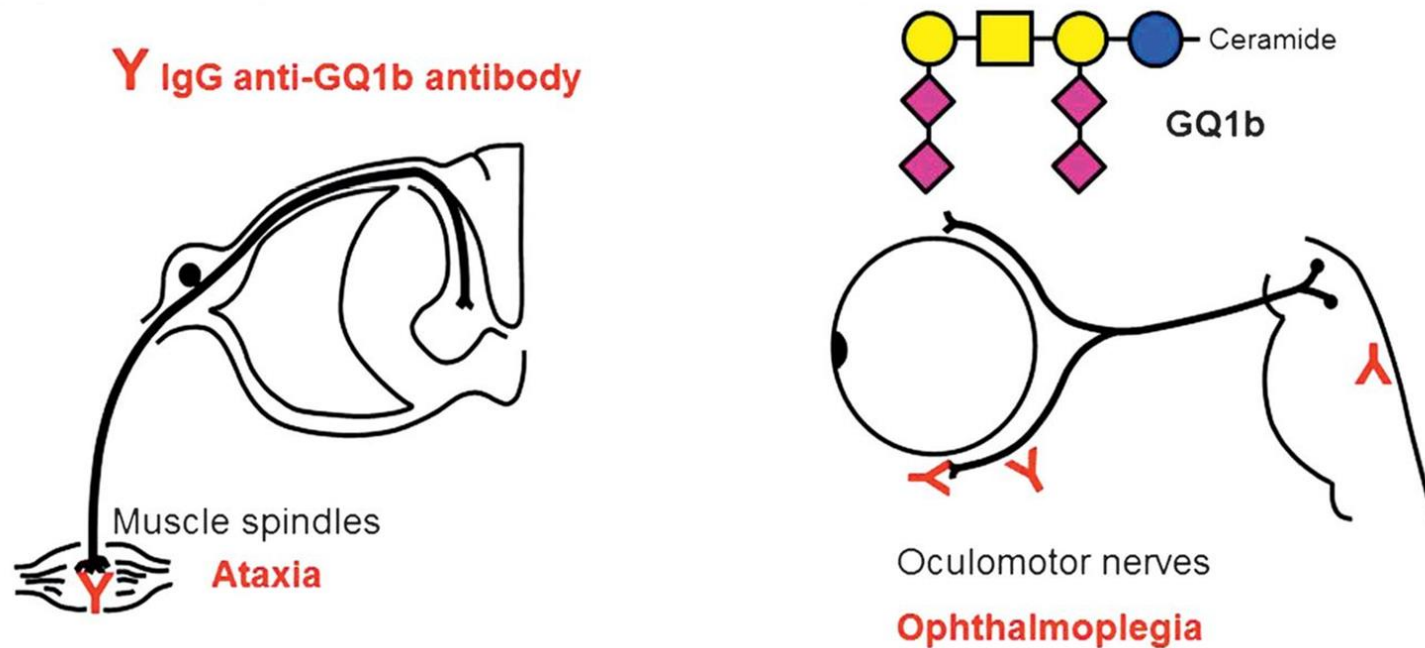
Axonal neuropathy – Gangliosides (e.g. GM1, GQ1b)



