

**NEFROPATÍA LÚPICA REFRACTARIA  
AL TRATAMIENTO CON CICLOFOSFAMIDA.  
CASO PROBLEMA.**

**DR. HERNÁN TRIMARCHI**



FALTA DE RESPUESTA AL TRATAMIENTO

CONTRAINDICACIÓN DE CICLOFOSFAMIDA

HIPERTENSIÓN SEVERA

PROTEINURIA PERSISTENTE



**¿ Los casos de nefropatía lúpica se evalúan todos de la misma manera ante una recaída?**

- a. Sí
- b. No

**¿Cuál de las siguientes opciones define mejor la recaída de una nefropatía lúpica?**

- a. Por el aumento de la hematuria eumórfica
- b. Por la reaparición de proteinuria
- c. Por el aumento de la proteinuria
- d. Por el aumento de la creatinina plasmática
- e. Por la caída del volumen de filtrado glomerular
- f. Por la desaparición de la hematuria dismórfica

**Hay 2 temas relacionados con la resistencia al tratamiento de inducción:**

**¿Cómo se define la remisión en la nefropatía lúpica?**

**¿Cómo se trata la enfermedad resistente a la ciclofosfamida?**

## ¿Cómo se define la remisión o respuesta al tratamiento en la nefropatía lúpica?

SEÑALAR LA INCORRECTA

- a. Resolución de la hematuria eumórfica
- b. Mejoría en el VFG > 25% del basal
- c. Sin cambios en la creatinina sérica si el cuadro es estable
- d. Si un sedimento activo (HT y LEU  $\geq$  10 x campo de gran aumento) se inactiva
- e. Proteinuria < 1 g/día
- f. Creatinina estable por los últimos 6 meses post-tratamiento

**¿Cuál debe ser a su criterio el objetivo de tratar la nefropatía lúpica activa?**

- a. Basarse en disminuir la creatinina
- b. Basarse en disminuir la hematuria eumórfica
- c. Basarse en disminuir la proteinuria
- d. Basarse en lograr inactividad de la enfermedad renal,  
  independientemente de los niveles de creatinina y de proteinuria
- e. Basarse en disminuir rápidamente la proteinuria

**En la nefropatía membranosa:  
Cuánto esperar para determinar que la proteinuria persistente  
se debe a la falta de respuesta al tratamiento?**

- a. 3 meses post-tratamiento
- b. 6 meses post-tratamiento
- c. 9 meses post-tratamiento
- d. 12 meses post-tratamiento

**En la nefritis proliferativa lúpica, la proteinuria oscila en general entre 1.0 y 1.6 g/día luego de 6 meses de inducción en pacientes con buena evolución:**

- a. Verdadero
- b. Falso

## **¿Cuándo rebiopsiar a un paciente con nefropatía lúpica?**

- a. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción persiste proteinuria
- b. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción persiste sólo con HT dismórfica
- c. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción el cuadro no cambió mayormente
- d. Cuando 3- 6 meses terminada la inducción persiste con proteinuria > 2 g/día
- e. Cuando 6 meses determinada la inducción baja su creatinina

**Ante un paciente con nefritis clase IV, creatinina 1.1 mg/dl, albúmina 2.2 g/dl, proteinuria 4.5 g/día que no responde a ciclofosfamida en pulsos por 6 meses, Ud., qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 60 días post-inducción?**

- a. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, micofenolato mofetil 1 g/día
- b. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, micofenolato mofetil 2-3 g/día
- c. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, azatioprina 100 mg/día
- d. Trato con plasmaféresis y rituximab
- e. Trato con azatioprina 100 mg/día
- f. Trato con ciclofosfamida iv cada 3 meses x 6 meses más

**Ante un paciente con nefritis clase IV, creatinina 2.9 mg/dl, albúmina 3.2 g/dl, proteinuria 1.5 g/día y que está en tratamiento de mantenimiento desde hace 1 mes con micofenolato mofetil 2 g/día, tras inducción x 6 meses con ciclofosfamida.**

**TA: 130/80 mmHg. IMC: 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>**

**Ud. qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 40 días post-inducción?**

- a. Comenzaría con IECAs
- b. Comenzaría con IECAs y luego ARA II
- c. Comenzaría secuencialmente con IECAs, ARA II, estatinas y eventualmente espironolactona
- d. Comenzaría secuencialmente con IECAs, aspirina 100 mg/día, ARA II, estatinas y eventualmente espironolactona
- e. Comenzaría con estatinas y aspirina

**Ante un paciente con nefritis clase V, creatinina 1.1 mg/dl, albúmina 3.2 g/dl, proteinuria 3.5 g/día, TA: 140/90 mmHg, IMC. 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup> y que “no responde” a la ciclofosfamida en pulsos por 6 meses, Ud., qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 40 días post-inducción?**

- a. Solicito ionograma urinario de 24 hs
- b. Aumento dosis de IECA/ ARAII
- c. Rebiopsio
- d. Pulsos trimestrales de ciclofosfamida por 12 meses
- e. Considera seriamente ciclosporina 3-4 mg/kg/día

**Ante una biopsia renal, qué compartimento afectado tiene el mayor impacto en el pronóstico a largo plazo?**

- a. Glomérulo
- b. Vasos
- c. Túbulos
- d. Intersticio
- e. Cápsula



**FALTA DE RESPUESTA AL TRATAMIENTO**

**CONTRAINDICACIÓN DE CICLOFOSFAMIDA**

**HIPERTENSIÓN SEVERA**

**PROTEINURIA PERSISTENTE**

Mujer de 35 años, lúpica, con nefropatía Clase IV.

Actividad 18/24.

Cronicidad: 0/4.

Cilindros hemáticos

Hematuria dismórfica 30%

Proteinuria 24 hs: 5 g/día

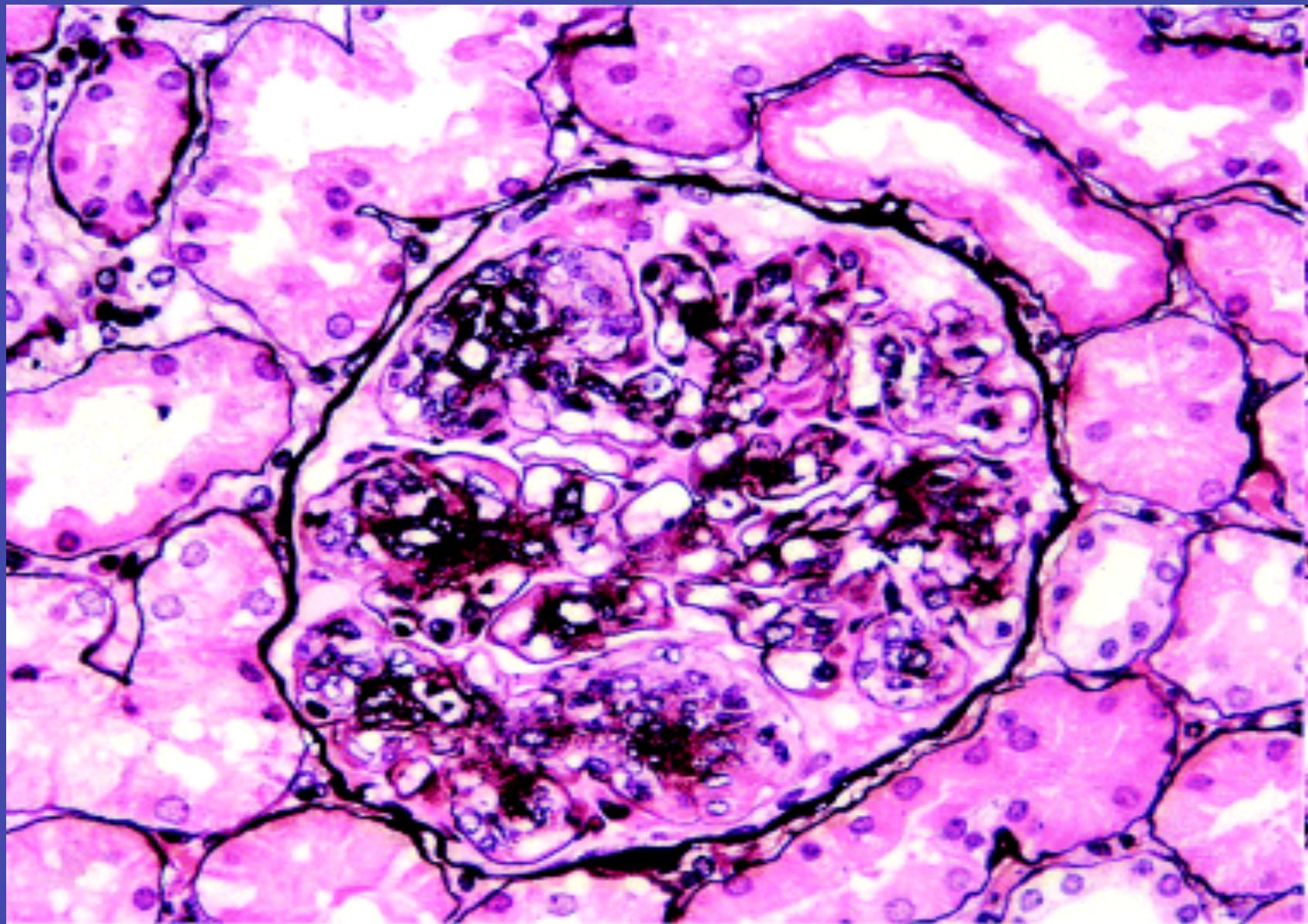
Creatinina 1.1 mg/dl. Clearance de creatinina 66 ml/min.

