

A Specialized Case-Based Review in Newborn Screening of Inborn Errors of Metabolism – An Approach to Diagnosis and Management

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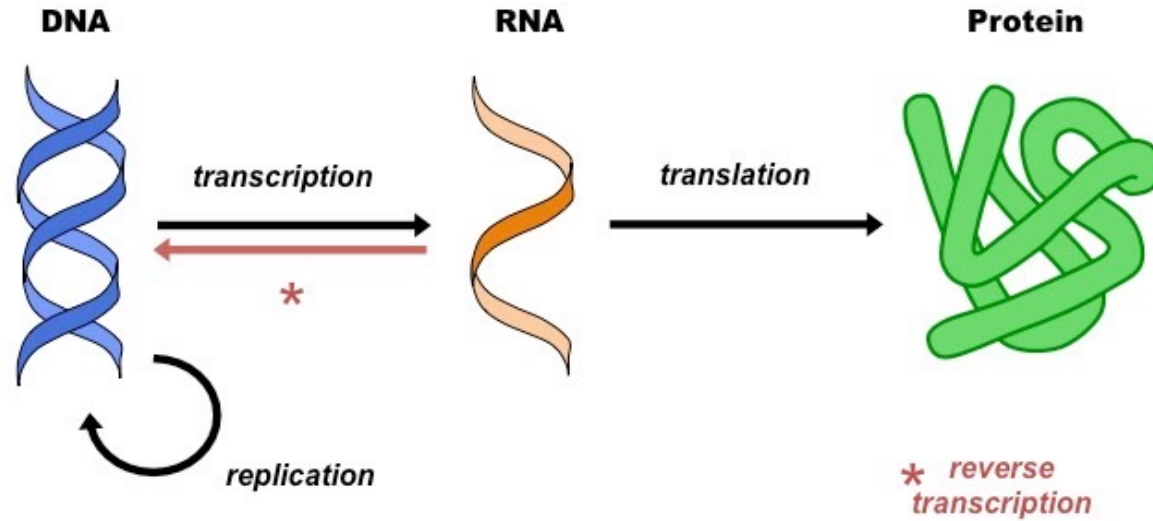
Objectives

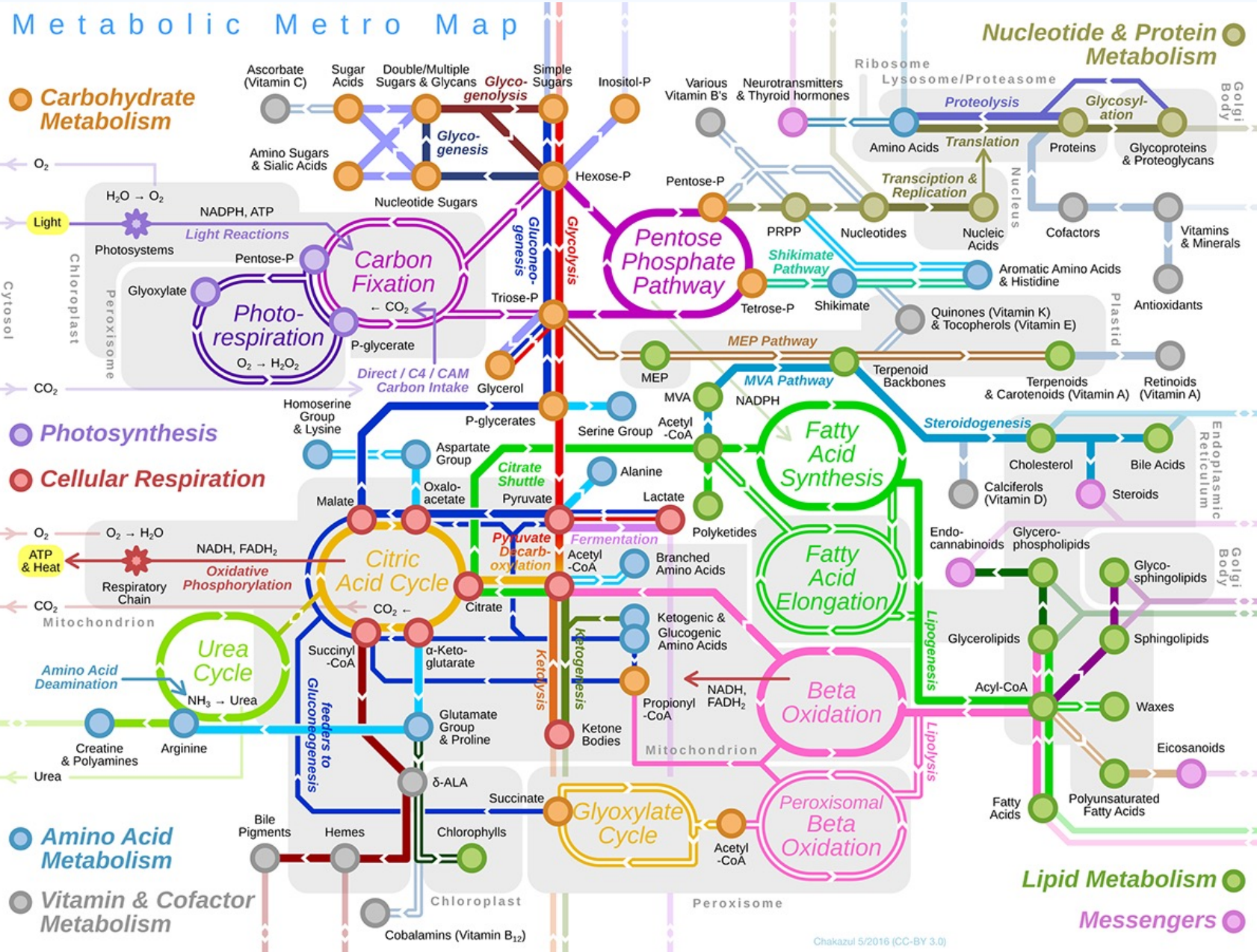
- Analyze the different categories of metabolic disease and describe classical clinical findings for each group.
- Review the approach to metabolic disease evaluation.
- Evaluate newborn screen results for emergent metabolic evaluations.

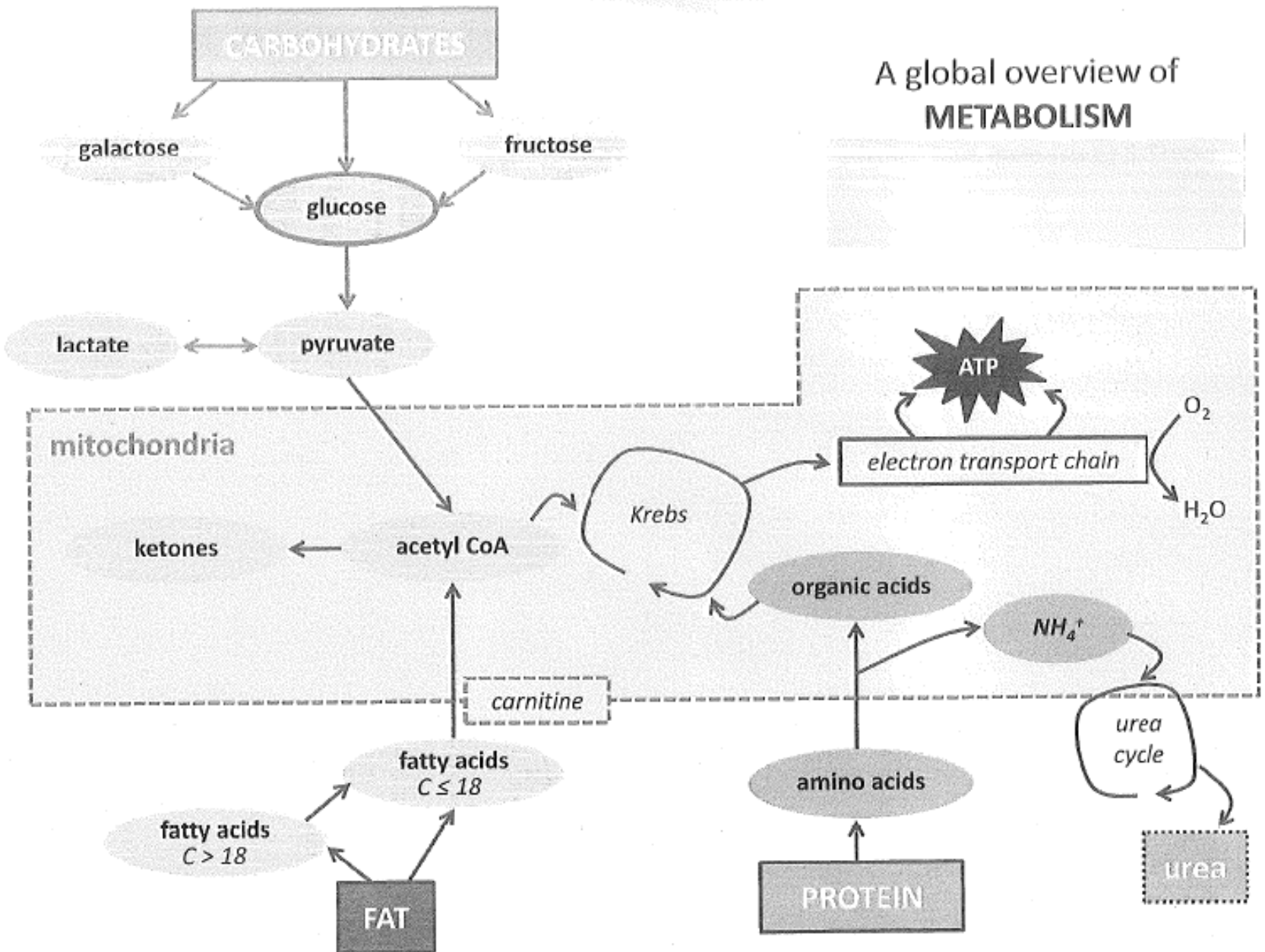
Intro to Metabolism



Central Dogma







When to suspect an IEM

- Abnormal newborn screening result
- Difficulty feeding, FTT
- Developmental delay, regression
- FHx: SIDS, early and/or sudden death, consanguinity
- Multiple organ systems involved: seizures, hyper/hypotonia, recurrent URI, valvular disease

Case Based Presentations



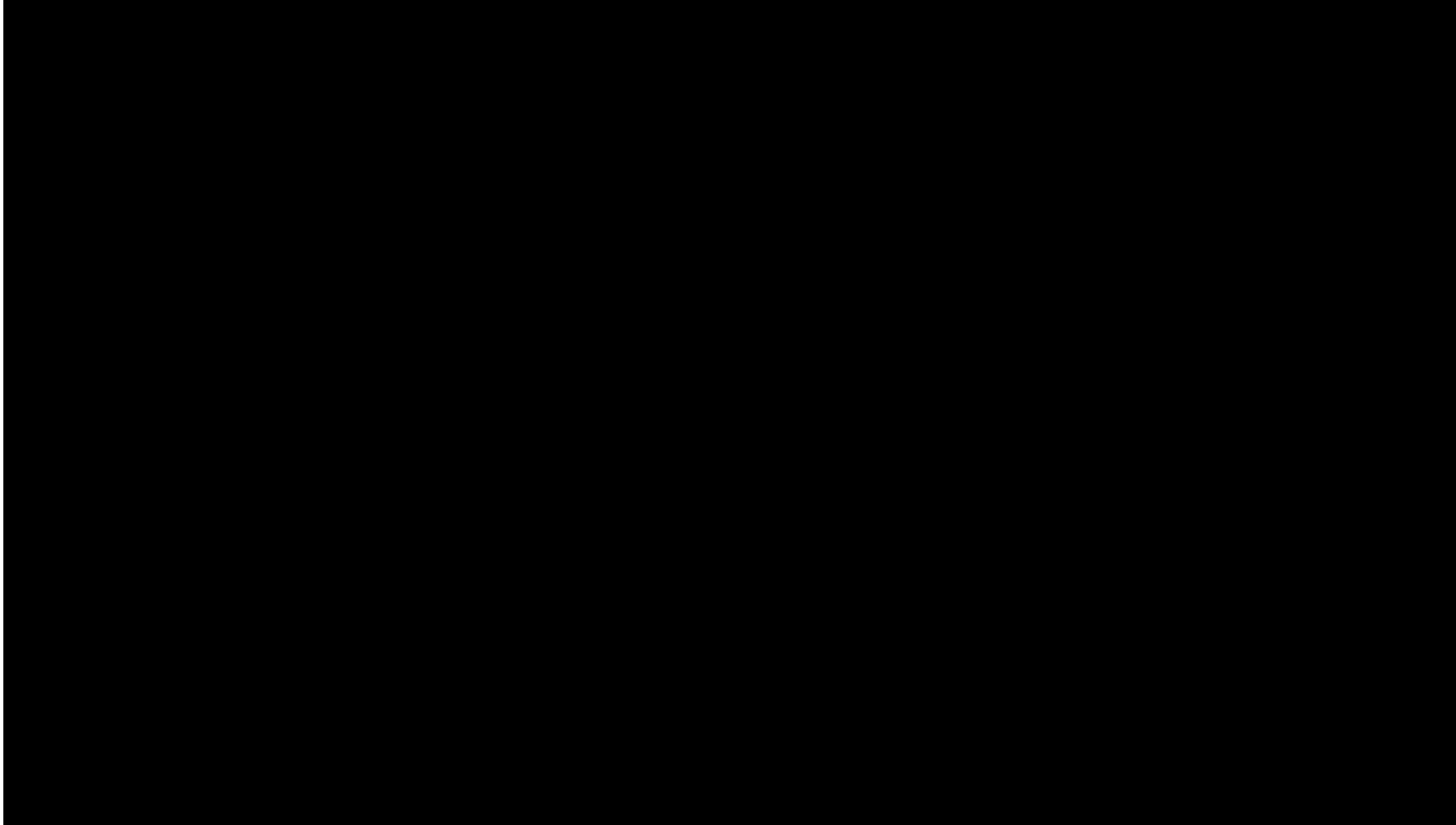
Case #1



Case #1 Presentation

- Newborn term breast-fed female
 - Birth at 39 6/7; G1P0>1
 - Uneventful prenatal care
 - Poor feeding, progressive lethargy
 - PCP called to say concern on “PKU” test and head to ED immediately
-
- Tonic spasms
 - Abnormal movements
 - Abnormal sweet smell to baby per mother

Case Presentation – Physical Exam



Case Presentation

What labs do you want to obtain?