 = inflammatory cell

 = IgG antibody

# Antibodies TARGET nerves

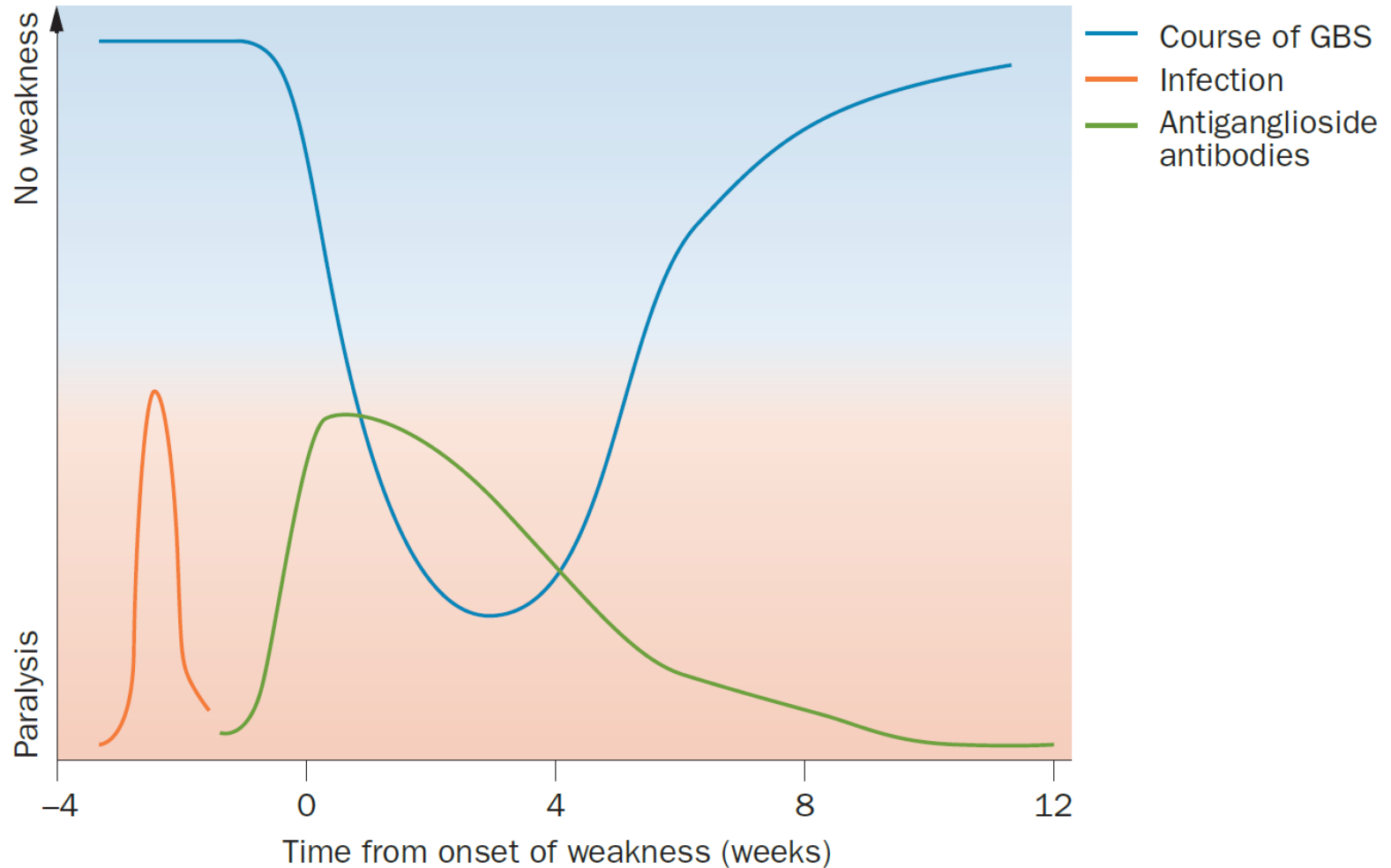


Chiba et al, *Neurology* 1993

Liu et al, *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* 2009

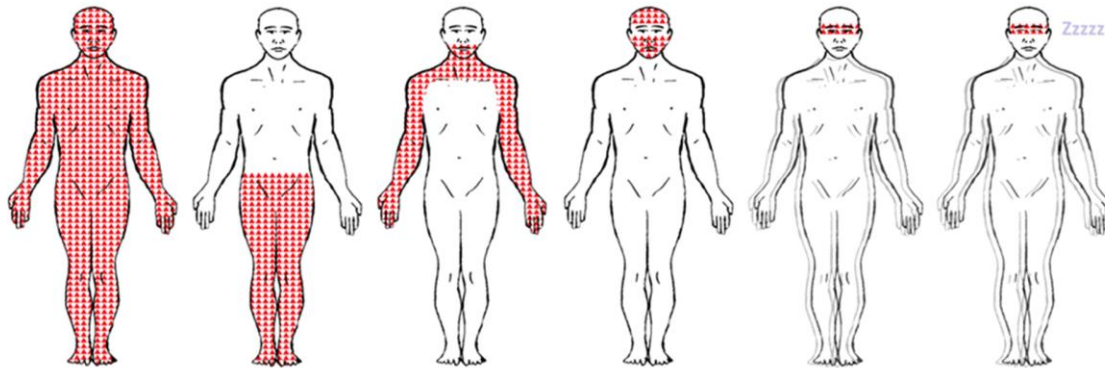
Shahrizaila et al, *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 2013