Albúmina 3.4 g/dl.

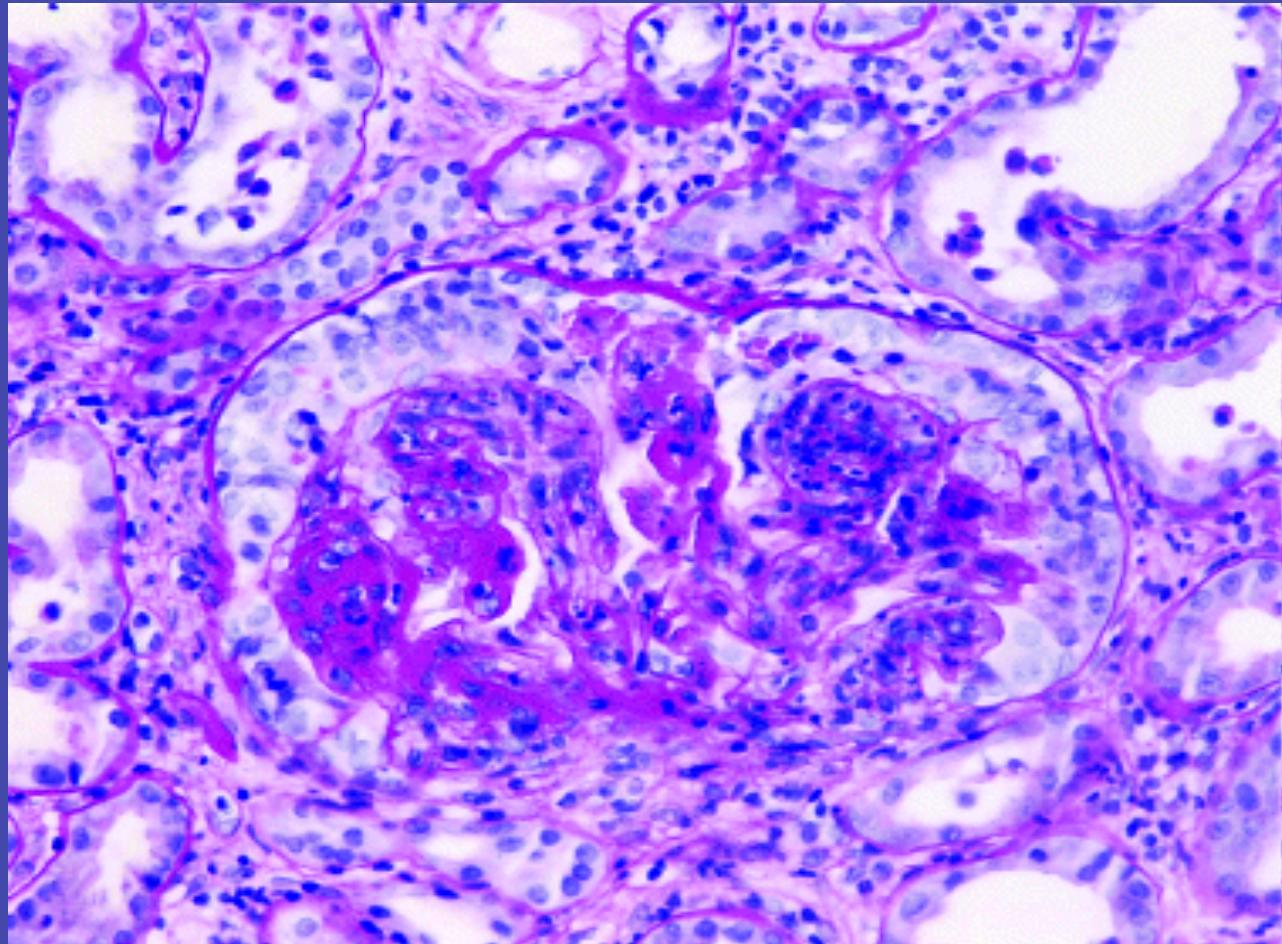
FAN: 1/320 homogéneo; antiDNA +; C3: 60 C4: 14 ENA: Rho +

Acs antifosfolípidos negativos

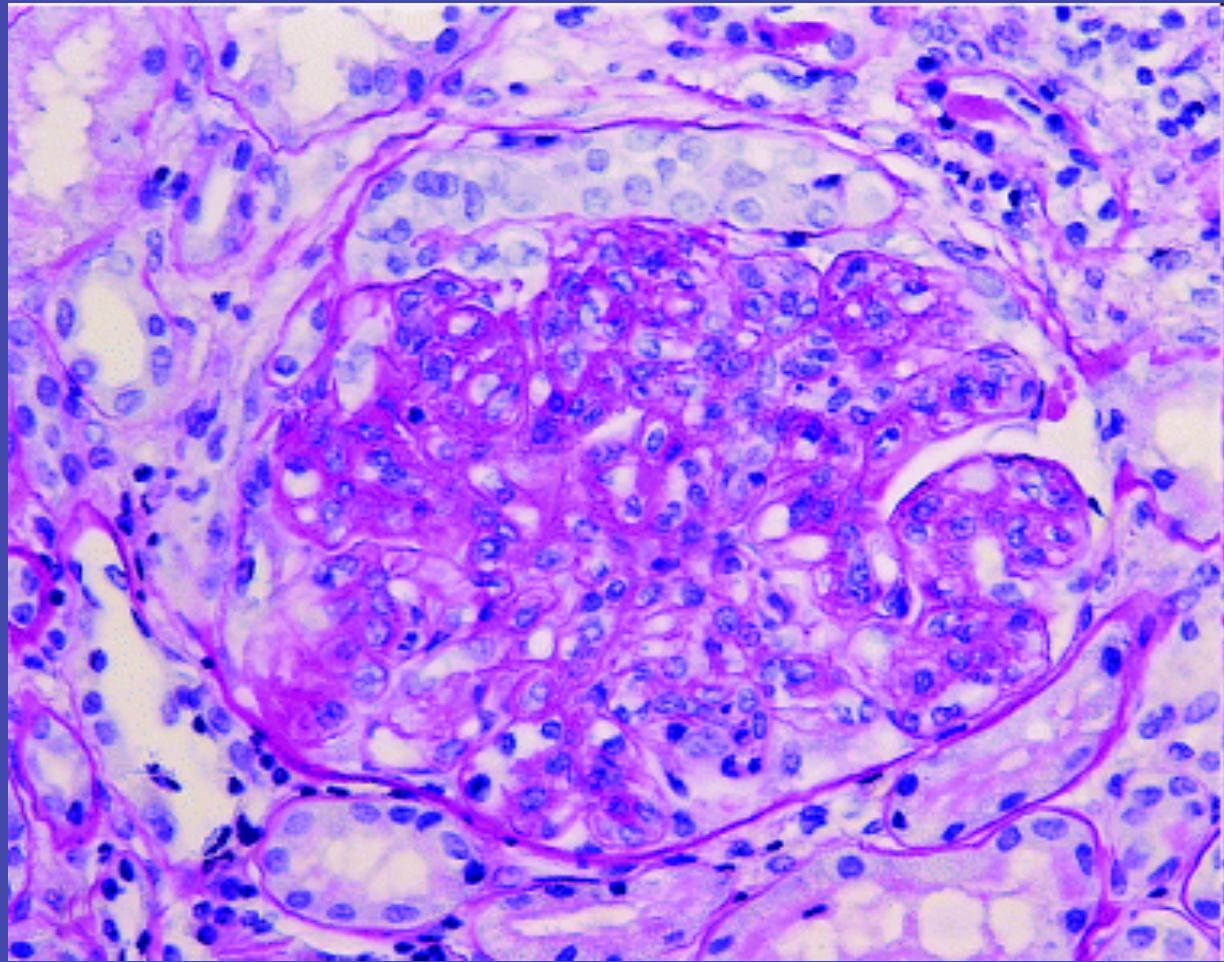
Ecografía con alteración de la relación córtico-medular