Lab Evaluation

- Glucose
 - 50 mg/dL
- Electrolytes
 - Na 130
 - K 4.8
 - Bicarb 13
- CBC:
 - Normal
- Lactate
 - 4.3 mol/L
- Venous Blood Gas
 - pH 7.2
- Ammonia
 - 88 $\mu\text{mol/L}$
- LFTs
 - AST 50 U/L
 - ALT 45 U/L
- Urinalysis
 - Large ketones

Organic Acidemias



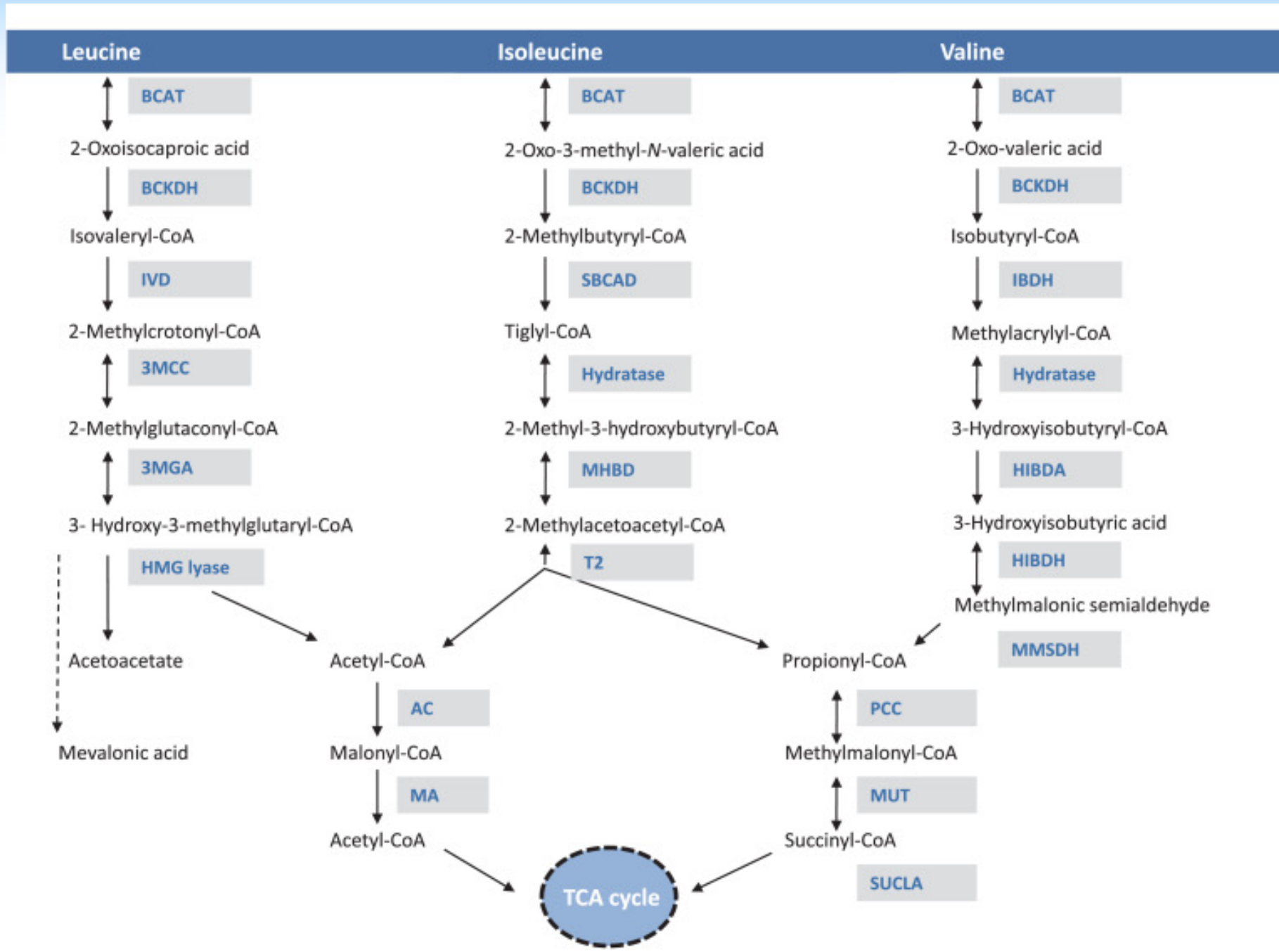
Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)



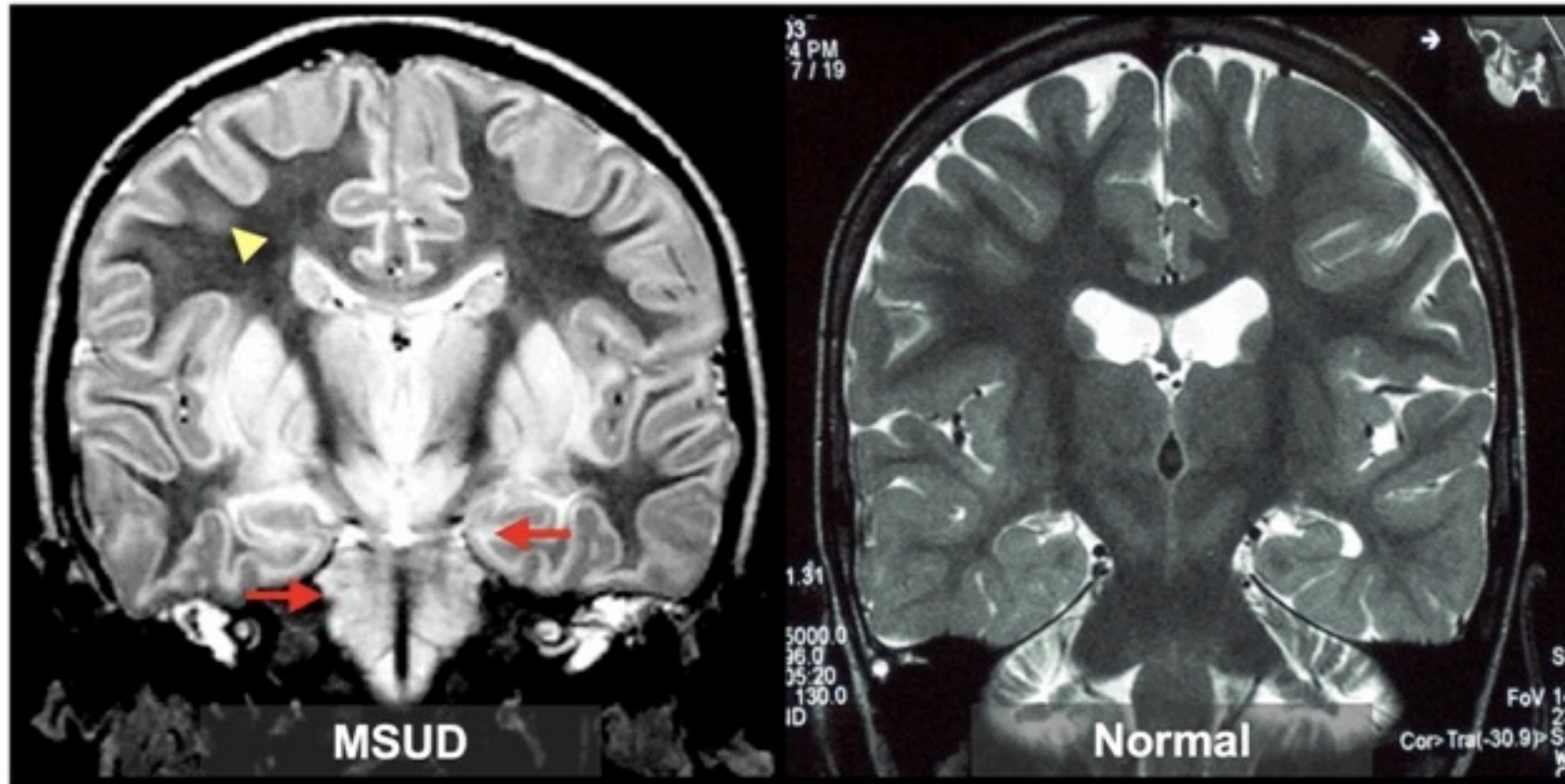
Maple Syrup Urine Disease

- Branched chain ketoacid dehydrogenase deficiency
- Autosomal recessive inheritance
- Incidence = 1/185,000 births
- 4 subunits – E1 α , E1 β , E2, and E3

- Severe neonatal form (<1% residual activity)
 - Few abnormalities on routine lab tests
 - Maple syrup odor
- Acute intermittent form (with residual activity)
- Thiamine Responsive



Pathogenesis



Treatment


Acute

- Eliminate dietary protein intake
- Supplement valine and isoleucine
- Provide adequate non-protein energy
- Avoid hypotonic fluids
- Treat cerebral edema
 - As soon as symptoms develop
- Dialysis

Chronic

- Natural protein-restricted diet
- Supplement BCFAA medical foods
- Leucine intake in severe neonatal forms:
 - About 400–600 mg/day during childhood
 - After adolescence, 600–800 mg/day
- Supplement valine and isoleucine
- Thiamin supplementation
- Liver transplantation

Neurocognitive Outcomes and Quality of Life in Adults With Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)

 The safety and scientific validity of this study is the responsibility of the study sponsor and investigators. Listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by the U.S. Federal Government. [Know the risks and potential benefits](#) of clinical studies and talk to your health care provider before participating. Read our [disclaimer](#) for details.

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT04828863

[Recruitment Status](#) ⓘ : Recruiting

[First Posted](#) ⓘ : April 2, 2021

[Last Update Posted](#) ⓘ : October 5, 2022

See [Contacts and Locations](#)

[View this study on Beta.ClinicalTrials.gov](#)

Sponsor:

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Information provided by (Responsible Party):