# Disease course



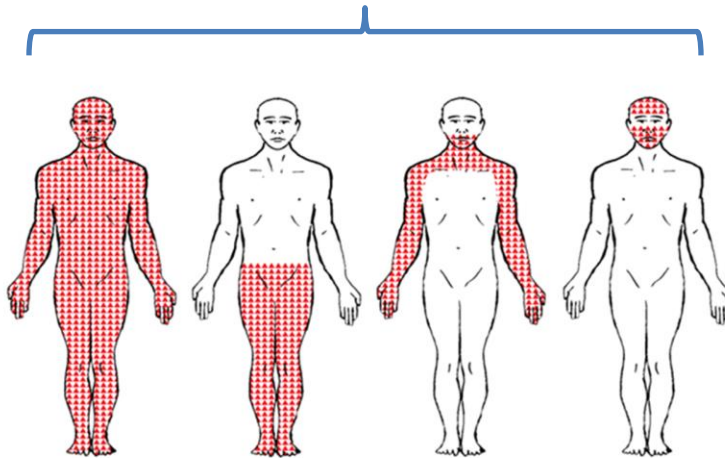


# The GBS spectrum

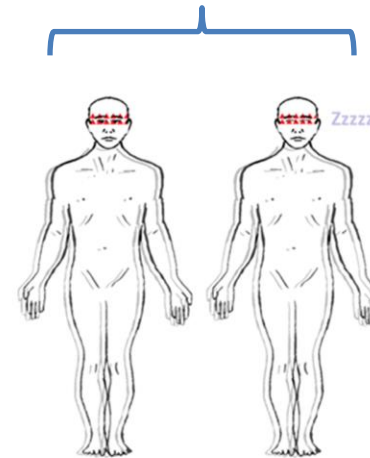


# The GBS spectrum

Guillain-Barré syndrome

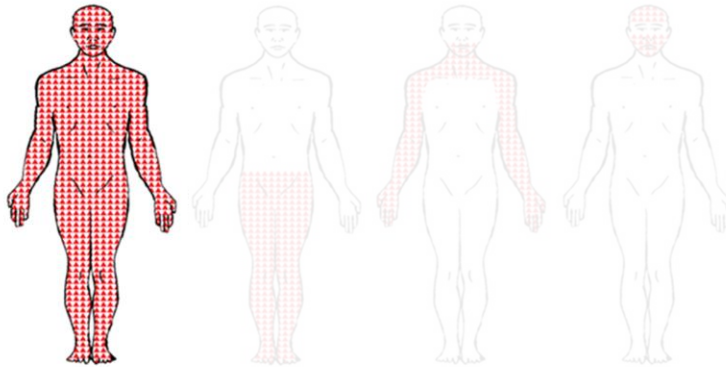


Miller Fisher syndrome



# Guillain-Barré syndrome and Miller Fisher syndrome

Classic GBS

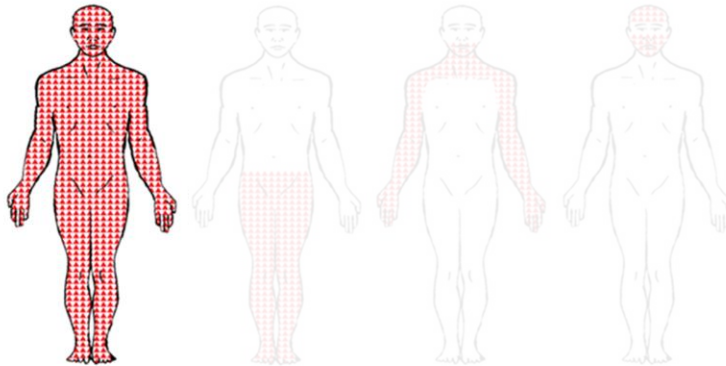


- Tetraparesis
- $\pm$  Cranial neuropathy
- $\pm$  Respiratory depression

**Main differential:  
Acute spinal cord injury**

# Guillain-Barré syndrome and Miller Fisher syndrome

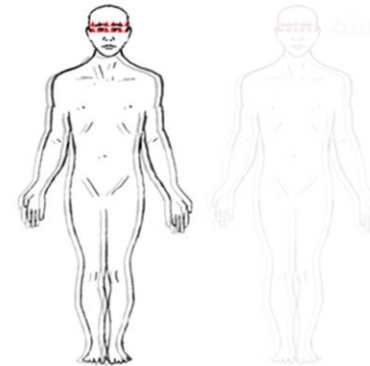
Classic GBS



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- $\pm$  Cranial neuropathy
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**Main differential:  
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Classic MFS