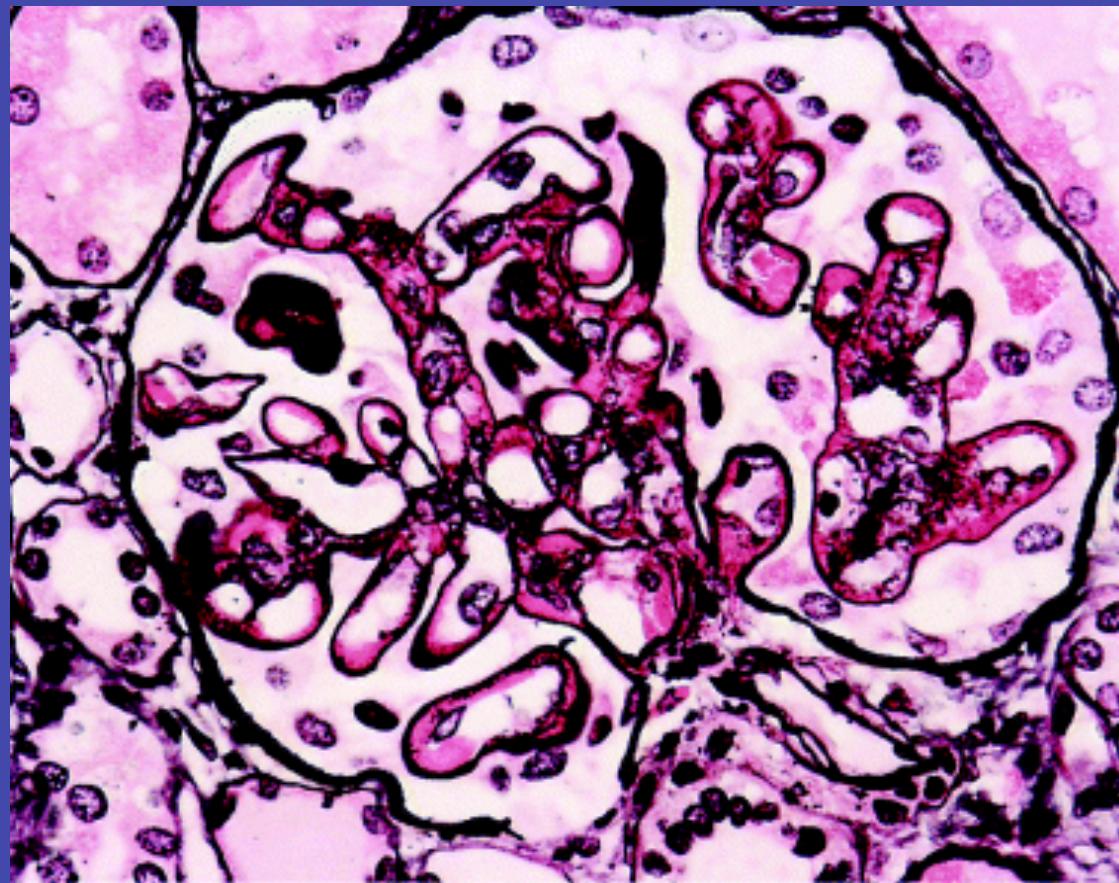
**Nefritis lúpica clase IV-G (A).** Hipercelularidad mesangial con compromiso global y endocapilar. Expansión de la matriz. Aflujo de leucocitos, y ocasional doble contorno (metenamina).



**Nefritis lúpica clase IV-G (A/C).** Glomérulo con proliferación global severa de tipo endo- y extracapilar, asas de alambre, leucocitos, cuerpos apoptóticos, necrosis capilar, y expansión mesangial con hipercelularidad y expansión de la matriz; marcada infiltración intersticial inflamatoria [(PAS)].



**Nefritis Lúpica clase IV-G (A/C).** Glomérulo con proliferación endocapilar, aflujo leukocitario, apoptosis, doble contornos, semilunas con transformación tubular, esclerosis leve, y disruptión de la cápsula de Bowman [(PAS)].



**Nefritis lúpica clase IV-G (A).** Glomérulo con depósitos inmunes diseminados subendoteliales ( lesiones en asa de alambre) asociadas con la formación de nueva membrana basal a lo largo del lado interno de los capilares (metenamina).

Recibe 6 ciclos de ciclofosfamida 1 g/m<sup>2</sup> iv.  
Esteroides 1 mg/kg/día x 12 semanas y  
disminución semanal de 10 mg hasta llegar  
a dosis de 8 mg/día de mantenimiento

3 meses post-tratamiento:

TA: 130/80 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 80%

Proteinuria 1.3 g/día

Creatinina 1.0 mg/dl; clearance de creatinina 50 ml/min

Albúmina 3.2 g/dl

Urocultivo negativo

Se agrega enalapril 10 mg cada 12 hs

6 meses post-tratamiento:

TA: 110/60 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 100%

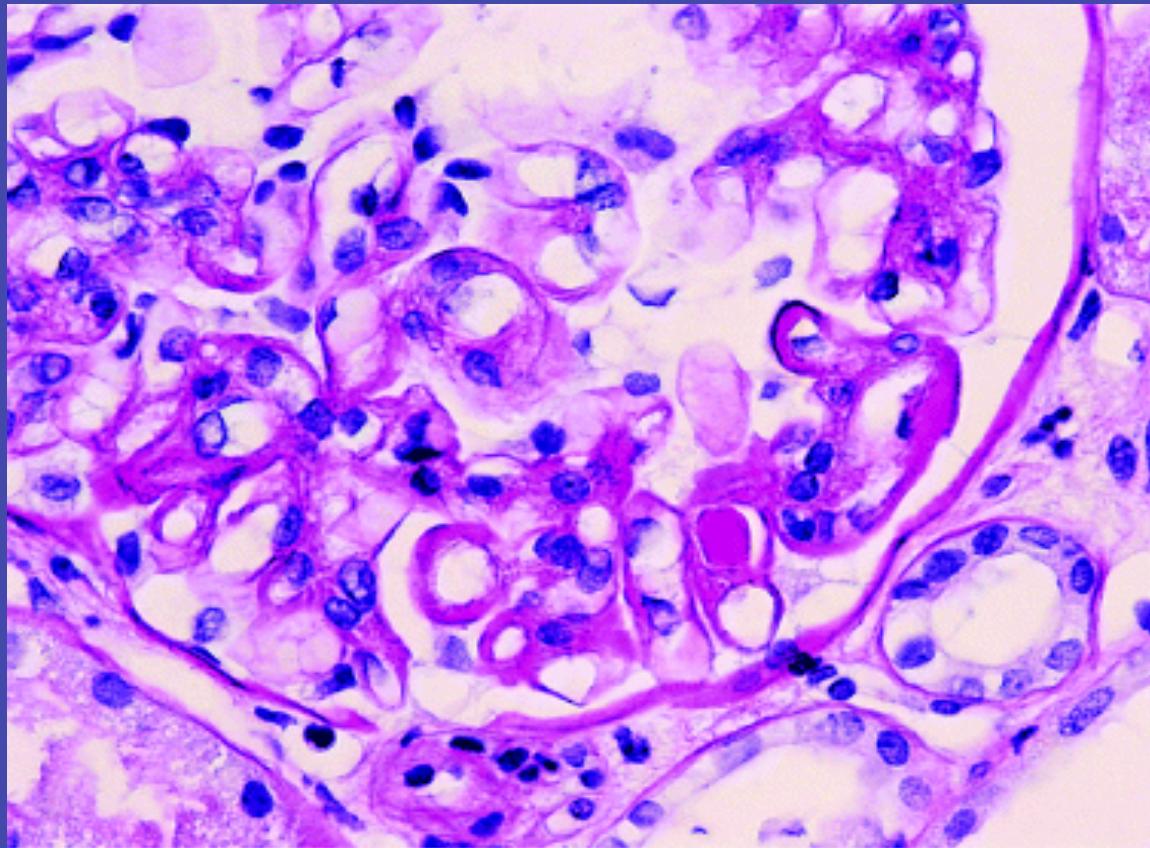
Proteinuria 3.5 g/día

Creatinina 0.9 mg/dl; clearance de creatinina 44 ml/min

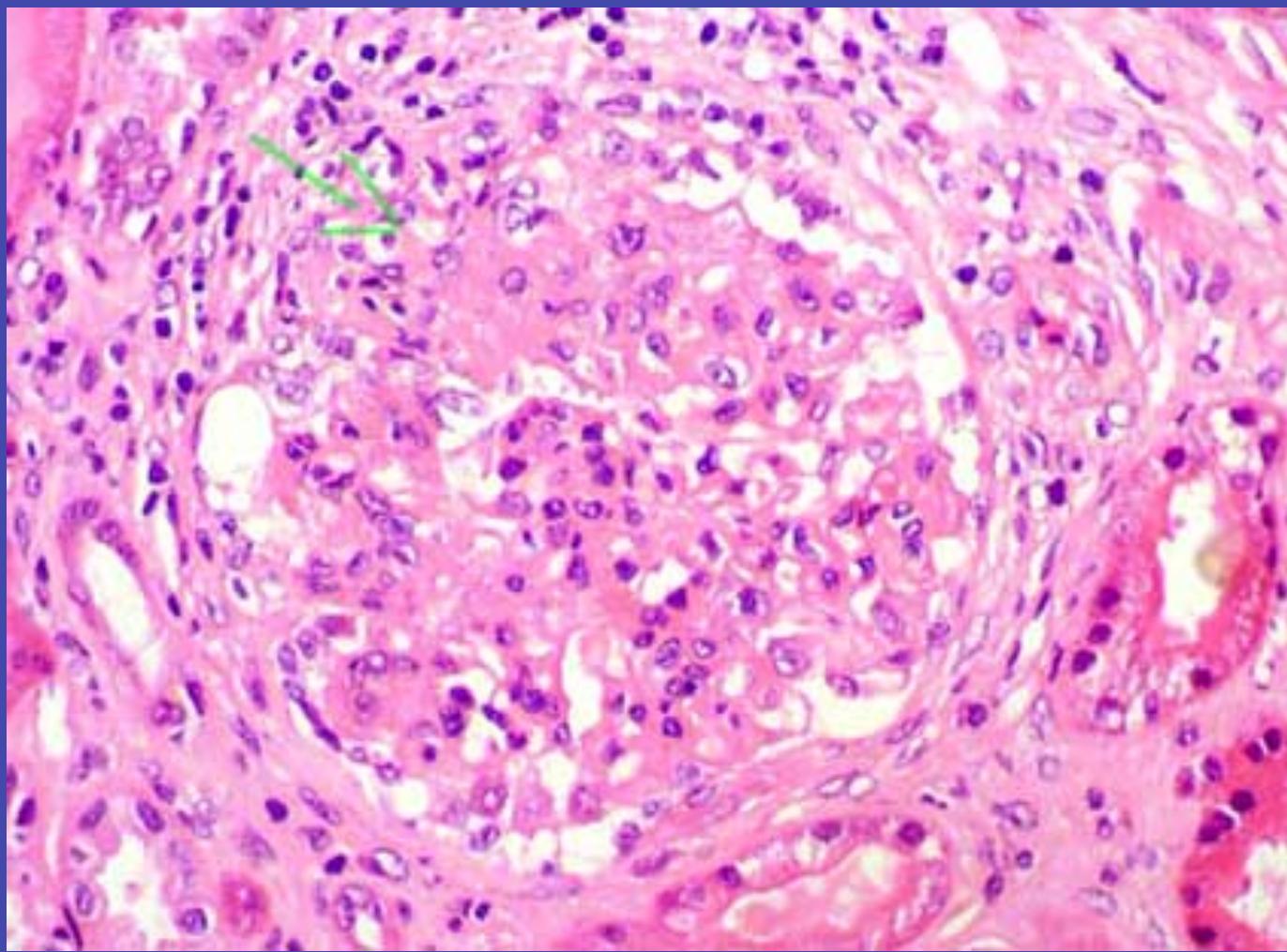
Albúmina 2.9 g/dl

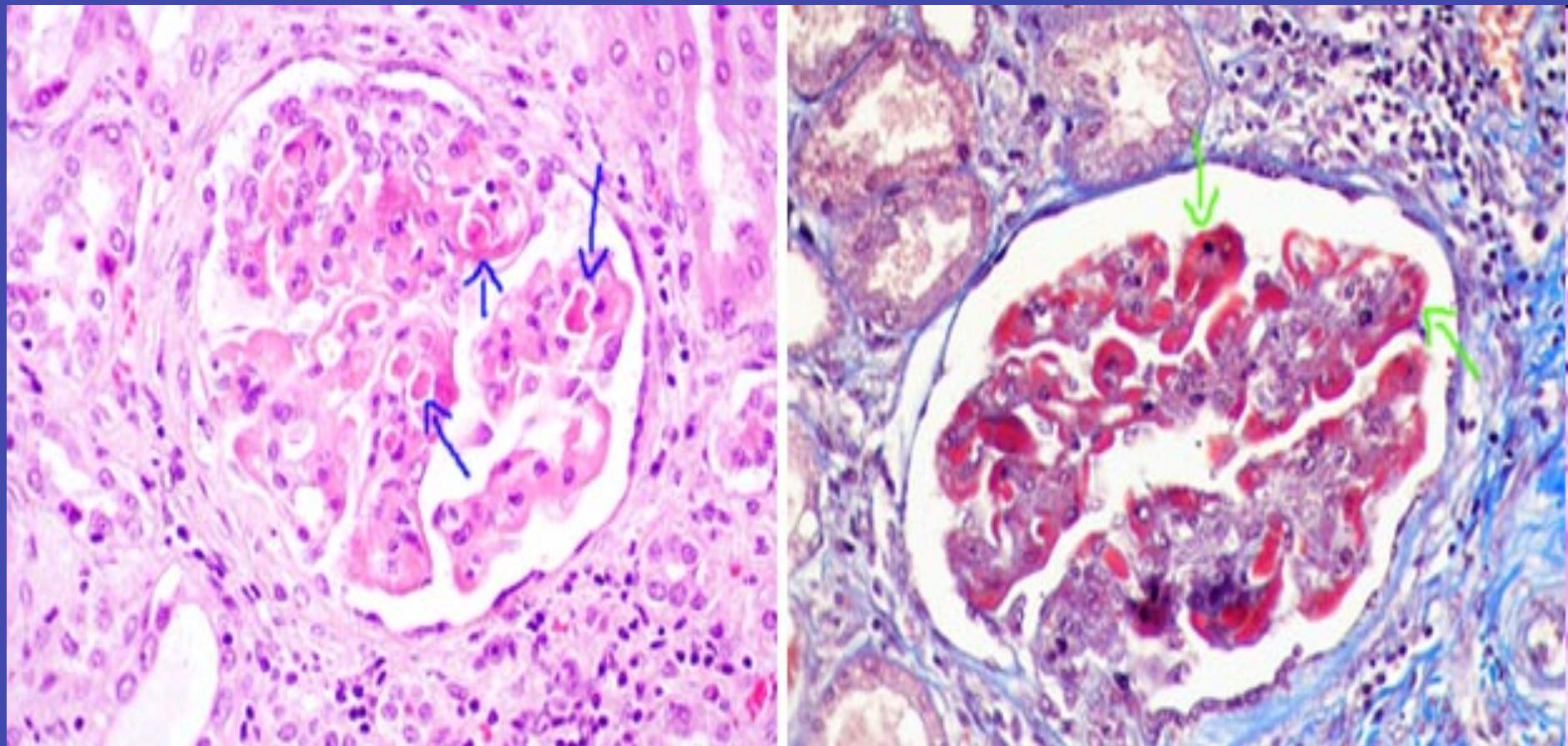
Urocultivo negativo

Biopsia renal: Clase IV; actividad 12/24; cronicidad 0/4



**Nefritis clase IV-S (A).** Segmento de un glomérulo con hipercelularidad endocapilar, doble contornos capilares, asa de alambre y trombos hialinos [(PAS)].





Evidentes depósitos inmunes subendoteliales. Izquierda: depósitos engrosando paredes capilares y **trombos hialinos** (flechas azules) que corresponden a agregados inmunes en luces capilares; ellos tienen, aunque muchas veces no evidenciable, conexión con depósitos subendoteliales y no son verdaderos trombos. Derecha. Extensos **depósitos inmunes subendoteliales**, fuchinofílicos (rojos) en casi todas las paredes capilares de este glomérulo (flechas verdes). Estos depósitos, evidenciados por microscopía de luz convencional, nos obligan a clasificar la NL como clase IV. Muchos de estos depósitos se ven como imágenes en "asa de alambre" con la H&E. (Izquierda: H&E, X400; derecha, Tricrómico de Masson, X400).

## **TRATAMIENTO:**

**MICOFENOLATO MOFETIL 2 G/DÍA  
+  
PREDNISOLONA 0.5 MG/KG/DÍA**

**BUENA TOLERANCIA AL MICOFENOLATO:**

**2.5 G/DÍA**

3 meses post-tratamiento (9 post-inicio):

TA: 140/89 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 50%

Proteinuria 1.8 g/día

Creatinina 1.1 mg/dl; clearance de creatinina 48 ml/min

Albúmina 3.2 g/dl

Ionograma urinario 24 hs: 230 mEq/día

Dieta hiposódica (3 g/día de ClNa)

+

Valsartán 160 mg/día

6 meses post-tratamiento (12 post-inicio):

TA: 125/70 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 30%

Ionograma urinario 60 mEq/L

Proteinuria 0.6 g/día

Creatinina 1.2 mg/dl; clearance de creatinina 40 ml/min

Albúmina 3.5 g/dl

24 meses post-tratamiento global:

TA: 125/70 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 10%

Proteinuria 0.3 g/día

Creatinina 1.4 mg/dl; clearance de creatinina 36 ml/min

Albúmina 3.8 g/dl

FAN 1/80 homogéneo; C3: 100 C4: 20; antiDNA neg

**3 meses post-tratamiento:**

TA: 130/80 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 80%

Proteinuria 3 g/día

**Creatinina 1.0 mg/dl;  
clearance de creatinina 50 ml/min**

Albúmina 3.2 g/dl

Urocultivo negativo

**ENALAPRIL 10 X 2**

**6 meses post-tratamiento:**

TA: 110/60 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 100%

Proteinuria 3.5 g/día

**Creatinina 0.9 mg/dl;  
clearance de creatinina 44 ml/  
min**

Albúmina 2.9 g/dl

Urocultivo negativo

**BIOPSIA- MMF**

**3 meses post-inicio MMF  
(9 post-inicio):**

TA: 140/89 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos  
negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 50%

Proteinuria 1.8 g/día

**Creatinina 1.1 mg/dl;  
clearance de creatinina 48  
ml/min**

Albúmina 3.2 g/dl

**IONOU 230 VALSARTAN  
DIETA**

**6 meses post-inicio MMF (12 post-inicio):**

TA: 125/70 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 30%

Ionograma urinario 60 mEq/L

Proteinuria 0.6 g/día

**Creatinina 1.2 mg/dl;  
clearance de creatinina 40 ml/min**

Albúmina 3.5 g/dl

**24 meses post-tratamiento global:**

TA: 125/70 mmHg

Cilindros hemáticos negativos

Hematuria dismórfica 10%

Proteinuria 0.3 g/día

**Creatinina 1.4 mg/dl;  
clearance de creatinina 36 ml/min**

Albúmina 3.8 g/dl

FAN 1/80 homogéneo; C3: 100 C4: 20; antiDNA -

¿Creatinina vs Clearance de creatinina?

¿Baja la creatinina y baja el clearance de creatinina?

¿Ionograma urinario?

¿Doble bloqueo?

¿Aumento de la creatinina?

¿Tercera biopsia...?



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Paciente de 64 años, con antecedentes de AR hace 6 años.

Recibió en otro centro metotrexato 5 mg/semanales durante 5 años, quedando con hipoplasia medular.

Biopsia medular 12/08: Celularidad del 5%; queda con EPO 10000 U semanales.

HTA, Sjogren. Hipotiroidismo.

Ingresa al hospital por anasarca, artritis con sinovitis.

Hto 34%, Bcos 3600 mm<sup>3</sup>, Plts 95000 mm<sup>3</sup>, Urea 63 mg/dl, Creatinina 1.38 mg/dl, Sodio 125 mEq/L, Potasio 4.2 mEq/L, Albúmina 1.7 g/dl, Proteinuria 7 g/día, FAN 1/2560 homogéneo, antiDNA +, C3 36, C4 8.

Ecografía: Riñones de tamaño normal con ecogenicidad aumentada.

## Biopsia renal

16 glomérulos.

4 en oblea con semilunas

2 semilunas epiteliales clásicas

1 semiluna fibroepitelial

1 semiluna fibrosa

8 con hipercelularidad mesangial y endotelial difusa

Imagenes en asa de alambre

En 4 trombos hialinos

Túbulos: Atrofia 15%

Intersticio: Esclerosis 15%

Infiltrados linfoplasmocitarios: 10%

Vasos: sp

IF  
IgG, IgT y C1q +++++/4  
C3 e IgM +++/4  
IgA: ++/4  
I: +++;/4 en semiluna

Comienza con hemodiálisis aguda

¿Por qué?

Esteroides, ciclofosfamida 0.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> cada 15 días.

Empeoramiento de la función medular.  
Hto 23%, Bcos 2100 mm<sup>3</sup>, Plts 43000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Se suspende el tercer pulso. Continúa con esteroides

Hto: 28%, Bcos 2900 mm<sup>3</sup>, Plts 11000 mm<sup>3</sup>, Na 132 mEq/L, K mEq/L, albúmina 3 g/dl

Desde que comenzó diálisis diaria, bajó de 65 a 49 kg en 1 mes

En tto con prednisona 40 mg/día, enalapril 20 mg/día, carvedilol 50 mg/día  
Raquiferol, calcio, atorvastatina 20 mg/día, vitaminas, levotiroxina 100 mcg/día,  
hidroxicloroquina 200 mg/día

## Tratamiento

Esteroides?

Micofenolato?

Azatioprina?

Rituximab?

Plasmaféresis?

Anticoagulación?

Hemodiálisis?