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Newborn Screening





States

Illinois

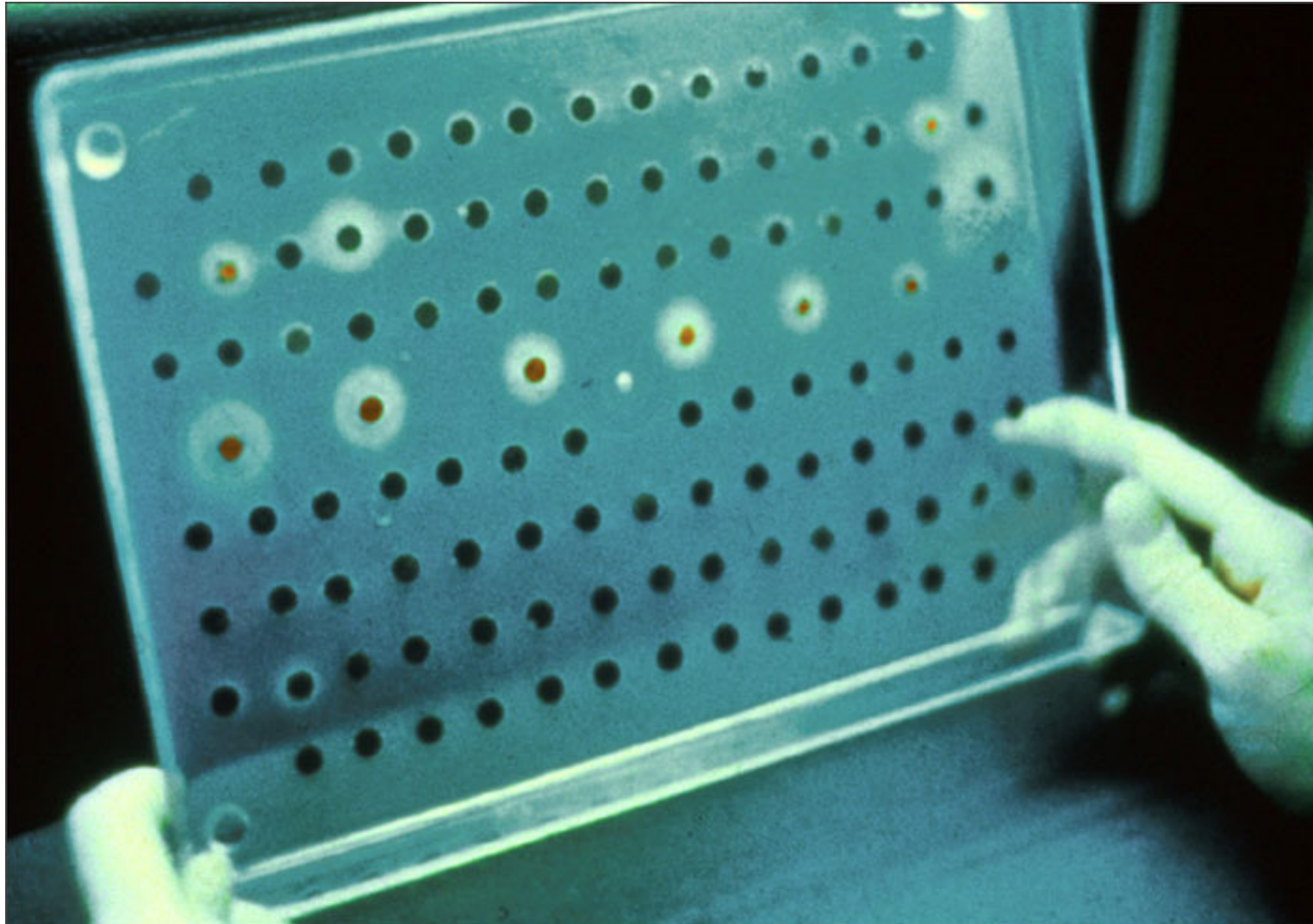
CONDITIONS SCREENED

Illinois currently screens for **65** conditions

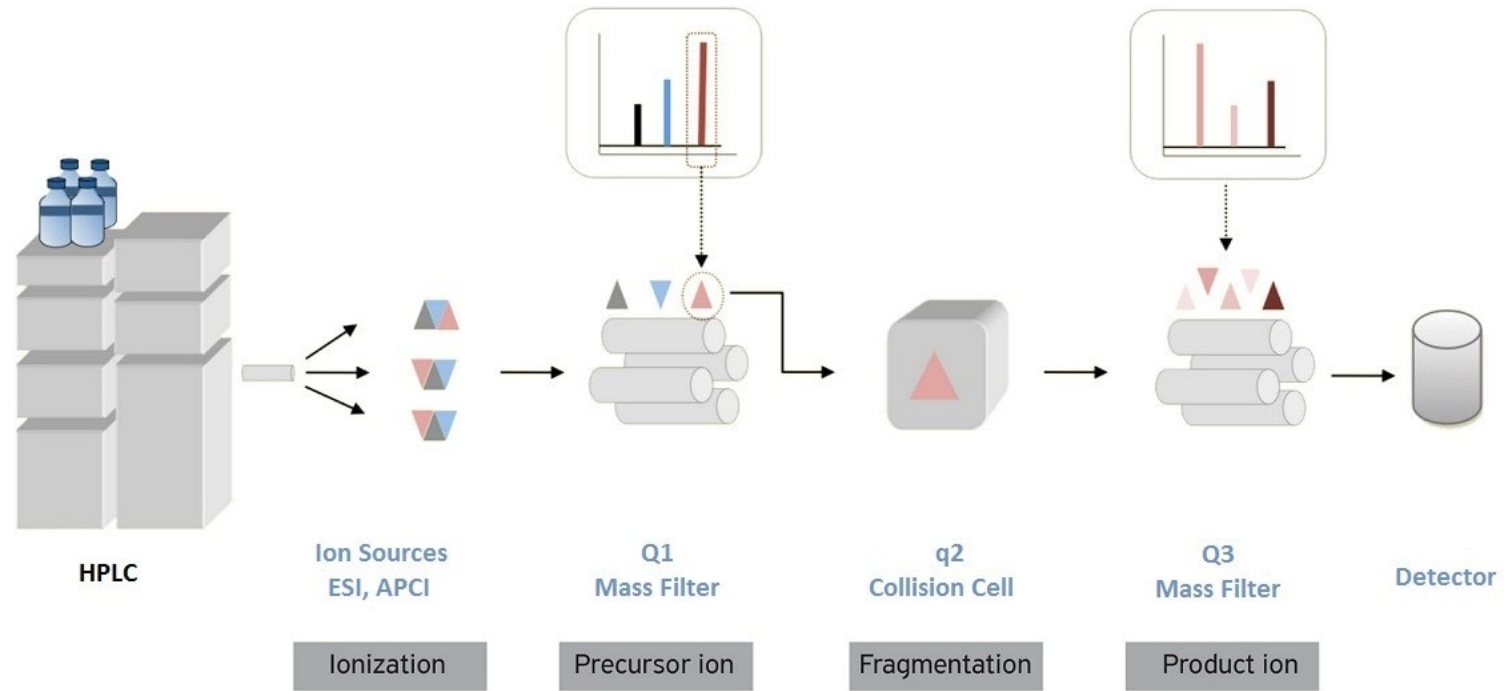
THE ILLINOIS PROGRAM

Each state runs its program differently, for more detailed information please visit their website [here](#).

Guthrie Bacterial Inhibition Assay



Tandem Mass Spectrometry



Case #2



Case #2 Presentation

- Newborn Male Infant
- Delivered via SVD at 41 weeks to a 30 yo G3P1>2 Mother
- Apgars 8&9; No significant prenatal history
- DOL2 – Breast feeding with bottle supplementation; mother reports some spit ups and vomiting more than her previous pregnancy
- DOL3 – Infant appeared to have a seizure like episode, Transferred to OSH NICU. Admission notes state patient had low body temp and tachypnea. Septic work up initiated. NPO.
- DOL4 - Patient progressively more lethargic. Transferred to your NICU.

Physical Exam



Case Presentation

What labs do you want to obtain?

Lab Evaluation

- Glucose
 - 80 mg/dL
- Electrolytes
 - Na 143
 - K 4.8
 - Cl 110
 - Bicarb 18
 - BUN 2
- CBC:
 - WBC 12,000
 - Plts 125,000
- Venous Blood Gas
 - pH 7.54
- Lactate
 - 3 mol/L
- Ammonia
 - 1260 μ mol/L
- LFTs
 - AST 50 U/L
 - ALT 80 U/L
- Urinalysis
 - No ketones

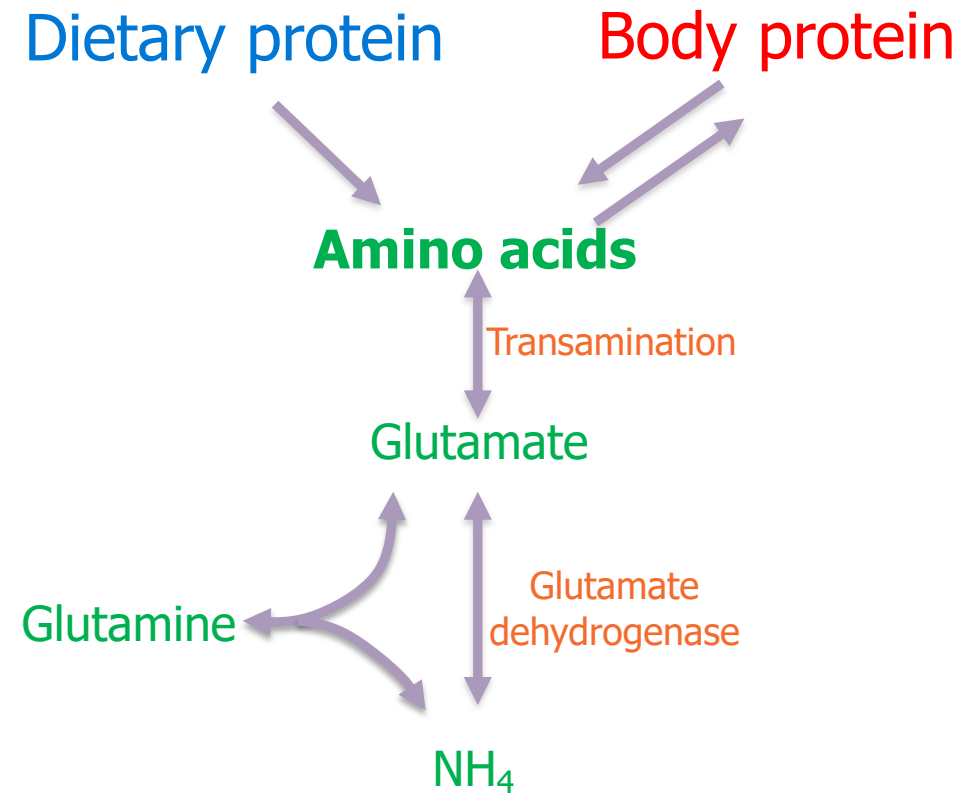
Case #2

- Head CT - Cerebral edema present; No bleeding seen
- Citrulline 5 μmol (RR 10-20)
- Glutamine 1200 μmol (RR 300-700)
- Arginine 4 μmol (RR 10-130)
- Arginosuccinate – Not Detected
- What other test should be sent?

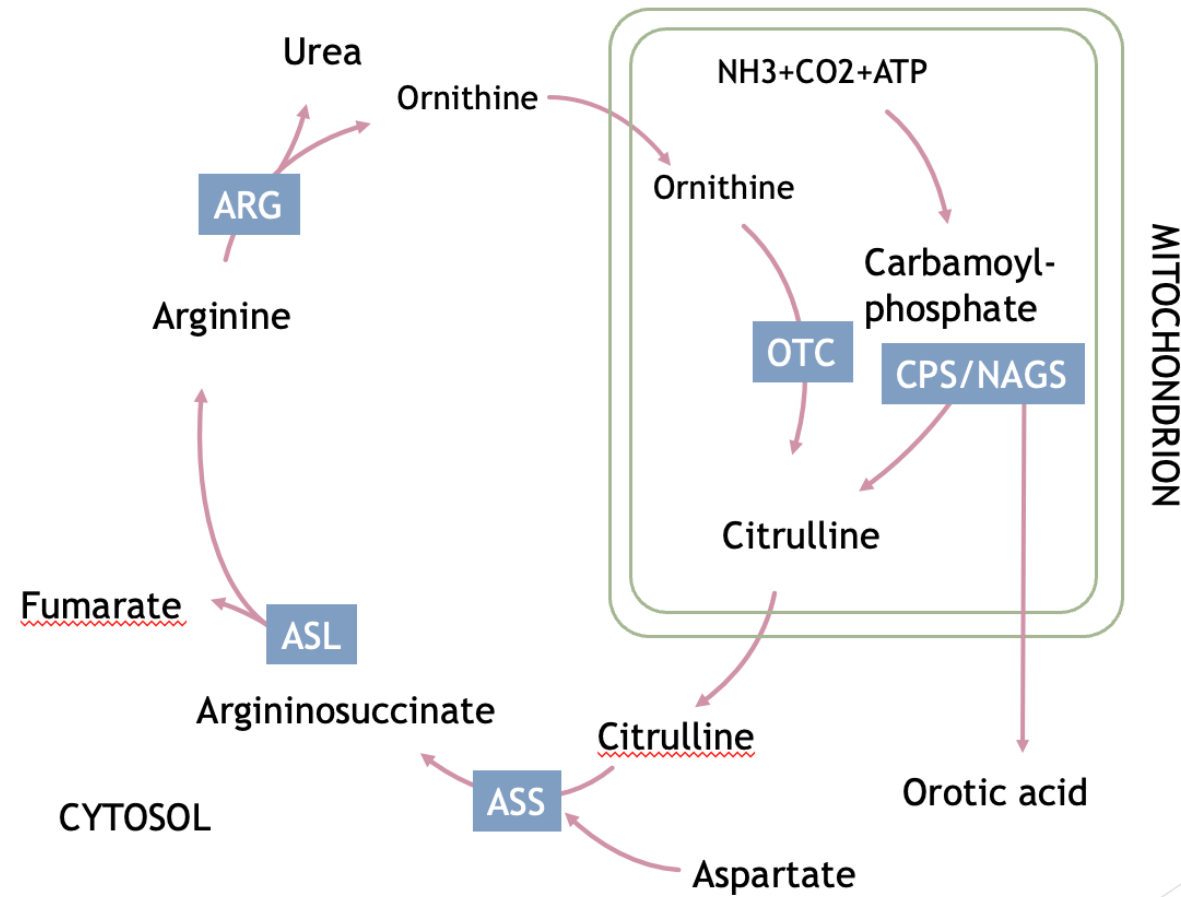
Urea Cycle Disorders



Amino Acid Balance



Urea Cycle

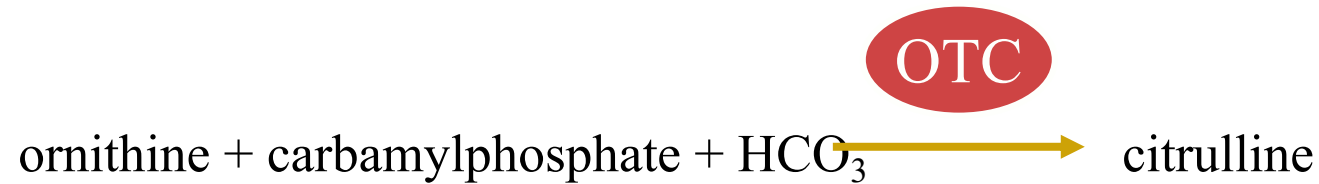


Signs and Symptoms of Hyperammonemia

- Headache
- Personality and Behavioral changes
- Sleep disorders
- Anorexia
- Vomiting
- Confusion
- Psychomotor agitation
- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Slurred speech