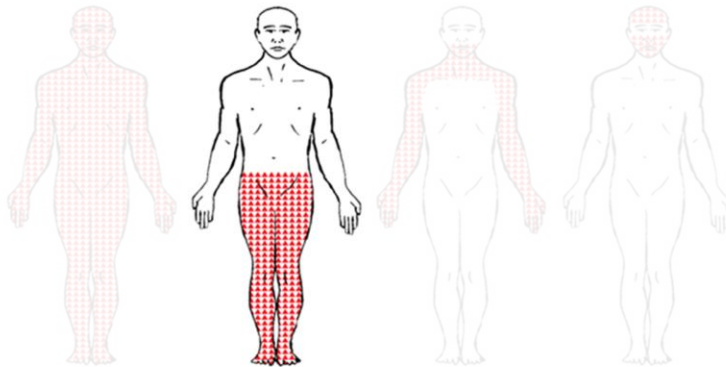


- Ophthalmoplegia
- Cerebellar-like ataxia

**Main differentials:  
Botulism, myasthenia gravis,  
brainstem stroke**

# Localized GBS subtypes

## Paraparetic GBS

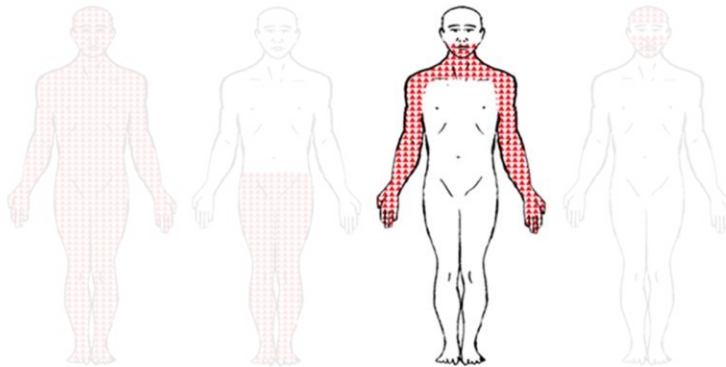


- Leg weakness

**Main differential:  
Acute spinal cord injury**

# Localized GBS subtypes

Pharyngeal-cervical-brachial  
weakness

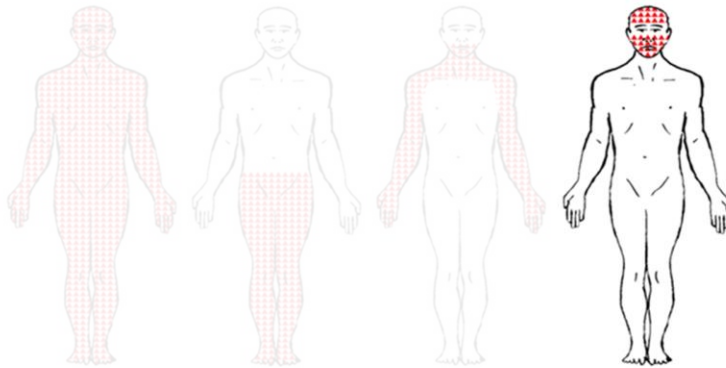


- Bulbar, neck, arm weakness

**Main differentials:  
Botulism, myasthenia gravis,  
brainstem stroke**

# Localized GBS subtypes

Bifacial weakness with  
paraesthesias



- Bifacial weakness

**Main differentials:  
Lyme disease, sarcoidosis**



# Bifacial weakness with paraesthesias

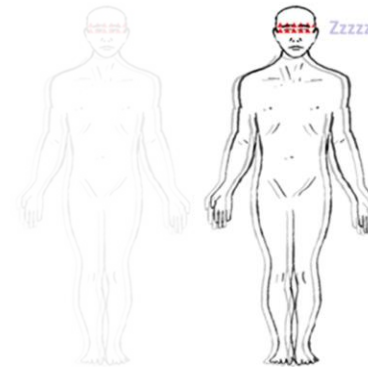


# Bifacial weakness with paraesthesias



# Miller Fisher syndrome and subtypes

Bickerstaff's brainstem  
encephalitis



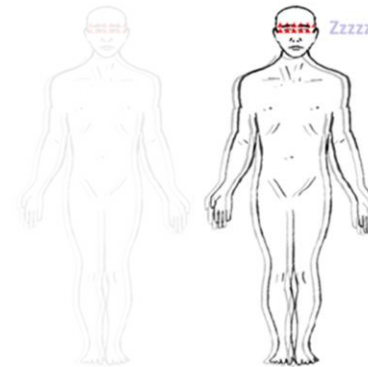
- Ophthalmoplegia
- Cerebellar-like ataxia
- Hypersomnolence

**Main differentials:  
Brainstem stroke / infection  
/ inflammation**

# Miller Fisher syndrome and subtypes

Acute ataxic neuropathy  
Acute ophthalmoparesis  
Acute ptosis  
Acute mydriasis

Bickerstaff's brainstem  
encephalitis



- Ophthalmoplegia
- Cerebellar-like ataxia
- Hypersomnolence

**Main differentials:**  
**Brainstem stroke / infection**  
**/ inflammation**

# Classification of 103 GBS patients

|   | %         |
|---|-----------|
| <b>*Classic Guillain-Barré syndrome</b>       | <b>71</b> |