New Therapies for Lupus Nephritis  
Claudio Ponticelli

Increase in serum creatinine > 30%  
and or proteinuria > 2g/day  
with active urine sediment

Three MP pulses+  
Oral cyclophosphamide+  
Oral prednisone (0.5 – 1 mg / Kg/day)

IV Cyclophosphamide pulses  
Oral prednisone (0.5 – 1 mg/ Kg/day)  
MP pulses in severe forms

Response

No response

MMF+  
Low dose  
prednisone

Azathioprine+  
Low dose  
prednisone

Cyclosporine +  
Low dose  
prednisone

Flare

Figure 1. Proposed therapeutic options in patients with lupus nephritis and severe renal involvement at presentation or at renal flares. In patients with normal renal function the treatment of induction or flares may also consist of mycophenolate mofetil and oral prednisone. MP, methylprednisolone; IVIg, intravenous immunoglobulins; MMF, mycophenolate mofetil.



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**PROTEINURIA PERSISTENTE**

Hombre de 33 años, que es internado por síndrome nefrótico.

TA: 150/90 mmHg      Edemas 5/6      IMC: 29 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Hto 41%. Blancos 6700 mm<sup>3</sup>, Plts 230000 mm<sup>3</sup>.

Albúmina 1.9 g/dl

Creatinina 2.3 mg/dl

Colesterol 290 mg/dl

Na: 127 mEq/L; K 4.9 mEq/L

Ecografía: Riñones de tamaño normal

Proteinuria 24 hs: 12 g/día

Clearance 40 ml/min

Urocultivo negativo

AcS anticardiolipinas, Beta-microglobulinas y anticoagulante lúpico negativos

KPTT: 36"

T de protrombina: 100%

## Biopsia renal

¿Falta algún dato para proceder a hacer la biopsia renal?

Biopsia:

18 glomérulos: 1 en oblea; resto con rigidez y uniformidad por engrosamiento difuso de las paredes capilares.