Ornithine Transcarbamylase Deficiency

Enzyme defect: Ornithine Transcarbamylase (OTC)



Gene: *OTC* on chromosome Xp21.1

Frequency: 1/14,000

Inheritance: X-linked

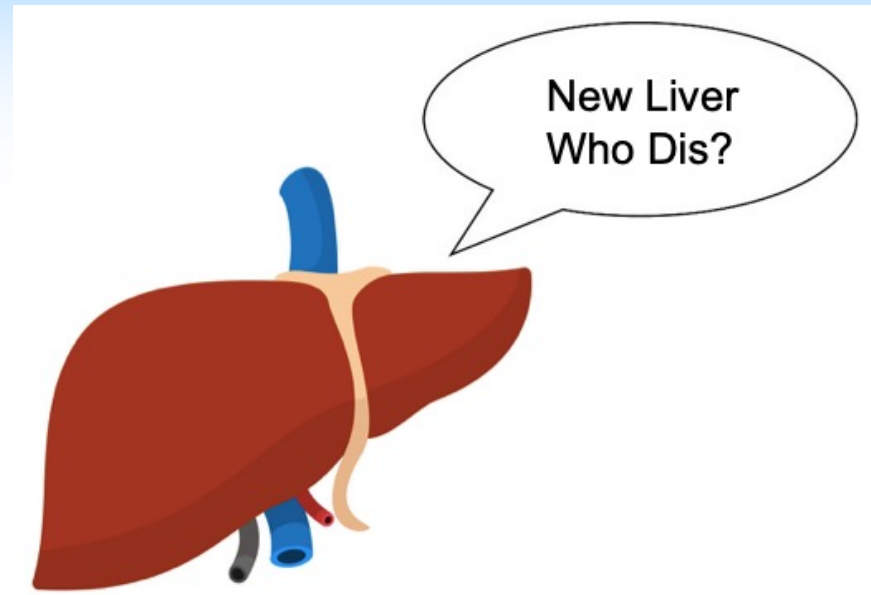
Urea Cycle Disorders

Acute Symptoms

- Seizures, Coma, Brain Edema, Death

Long Term Symptoms

- Cognitive Impairment/Intellectual Disability, Spastic Quadriplegia, Ataxia



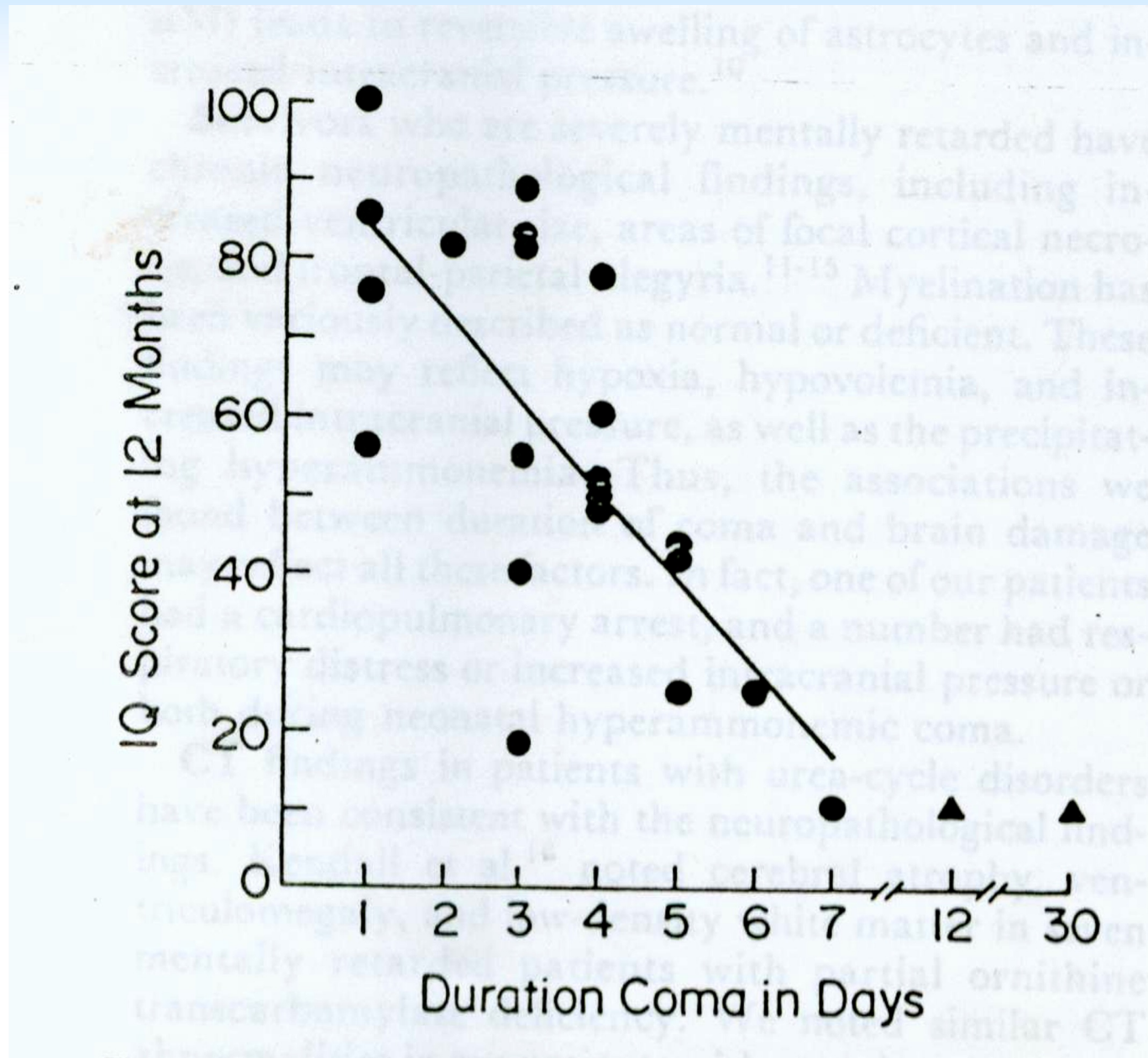
Treatment

Crisis

- No protein
- Dextrose Containing IVF + IL
- Sodium phenylacetate/Sodium benzoate + IV Arginine
- Dialysis

Long Term

- Protein Restricted Diet
- Ammonia Scavengers
- Liver Transplant
- Gene Therapy



Outcome Data in Early Series: Msall, et al, NEJM, 1984

Case #3



Case #3

- Neonate readmitted on DOL 3 of life with respiratory distress
- Birth Weight 2.2 kg → Now 2.14 kg
- Exclusively breast feeding – now feeding poorly
- Fam Hx: Noncontributory
- PE:
 - Hypotonic
 - Increased respiratory rate – nasal flaring; retractions
 - Increased cap refill
 - Non-dysmorphic in appearance

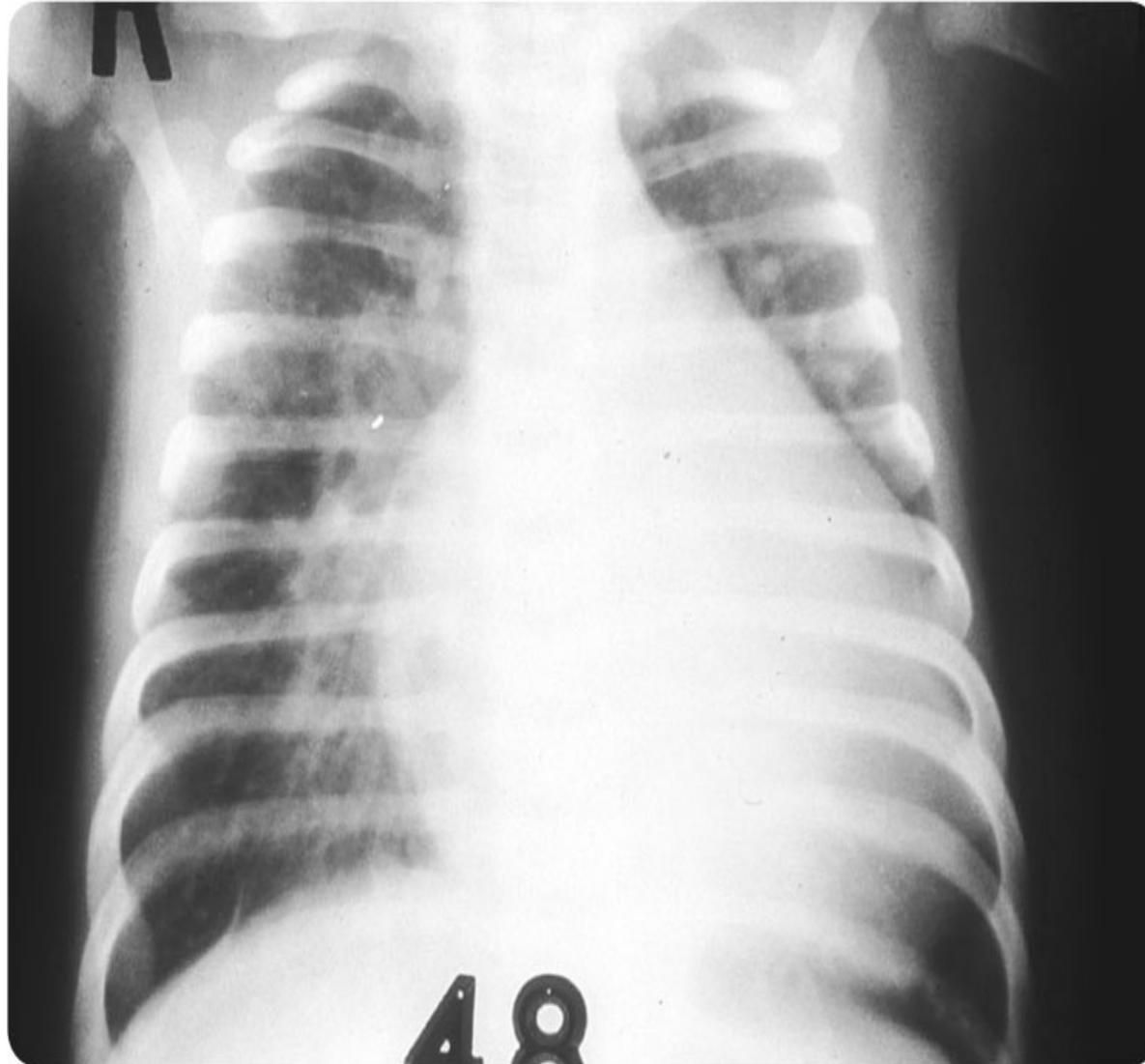
Case #3

What labs should we want to obtain?