| <b>*Pharyngeal-cervical-brachial weakness</b> | <b>2</b>  |
| -Acute pharyngeal weakness                    | -         |
| <b>*Paraparetic GBS</b>                       | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>*Bifacial weakness with paraesthesias</b>  | <b>1</b>  |
| <br>  |           |
| <b>*Classic Miller Fisher syndrome</b>        | <b>17</b> |
| <b>*Acute ataxic neuropathy</b>               | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>*Acute ophthalmoparesis</b>                | <b>1</b>  |
| -Acute ptosis                                 | -         |
| -Acute mydriasis                              | -         |
| <b>*Bickerstaff's brainstem encephalitis</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| -Acute ataxic hypersomnolence                 | -         |
| <br>  |           |
| <b>*GBS + MFS overlap</b>                     | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>*PCB + MFS overlap</b>                     | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>*GBS + BBE overlap</b>                     | <b>1</b>  |

# Making a diagnosis of GBS

## History

- Antecedent infectious symptoms?
- Distal paraesthesias?
- Progression to nadir 12 h – 28 days

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## Examination

- Symmetrical weakness / ataxia
- Hyporeflexia (90%)



# Making a diagnosis of GBS

## History

- Antecedent infectious symptoms?
- Distal paraesthesias?
- Progression to nadir 12 h – 28 days