Túbulos: normales

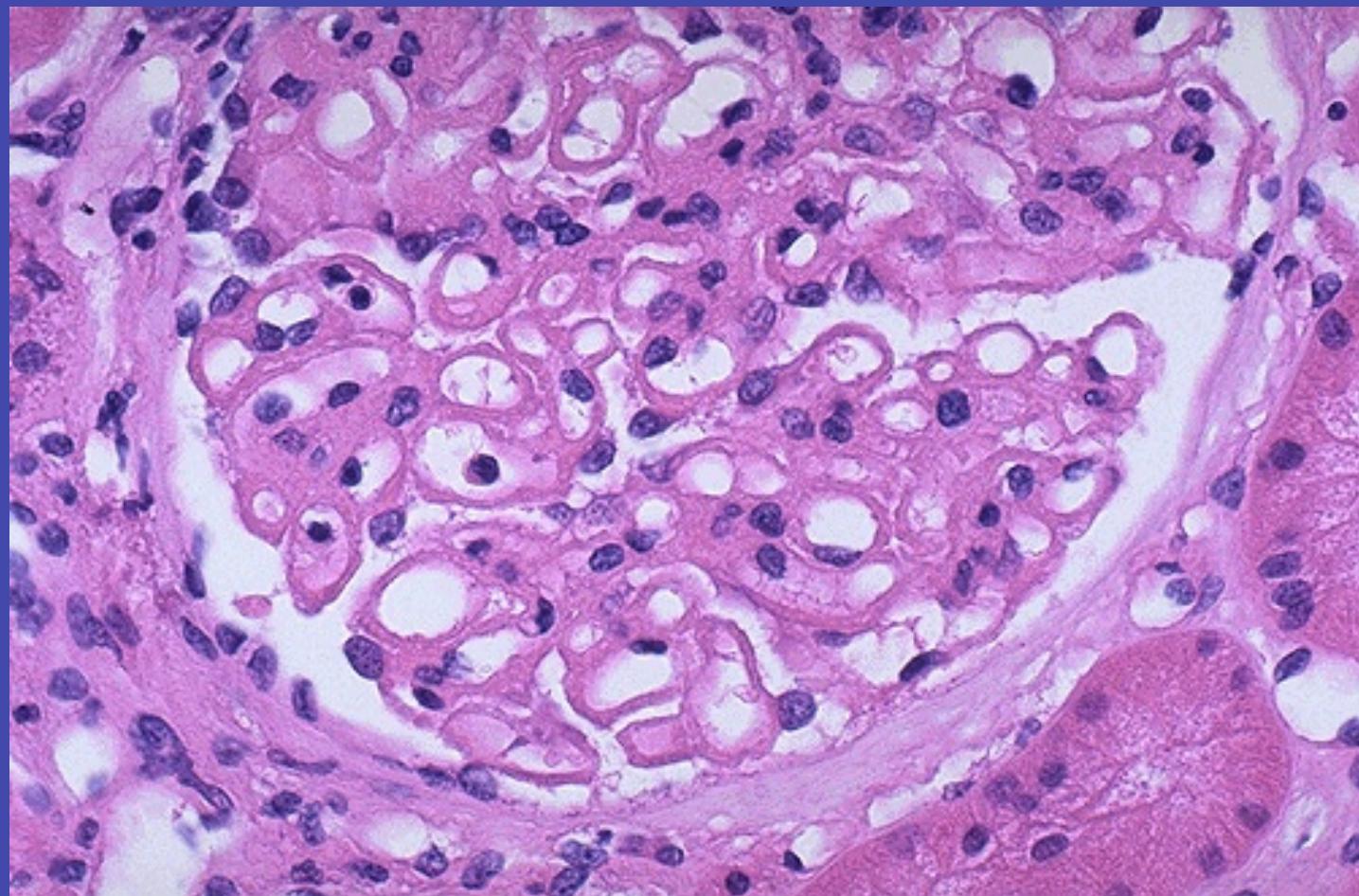
Intersticio: esclerosis del 10%

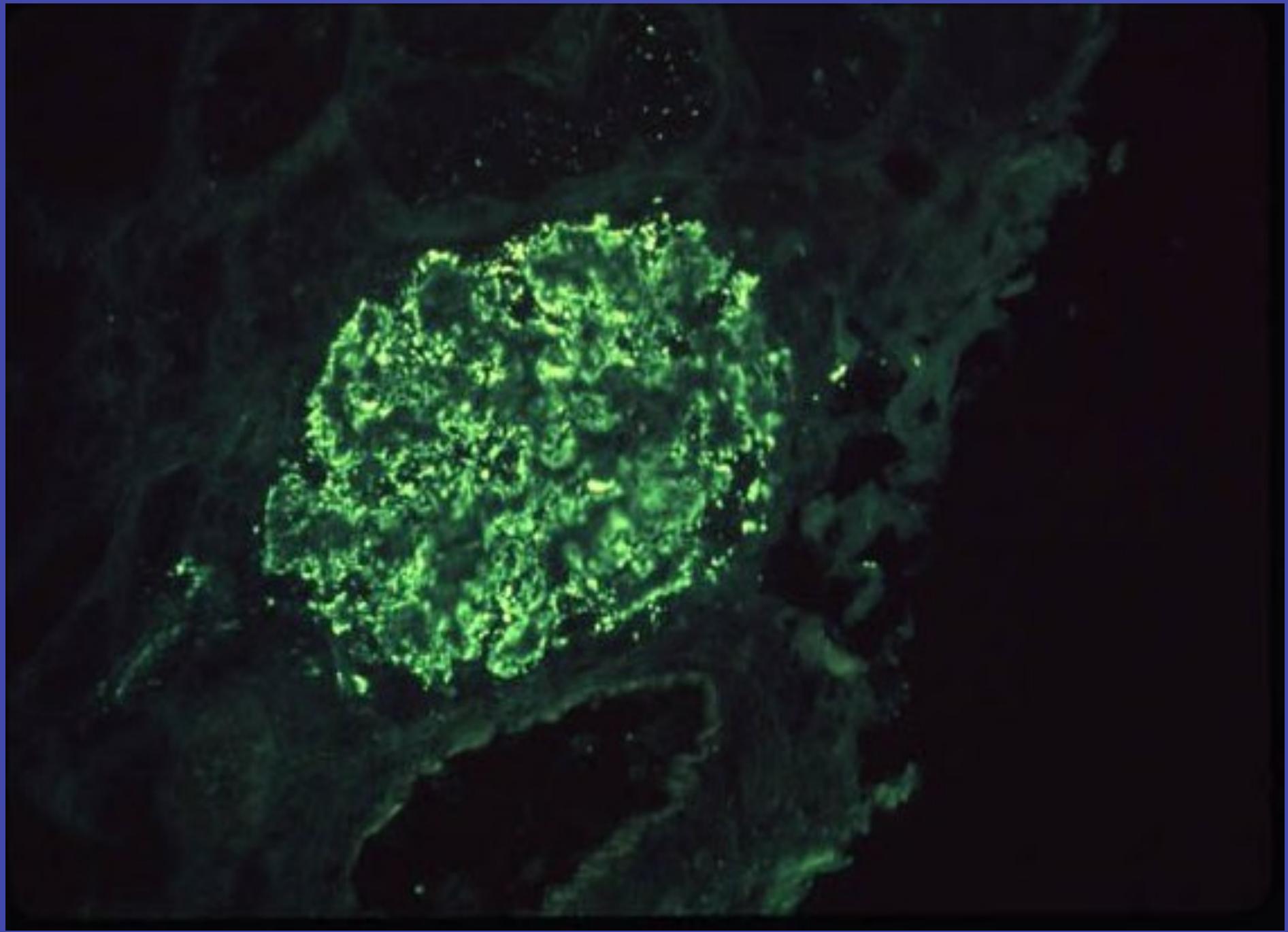
Vasos: normales

IF: IgG, C3 Ig total: imagen positiva en paredes capilares +++;/4

## Clase V: membranosa

Por los hallazgos de la biopsia, ¿se puede explicar la insuficiencia renal?





Esteroides 1 mg/kg/día + ciclofosfamida 1 g/m<sup>2</sup> por 6 ciclos

Le indicaría IECAS?

Y estatinas?

Y aspirina?

Mantenimiento: Esteroides 4 mg/día

Hto 43%  
Bcos 4200 mm<sup>3</sup>  
Plts 236000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Albúmina 3.3 g/dl  
Creatinina 1.7 mg/dl  
Clearance: 50 ml/min  
Colesterol 230 mg/dl  
Na: 134 mEq/L; K 3.8 mEq/L

Proteinuria 24 hs: 4.5 g/día

TA: 170/100 mmHg

Qué hacemos?

Cómo evaluamos esta situación?

Resistencia al tratamiento?

Repetir esquema?

Cambiar a otro inmunosupresor?

Proteinuria 24 hs: 5 g/día

TA: 170/100 mmHg

Enalapril?

Valsartán?

Amlodipina?

Diltiazem?

Beta-bloqueantes?

Hidralazina?

Diuréticos?

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Enalapril 5 x 2; 10 x 2 mg/día

TA: 160/ 100 mmHg

Amlodipina 10 mg/día

TA: 156/ 96 mmHg

Qué estudio solicitaría?

MAPA: 170/99 mmHg; non-dipper

Ecodoppler renal: Normal

Qué estudio solicitaría?

Ionograma urinario

Na: 350 mEq/día

## Dieta hiposódica

TA: 140/80 mmHg

Hto 44%  
Bcos 4800 mm<sup>3</sup>  
Plts 236000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Albúmina 3.5 g/dl  
Creatinina 2 mg/dl  
Colesterol 220 mg/dl  
Na: 136 mEq/L; K 3.8 mEq/L

Proteinuria 24 hs: 2 g/día  
Clearance: 43 ml/min  
Ionograma urinario: 80 mEq/día

Cómo continuaría el tratamiento?

Valsartán: 160 mg/día

TA: 120/70 mmHg

Hto 42%  
Bcos 4900 mm<sup>3</sup>  
Plts 230000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Albúmina 3.8 g/dl  
Creatinina 2.2 mg/dl  
Colesterol 220 mg/dl  
Na: 136 mEq/L; K 3.8 mEq/L

Proteinuria 24 hs: 0.9 g/día  
Clearance: 38 ml/min

Hto 43%  
Bcos 4200 mm<sup>3</sup>  
Plts 236000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Albúmina 3.3 g/dl  
Creatinina 1.7 mg/dl  
Clearance: 50 ml/min  
Colesterol 230 mg/dl  
Na: 134 mEq/L; K 3.8 mEq/L

Proteinuria 24 hs: 4.5 g/día

TA: 170/100 mmHg

Enalapril 5 x 2; 10 x 2 mg/día

TA: 160/ 100 mmHg

Amlodipina 10 mg/día

TA: 156/ 96 mmHg

MAPA: 170/99 mmHg; non-dipper

Ecodoppler renal: Normal

Na u: 350 mEq/día

Dieta hiposódica

TA: 140/80 mmHg

Hto 44%  
Bcos 4800 mm<sup>3</sup>  
Plts 236000 mm<sup>3</sup>

Albúmina 3.5 g/dl  
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Ionograma urinario: 80 mEq/día

Valsartán: 160 mg/día

TA: 120/70 mmHg

Hto 42%  
Bcos 4900 mm<sup>3</sup>  
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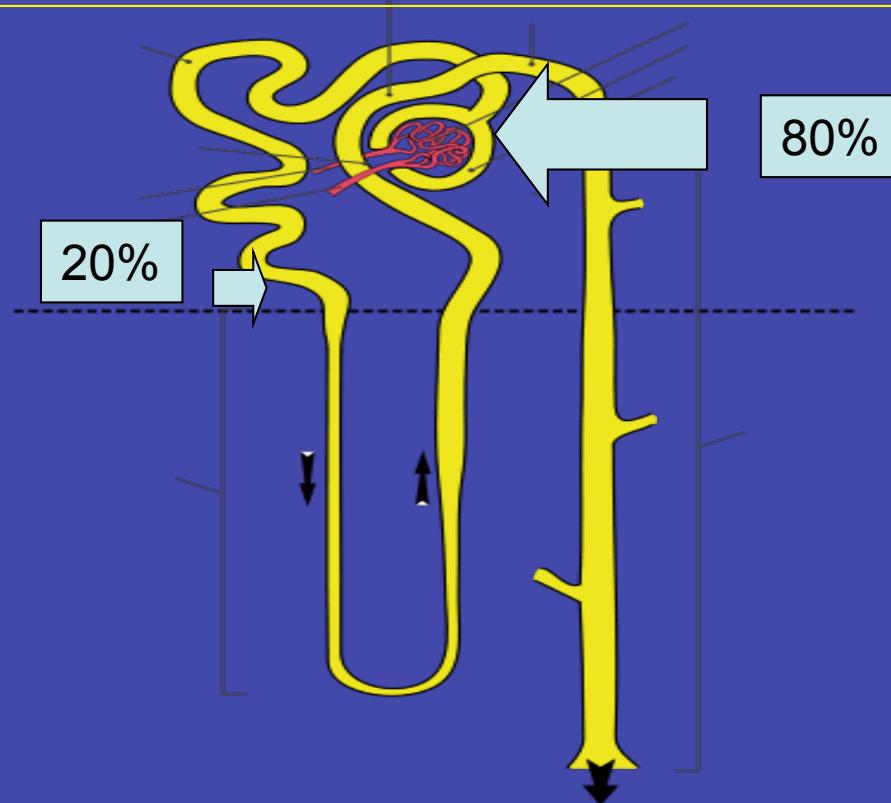
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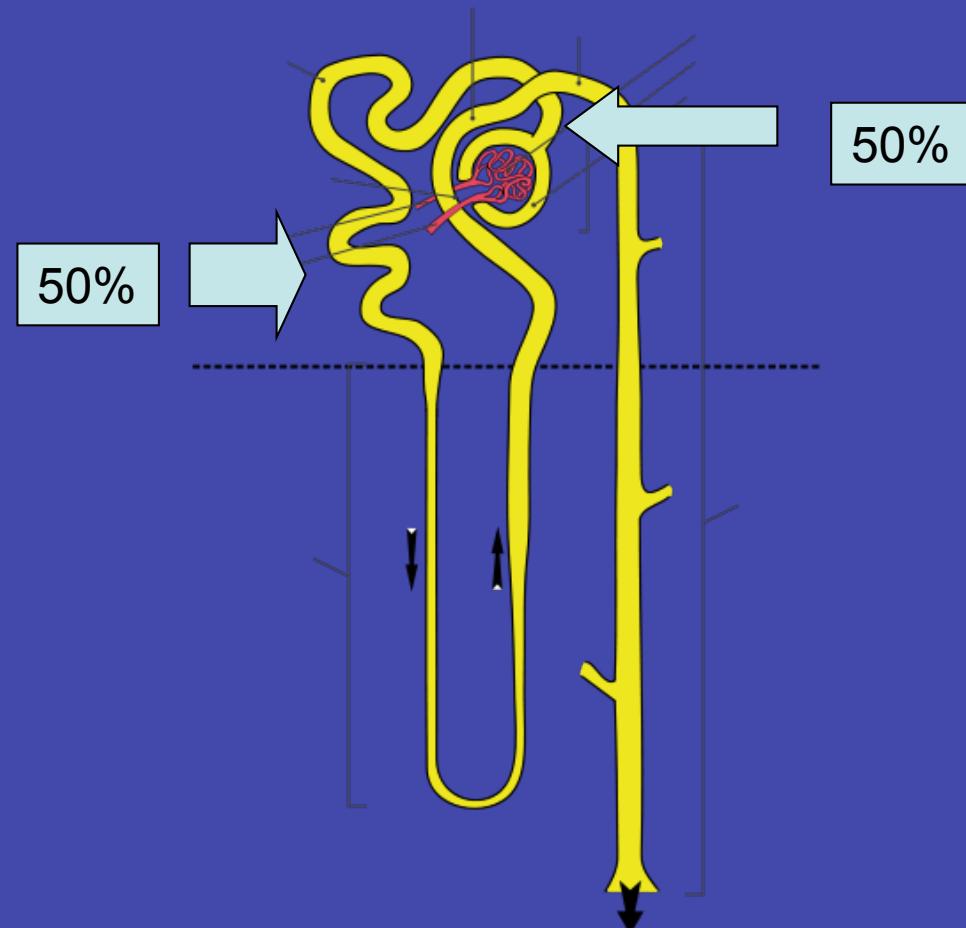
**Normalmente, la secreción tubular de creatinina contribuye con el 20% de la creatinina excretada en orina.**