Case #3 - Initial lab evaluation

- Glucose
 - 25 mg/dL (1.4 mmol/L)
- Venous Blood Gas
 - pH 7.2, bicarb 17, base excess -5, anion gap 12
- Lactate
 - 6.3 mol/L
- Ammonia
 - 120 $\mu\text{mol/L}$
- LFTs
 - AST 230 U/L (3.9 $\mu\text{kat/L}$)
 - ALT 200 (3.4 $\mu\text{kat/L}$)
- CPK
 - 500 U/L (8.5 $\mu\text{kat/L}$)
- Urinalysis, ketones
 - Trace ketones

Case #3 - Chest X-ray



Case #3 - Echo

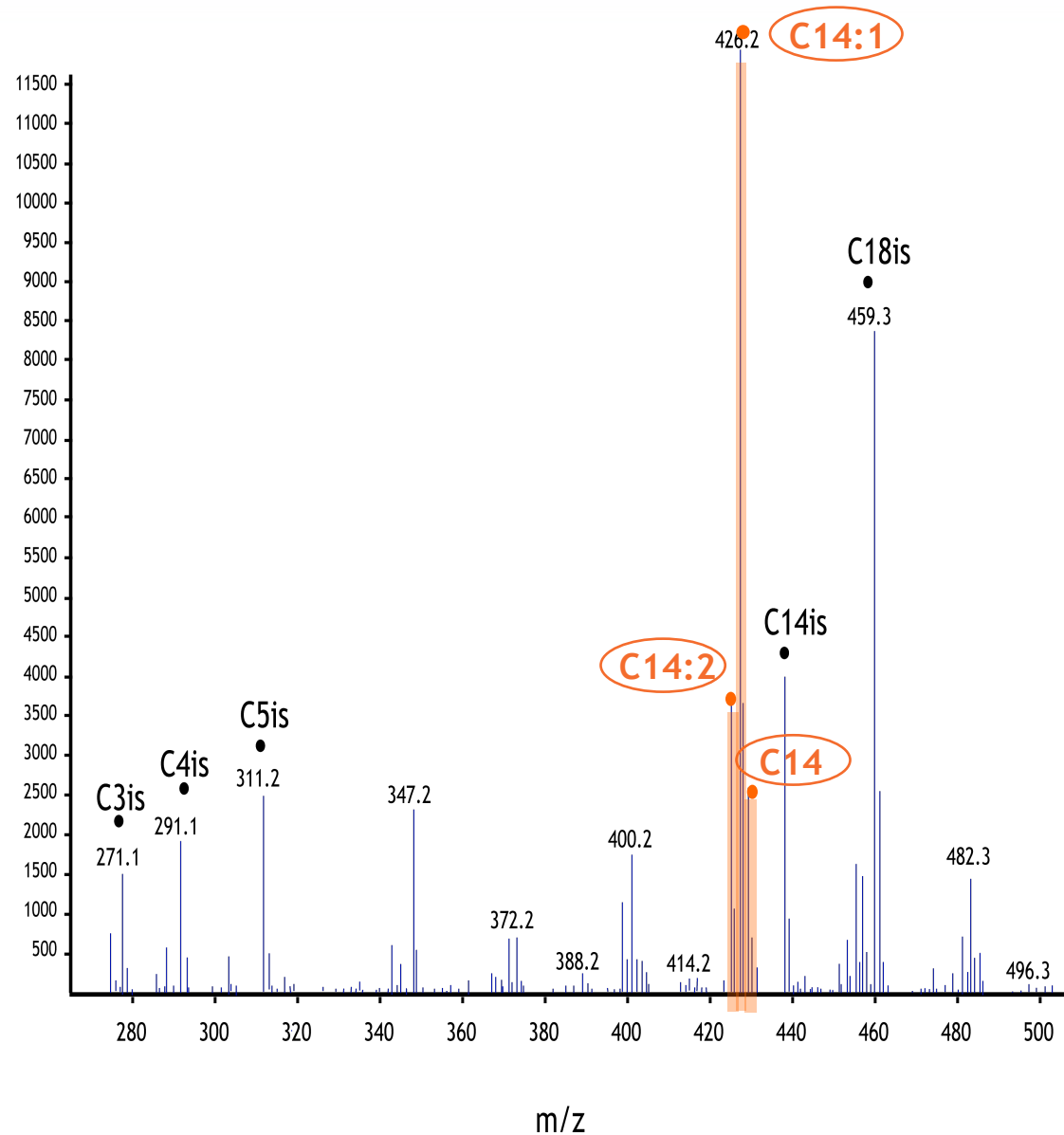
- Dilated cardiomyopathy identified on cardiac echo
- Ejection fraction 20%

Case #3 - Summary

- Neonate with dilated cardiomyopathy
- Hypoglycemia, mild hyperammonemia, and mild ketonuria
- Acidosis may be metabolic/secondary to cardiac failure

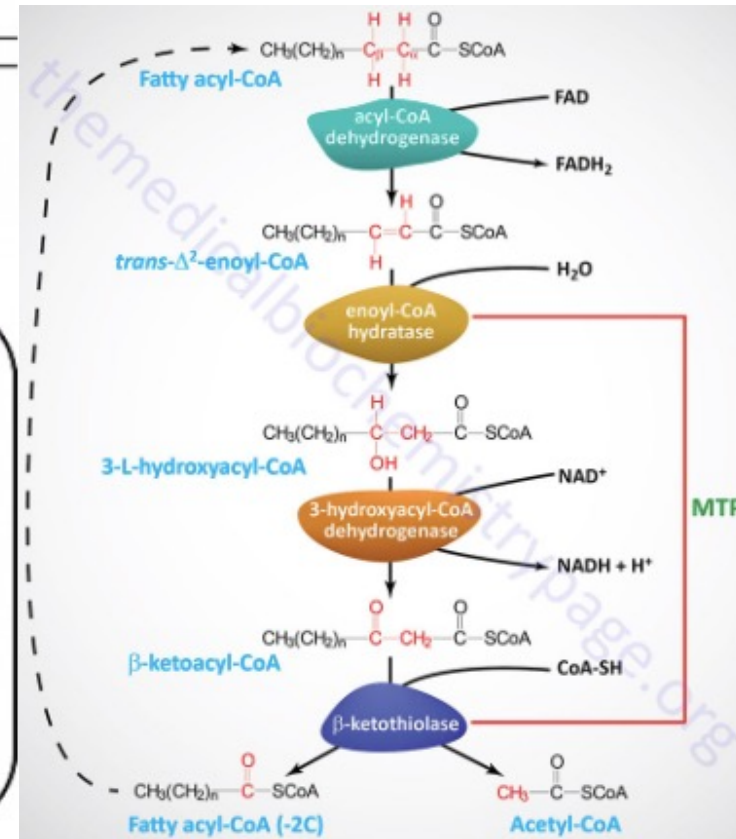
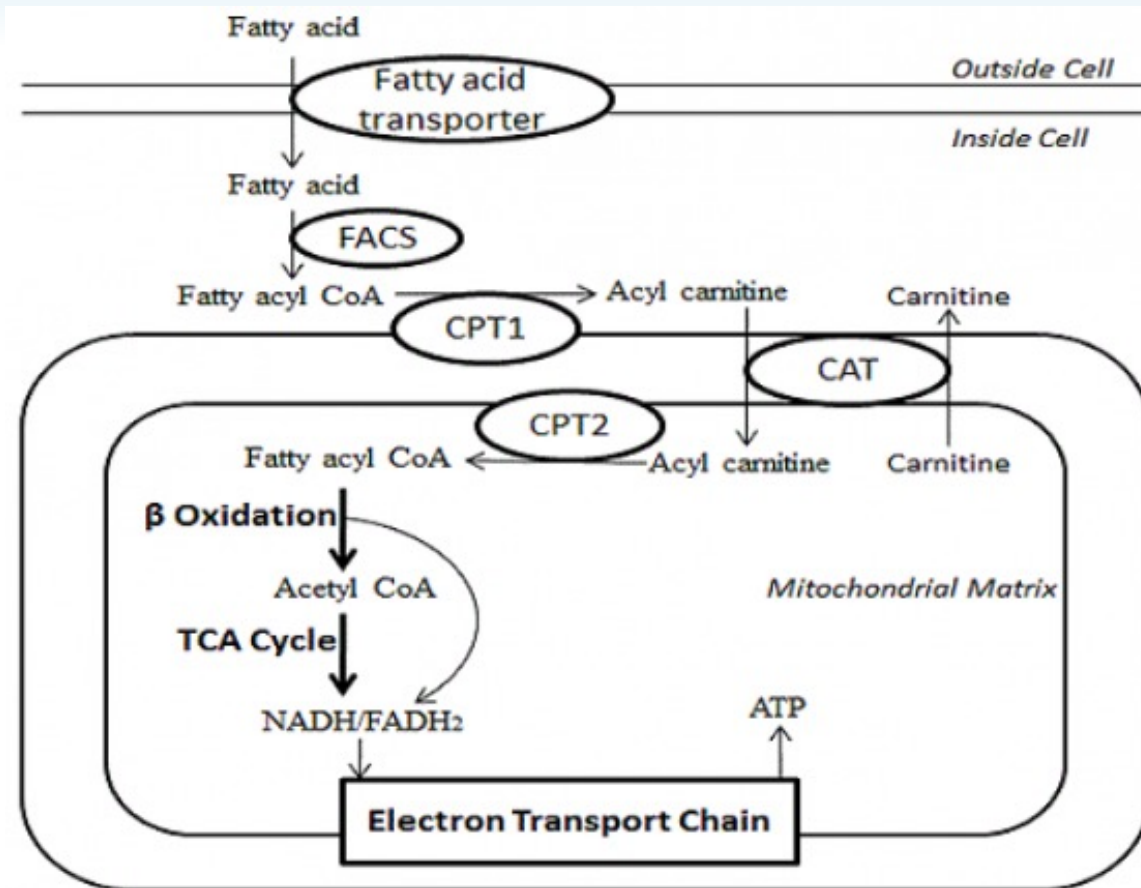
- What is the likely diagnosis?
- What do you want to do next?

Case #3 - Acylcarnitine profile



Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders





Natasha Fillmore, Osama Abo Alrob and Gary D. Lopaschuk. The authors are from Cardiovascular Research Centre, Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. DOI: 10.21748/lipidlibrary.39187 <https://themedicalbiochemistrypage.org/lipolysis-and-the-oxidation-of-fatty-acids/>

Very Long Chain Acyl-CoA Dehydrogenase (VLCAD) Deficiency

Frequency: 1:63,481 (USA) (Relatively common fatty acid oxidation defect)

Cause: pathogenic variants in *ACADVL* gene; AR

Diagnosis: plasma acylcarnitine profile (elevated C14:1, normalize rapidly after stress), DNA testing (part of initial tests)

Therapy: Avoidance of fasting, prompt treatment of infection, MCT oil in patients with persistently abnormal acylcarnitines, low-fat diet, Essential FA, carnitine (25 mg/kg) with low plasma levels (unproven), MCT oil/sugary drinks with exercise.

Monitoring: AST, ALT, CK, carnitine F & T, Acylcarnitines, Heart Monitoring

Treatment & Management

- **Diet:** Avoidance of fasting
 - Infants: frequent feedings, initially every 3-4 hours
 - Low fat diet is controversial
- **Carnitine:**
 - Oral supplementation, 50-100 mg/kg/day
 - Correction of secondary carnitine deficiency
 - Controversial, as efficacy has not been proven

Treatment & Management

- Any time the child is sick:
 - Contact metabolic physician
 - Evaluation: Prophylactic intravenous 10% glucose (WITH ELECTROLYTES) if child is unable to eat, vomiting or physiologically stressed
 - Threshold for aggressive treatment should be very low

Case #4



Case #4 – Presentation

- Neonate readmitted on DOL 3 of life with respiratory distress
- Birth Weight 2.2 kg → Now 2.14 kg
- Exclusively breast feeding – now feeding poorly
- Fam Hx: Noncontributory
- PE:
 - Hypotonic (Severe)
 - Increased respiratory rate – nasal flaring; retractions
 - Increased cap refill
 - Non-dysmorphic in appearance

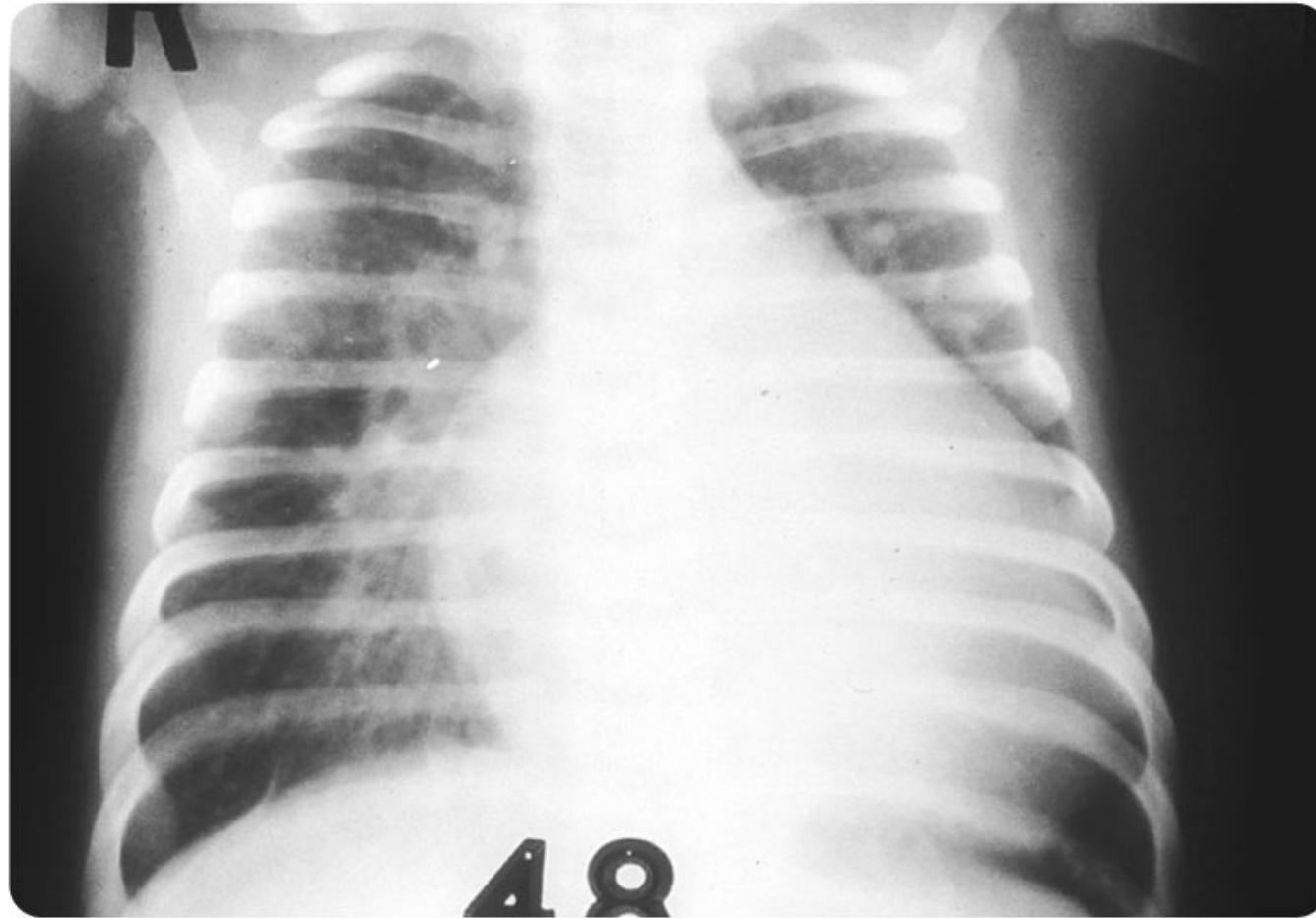
Case Presentation

What labs do you want to obtain?