## Examination

- Symmetrical weakness / ataxia
- Hyporeflexia (90%)

## Investigations

- MRI brain / spinal cord
- CSF albuminocytological dissociation
- Nerve conduction studies
- Anti-ganglioside antibodies (GQ1b, GT1a, GD1a, GM1)

# Early management

## Housekeeping

- Pressure mattress / LMWH/ SALT
- Forced vital capacity +/- ventilator support
- ECG / telemetry

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## Housekeeping

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## Immunotherapy

- IVIg (0.4g / kg) for 5 days
- Plasma exchange

### **Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg)**

- Check Immunoglobulins
- Risk of venous / arterial thrombosis
- £££

# Early management

## Housekeeping

- Pressure mattress / LMWH/ SALT
- Forced vital capacity +/- ventilator support
- ECG / telemetry

## Immunotherapy

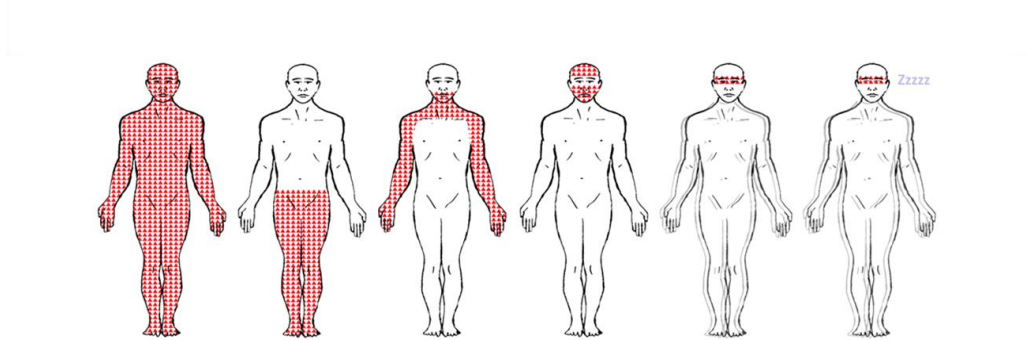
- IVIg (0.4g / kg) for 5 days
- Plasma exchange

## Symptomatic

- Analgesia (e.g. Gabapentin)

# Summary

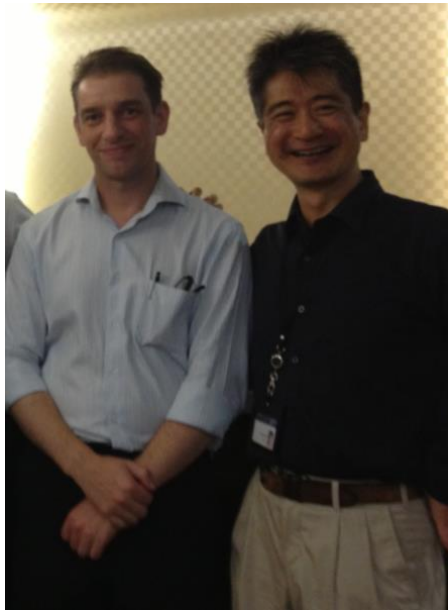
- GBS represents a continuous spectrum of discrete and overlapping syndromes



- Diagnosis can be made on basis of history and examination alone

# Acknowledgement

Nobuhiro Yuki  
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Other members of the GBS-classification group: Badrul Islam, **Bangladesh**; Peter van den Bergh, **Belgium**; Amilton Antunes Barreira, Osvaldo Nascimento, **Brazil**; Steven Baker, **Canada**; Li Yang, **China**; Alain Créange, Jean-Pascal Lefaucheur and Attaria Shahram, **France**; Meena Kannan, **India**; Nobuo Kohara and Norito Kokubun, **Japan**; Nortina Shahrizaila, **Malaysia**; Yee-Cheun Chan, Umapathi Thirugnanam and Einar Wilder-Smith, **Singapore**; Sung-Tsang Hsieh, **Taiwan**; Jong Seok Bae, **South Korea**; Rawiphan Witoonpanich; **Thailand**.