Lab Evaluation

- Glucose
 - 70 mg/dL
- Electrolytes
 - Na 145
 - K 4.8
 - Bicarb 17
- CBC:
 - Normal
- Lactate
 - 6.3 mol/L
- Venous Blood Gas
 - pH 7.2
- Ammonia
 - 120 μ mol/L
- LFTs
 - AST 50 U/L
 - ALT 80 U/L
- Urinalysis
 - No ketones
- CK
 - 1200 U/L

Case #4 - Chest X-ray



© Museum of the Royal College of Radiologists, London

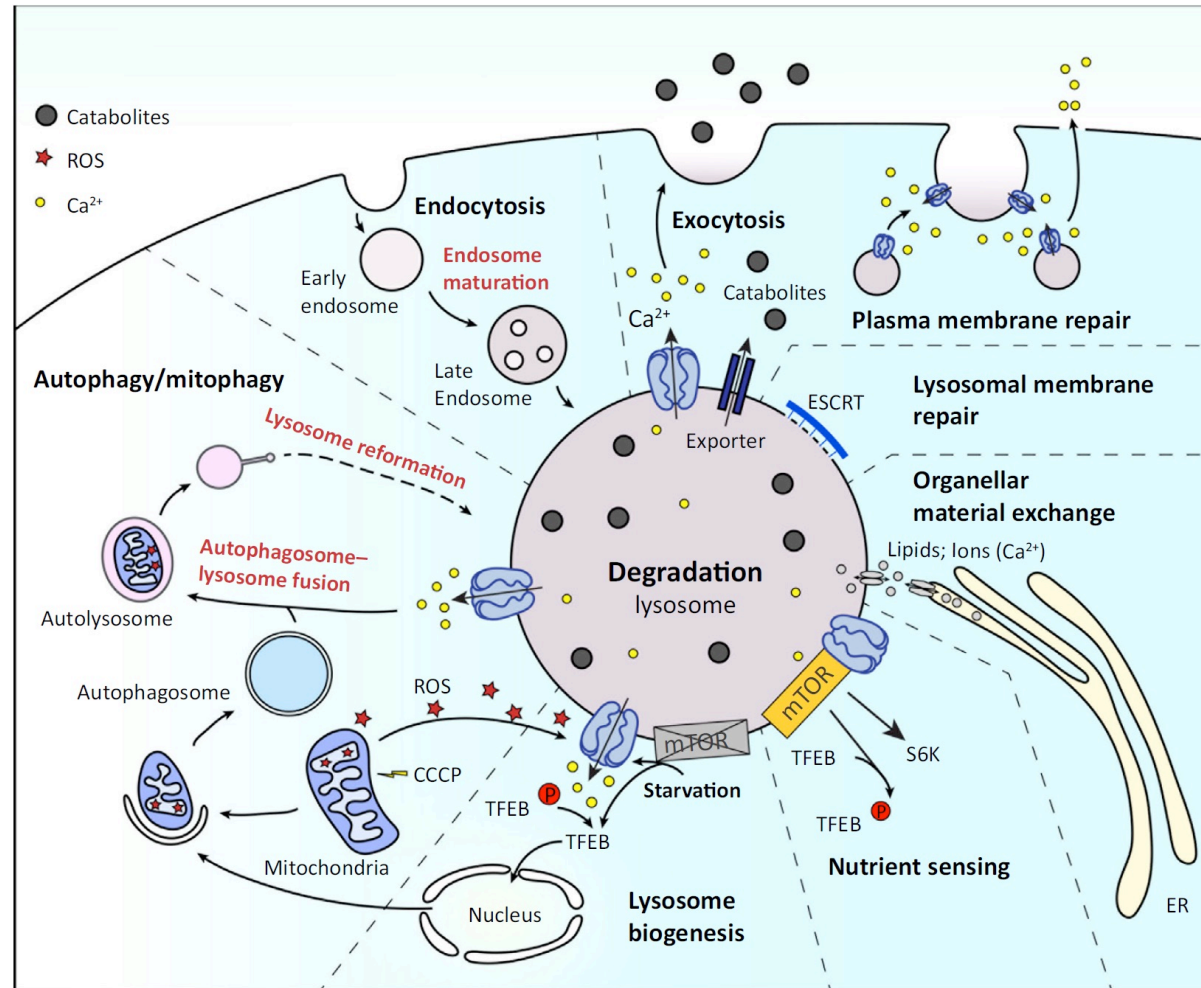
Case #4 - Echo

- Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy identified on cardiac echo
- Ejection fraction 20%

Lysosomal Storage Disorders

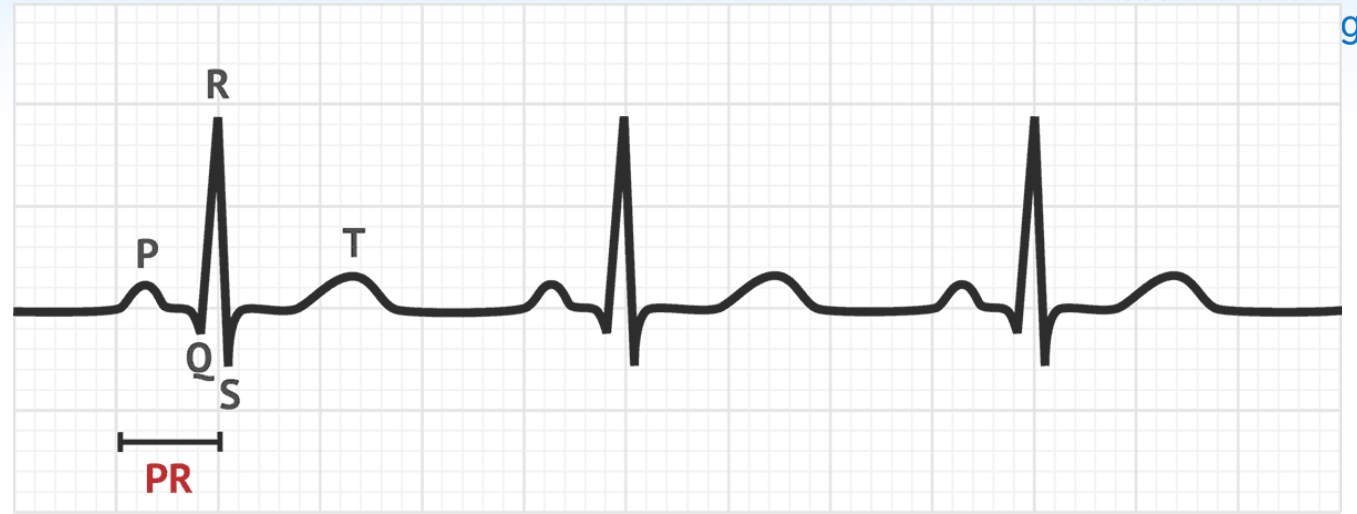
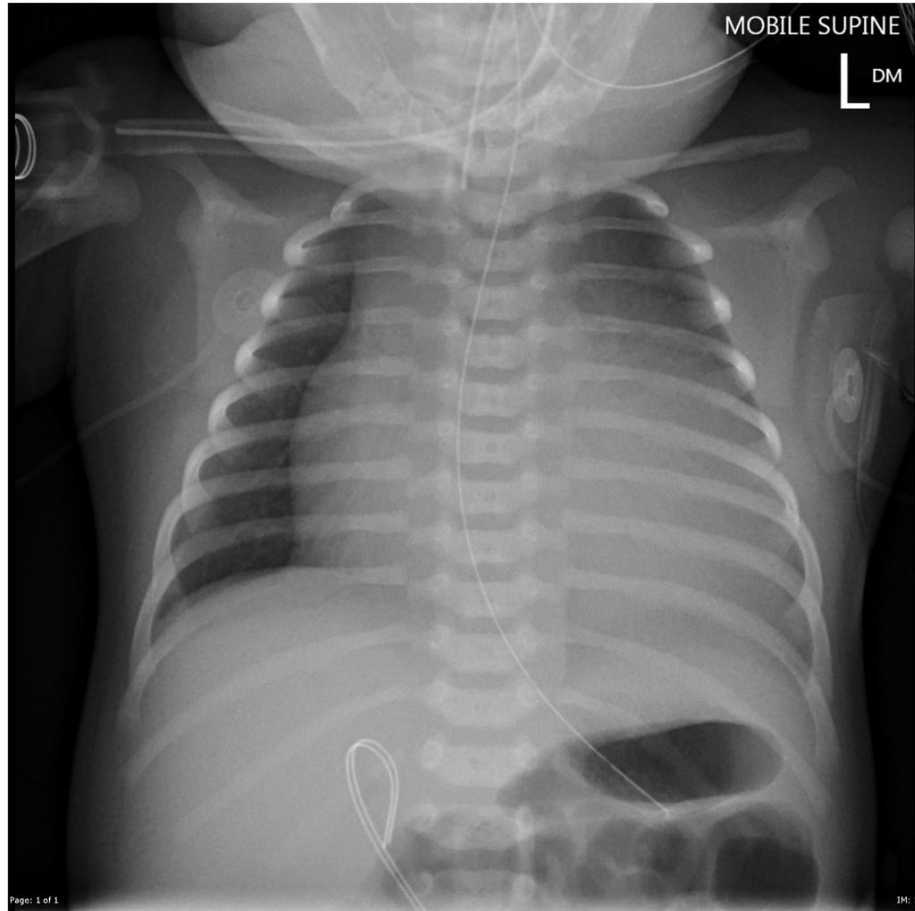


Lysosome: Function and Regulation



Pompe Disease





Hypotonia
(decreased
muscle tone)



Resources

New England Consortium for Metabolic disorders

newenglandconsortium.org

Star-G Newborn screening

newbornscreening.info/Parents/facts.html

OMIM

Gene Reviews

ACMG ACT Sheets & Algorithms

Questions?

jobaker@luriechildrens.org



Case - Extra



Case Presentation

- Newborn term breast-fed male
- Birth at 38 2/7; G3P1>2
- Uneventful prenatal care
- Feeding well; gaining weight
- NBS showed elevated "C5-DC"

- Pediatrician calling
 - How urgent is this?
 - Baby doing well, but does he need to go to ER? Clinic? Referral and wait for a call?

Diagnosis – Glutaric Acidemia

- NBS
 - C5-DC (96% sensitivity)
- Elevated concentration of 3-OH-GA in plasma or urine on biochemical testing
- Macrocephaly or MRI Findings
- Encephalopathic Crisis
- Whole Exome Sequencing

- Headaches, vertigo, dementia, and ataxia



Newborn Screening ACT Sheet [Elevated C5-DC Acylcarnitine] Glutaryl-CoA Dehydrogenase Deficiency

Differential Diagnosis: Glutaric aciduria (GA-1)

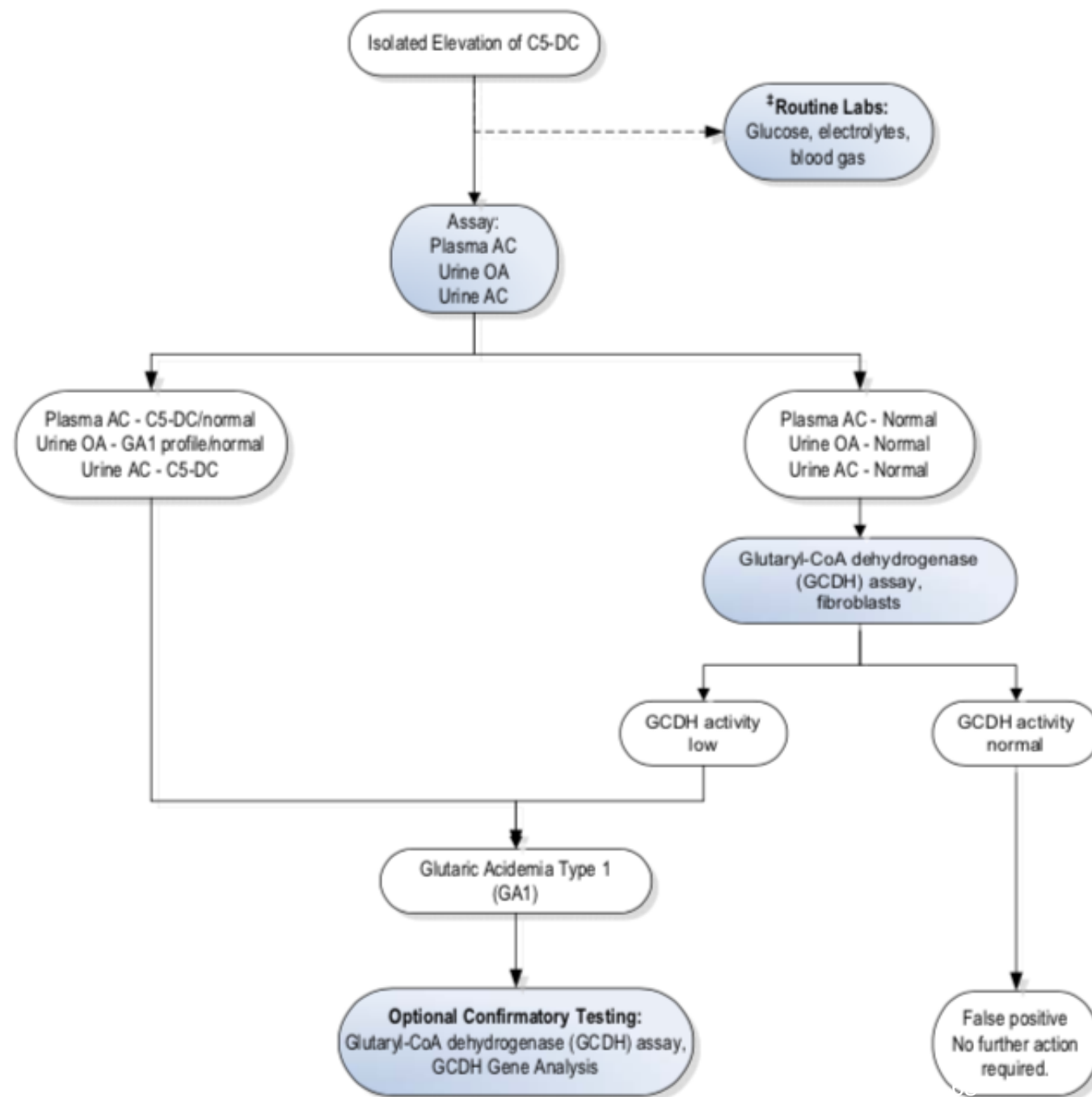
Condition Description: GA-1 is caused by a defect of glutaryl-CoA dehydrogenase which limits the metabolism of glutaryl-CoA to crotonyl-CoA, resulting in increased glutaric acid or its metabolites that are toxic.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

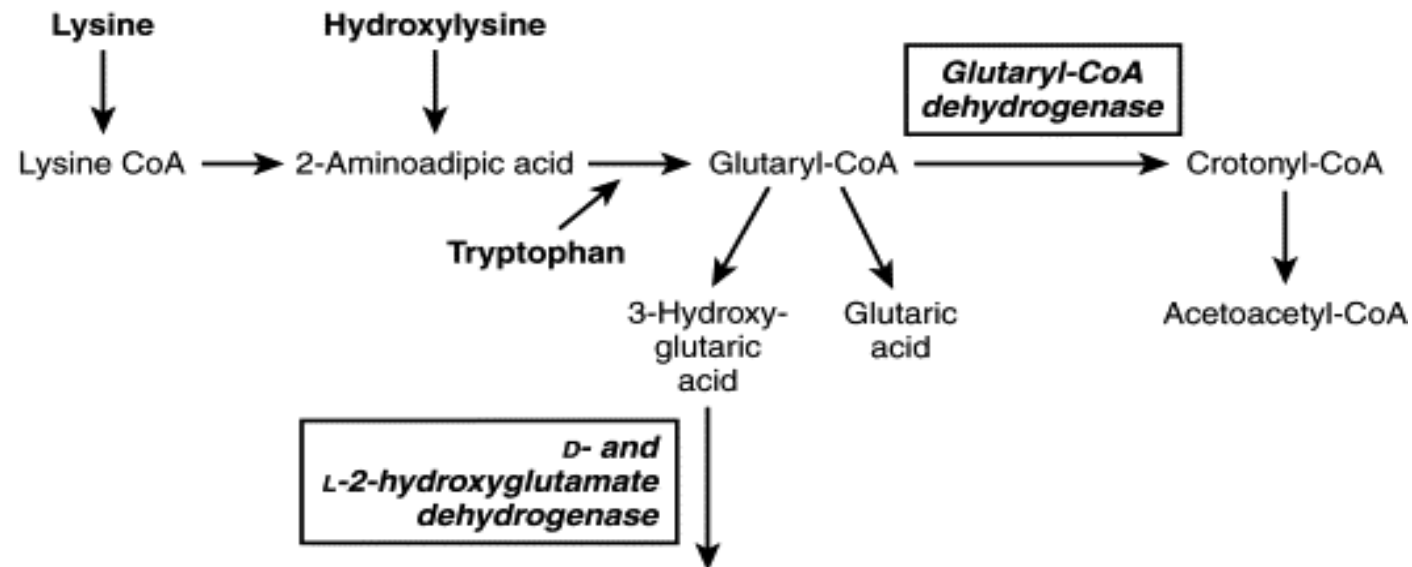
- Contact family **IMMEDIATELY** to inform them of the newborn screening result.
- Consult with pediatric metabolic specialist.
- Evaluate the newborn for macrocephaly and muscle hypotonia, initiate confirmatory/diagnostic testing as recommended by metabolic specialist.
- Refer to metabolic specialist to be seen as soon as possible but not later than three weeks.
- Educate family about diagnostic possibilities, complexity of diagnostic work-up and the possibility of neurodegenerative crisis with an intercurrent infectious illness.
- **IMMEDIATE** treatment with IV glucose is needed for intercurrent infectious illness.
- Report findings to newborn screening program.

Diagnostic Evaluation: Urine organic acid analysis should be ordered promptly, and will be diagnostic if it shows increased 3-hydroxyglutaric acid with or without increased glutaric acid. If urine organic acids don't confirm the diagnosis, the metabolic specialist will consider analyzing glutarylcarnitine in urine and 3-hydroxyglutaric acid in blood and CSF, enzyme assay in fibroblasts, and molecular analysis of the GCDH gene.

Clinical Considerations: The neonate with glutaric acidemia type I is usually macrocephalic but otherwise asymptomatic. Later signs include metabolic ketoacidosis, failure to thrive, and sudden onset of dystonia and athetosis due to irreversible striatal damage. With appropriate treatment, 60-70% of patients will not suffer neurodegenerative disease.

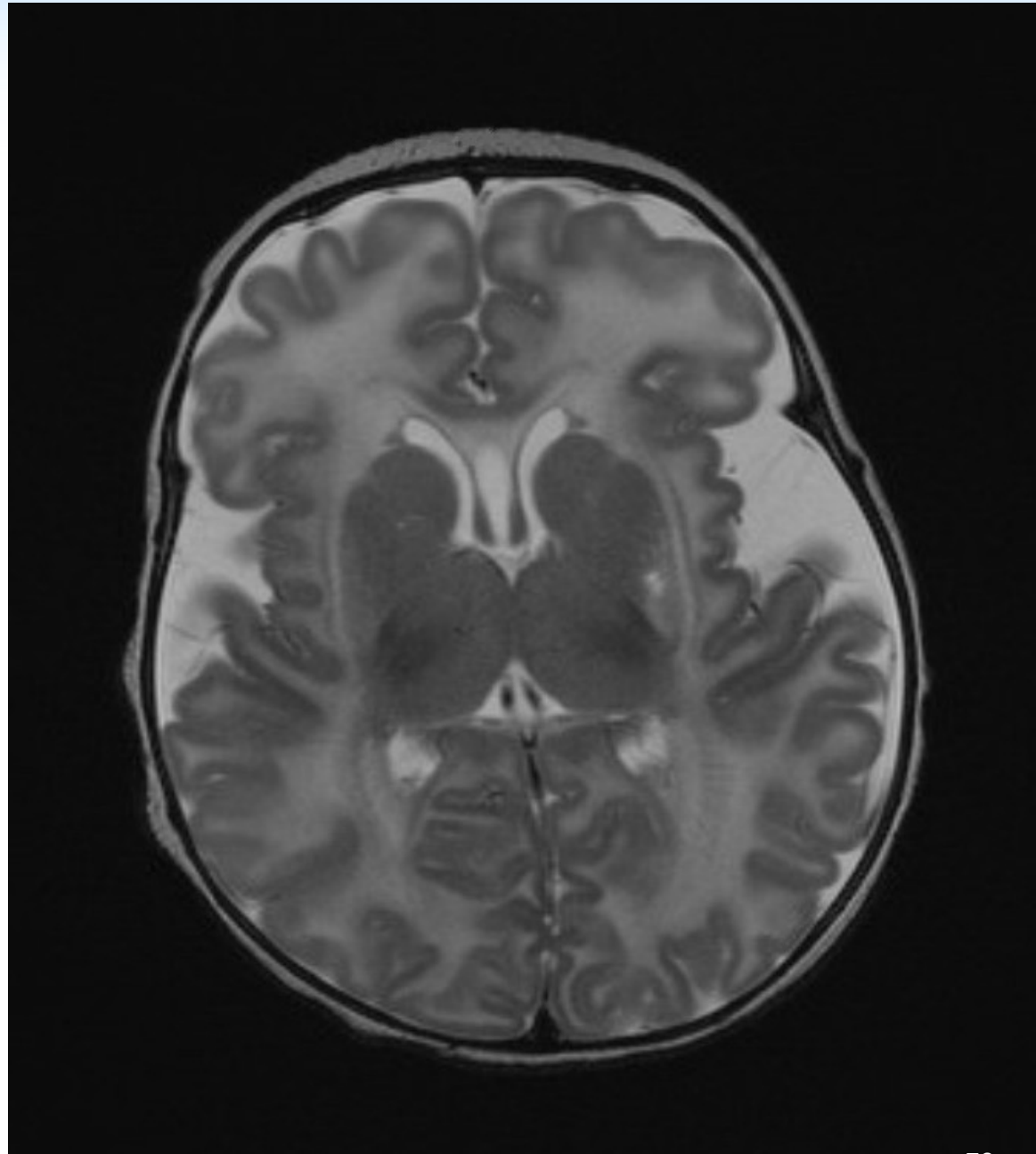


Biochemical Testing



- Glutaric Acid
- 3-hydroxyglutaric Acid
- Glutaryl carnitine
- Glutaconic Acid

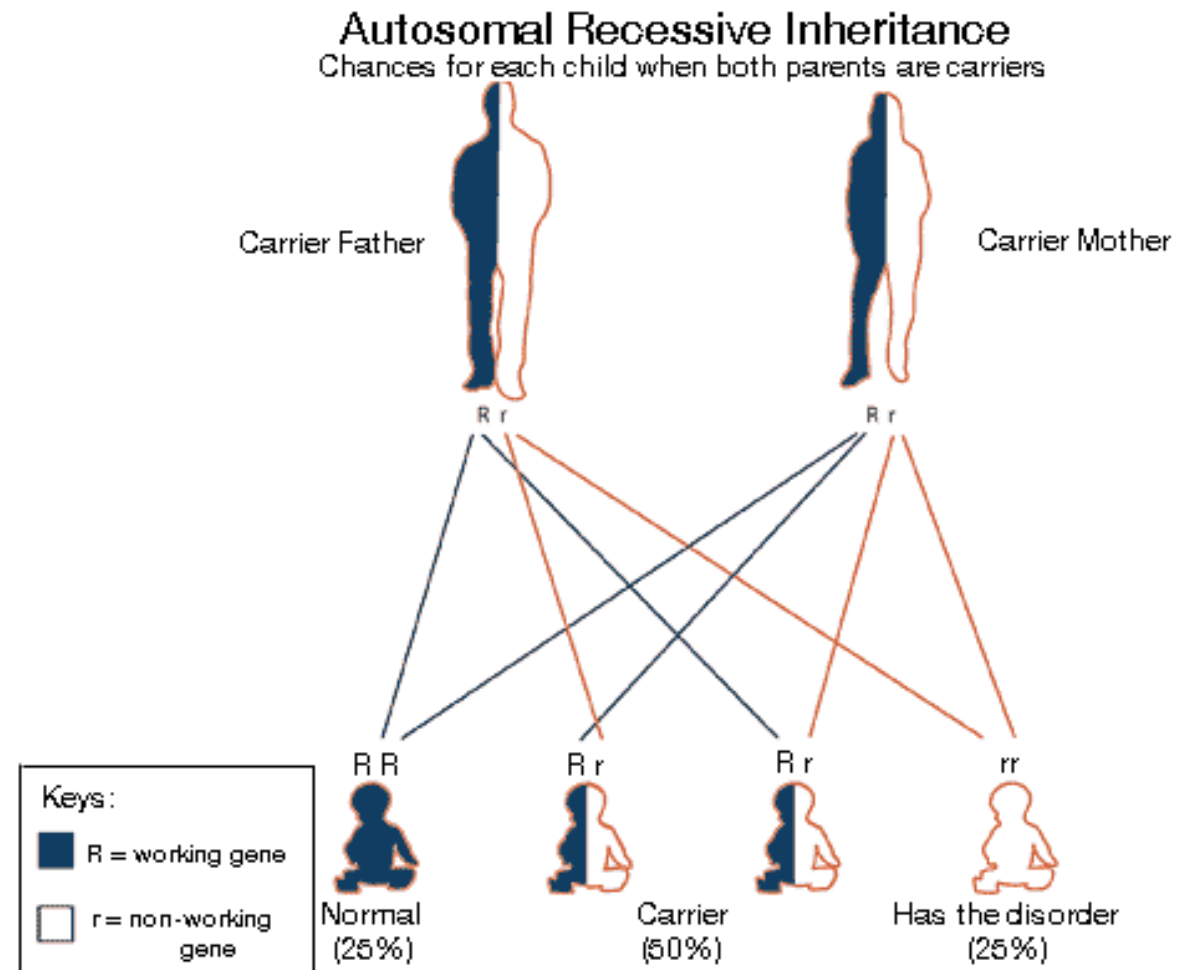
MRI Findings



Molecular Testing

- *GCDH*
 - Sequencing + Del/Dup
 - c.553_570del18
- Fibroblast Studies
- Testing of at risk sibs

- Genetic Counseling

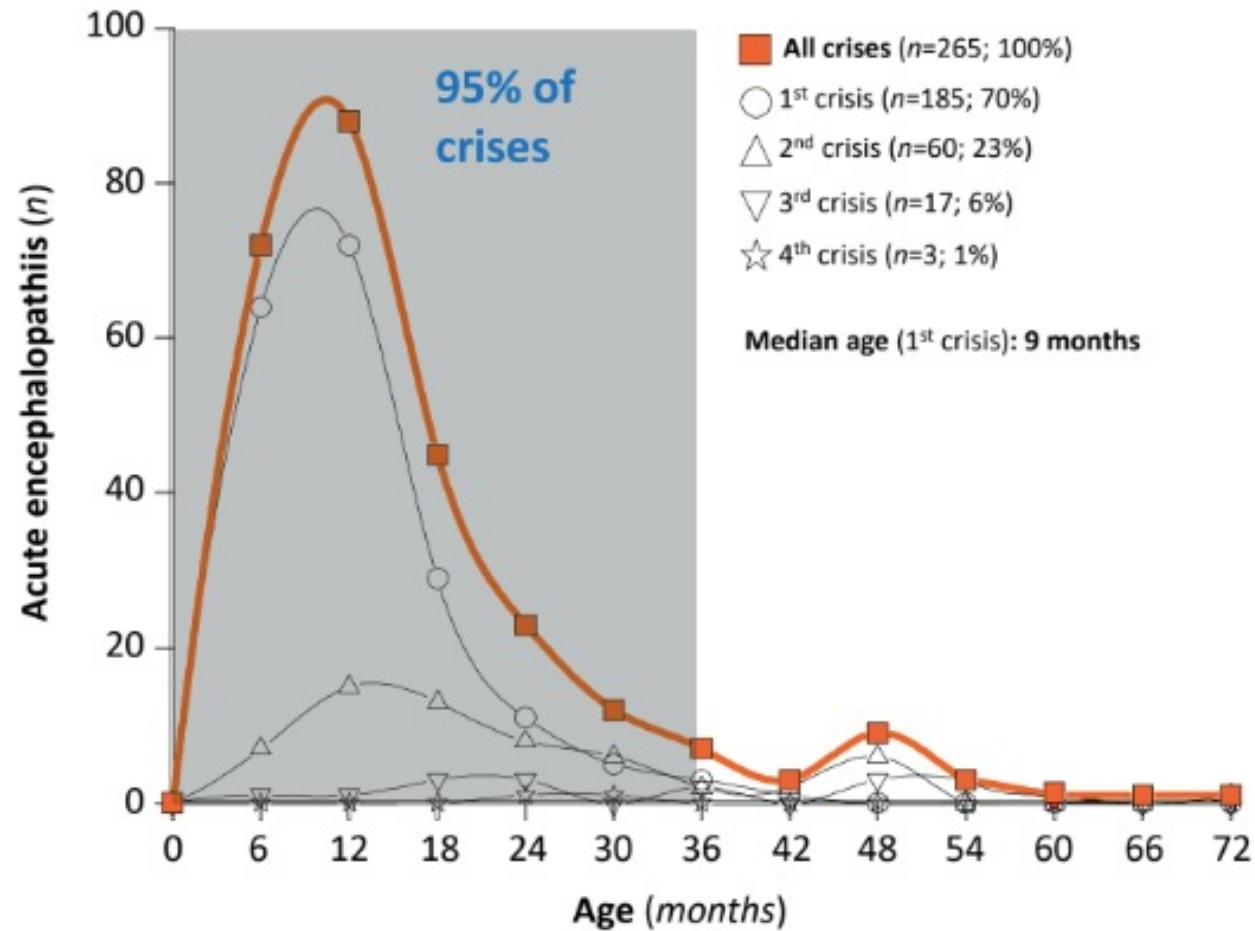


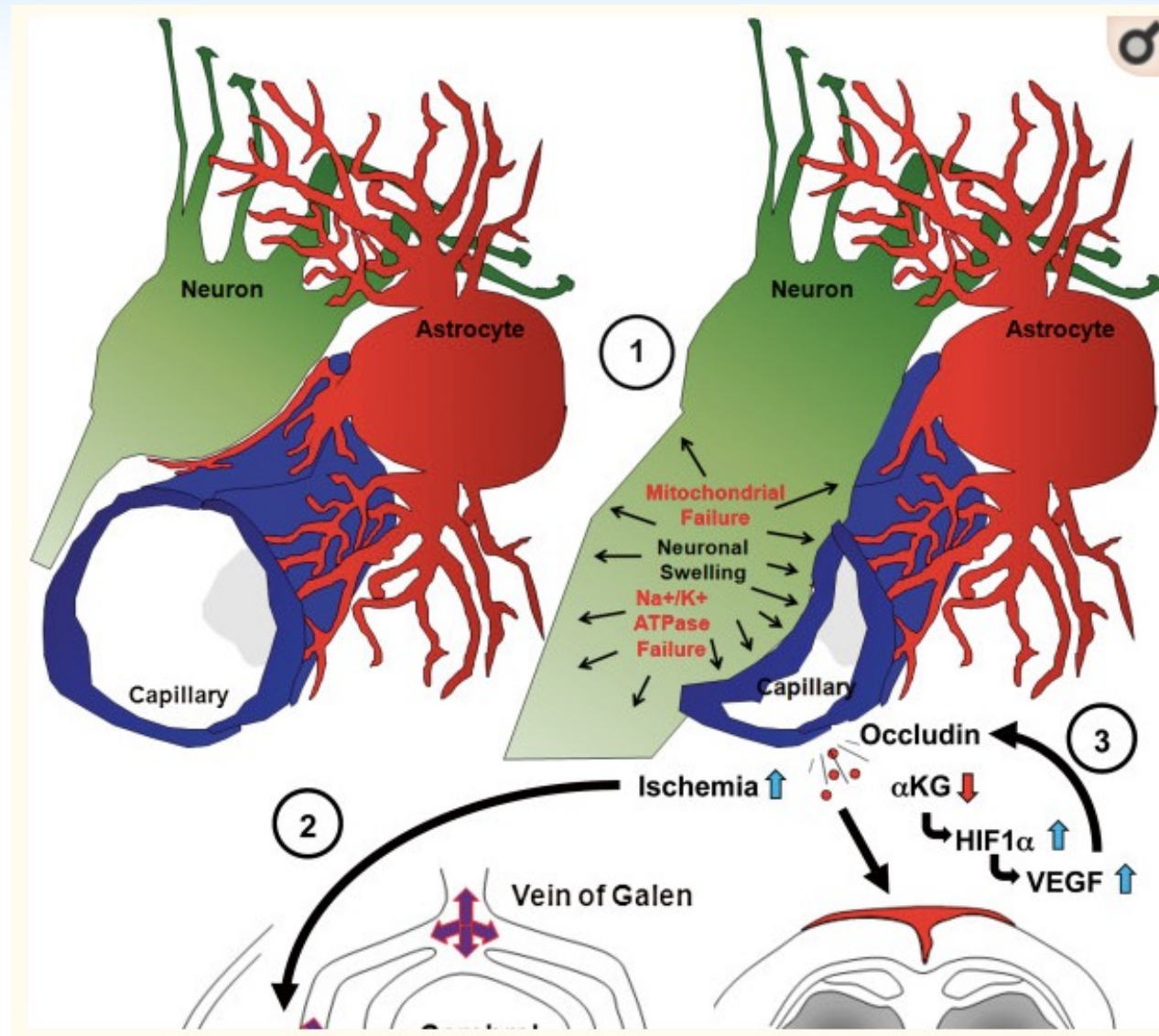
Natural History



- Encephalopathic Crisis
 - Untreated - 80-90%
 - Treated – unclear
- Subdural Hemorrhages
- Seizures ~7%
- Kidney Disease

Acute encephalopathic crises 'Window of vulnerability'





Zinnanti WJ, Lazovic J, Housman C, et al. Mechanism of metabolic stroke and spontaneous cerebral hemorrhage in glutaric aciduria type I. *Acta Neuropathol Commun.* 2014;2:13. Published 2014 Jan 27. doi:10.1186/2051-5960-2-13

Treatment – Acute Care

At Risk Times...

- Fever
- Surgery
- Delivery/Pregnancy
- Prolonged Fasting
- Excessive dietary protein intake
- Inadequate chronic caloric intake

Management

- Lysine free protein vs stopping protein intake
- Adequate alternative calories
 - Dextrose +/- IL
- Carnitine Dosing
- Antipyretics
- Stopping offending stress

Baseline Dietary Guidelines

Table 5.

Nutritional Requirements for L-lysine, L-Carnitine, Calories, and Natural Protein for Infants and Children with GA-1

	0-6 mos	7-12 mos	12-47 mos	48-72 mos	>6 yrs
L-lysine (from dietary natural protein), ¹ mg/kg/day	100	90	60-80	50-60	Controlled protein intake w/natural protein & low-Lys content, avoiding Lys-rich foods
Protein from GA-1-specific Lys-free, Trp-restricted formula, ² g/kg/day	0.8-1.3	0.8-1.0	0.8	0.8	Generally no requirement for GA-1-specific amino acid formula
Energy , kcal/kg/day	80-100	80	81-94	63-86	As per normal pediatric requirements, guided by age & weight
L-carnitine , mg/kg/day	100	100	100	50-100	30-50

Manifestation/Concern	Evaluation	Frequency/Comment
Poor growth	Measurement of growth, weight, & head circumference	At each visit
Delayed acquisition of developmental milestones	Monitor developmental milestones.	At each visit
	Neuropsychological testing using age-appropriate standardized assessment batteries	As needed
	Standardized quality-of-life assessment tools for affected individuals & parents/caregivers	As needed
Movement disorder	Assessment for clinical symptoms & signs of movement disorders, severity, & responses to treatment, physical therapy, & pharmacologic interventions	At each visit
Abnormal amino acid levels (amino acid deficiencies & ↑ lysine)	Quantitative analysis of plasma amino acids (ideally obtained after a 3-hr protein fast) ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st year of life: at least every 3 mos • Ages 1-6 yrs: every 6 mos • >6 yrs of age: annually
Nutritional deficiencies ²	Calcium, phosphorus, vitamin D, prealbumin, B ₁₂ , zinc, ferritin	If clinically indicated ³
Chronic renal insufficiency ⁴	Plasma creatinine &/or cystatin C level	Periodically in adolescents & adults
Anemia	Complete blood count, ferritin level	If clinically indicated ³
Abnormal liver function	ALT/AST , albumin	If clinically indicated ³
Head injury ⁵ &/or rapid head growth ⁶	Consider head MRI.	If clinically indicated ⁷