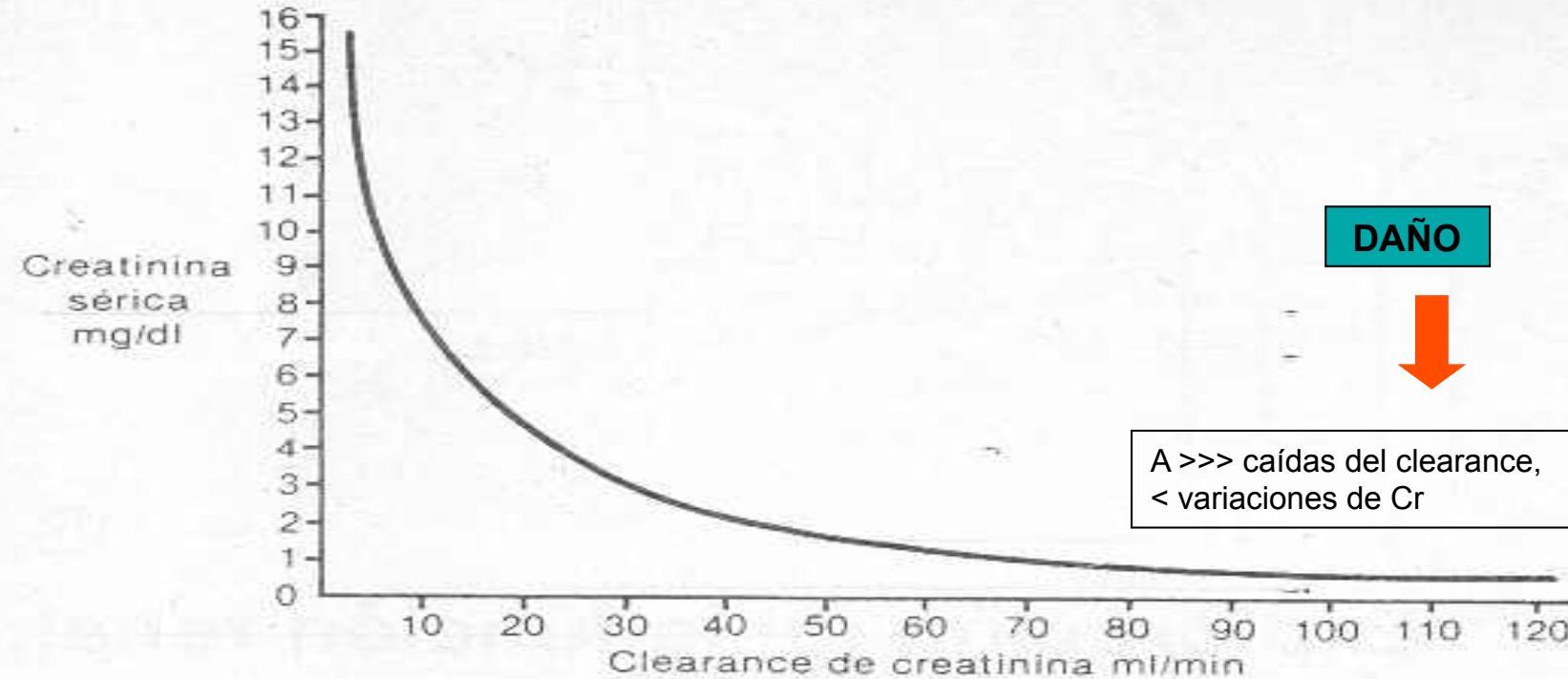
**El clearance de creatinina es ligeramente mayor que el filtrado glomerular debido a esta secreción tubular.**

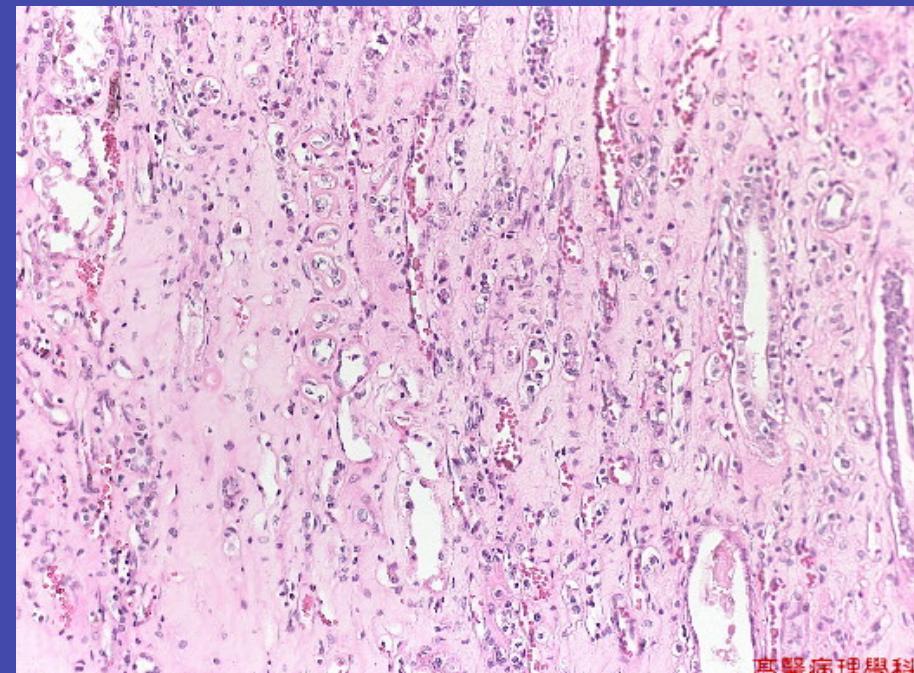
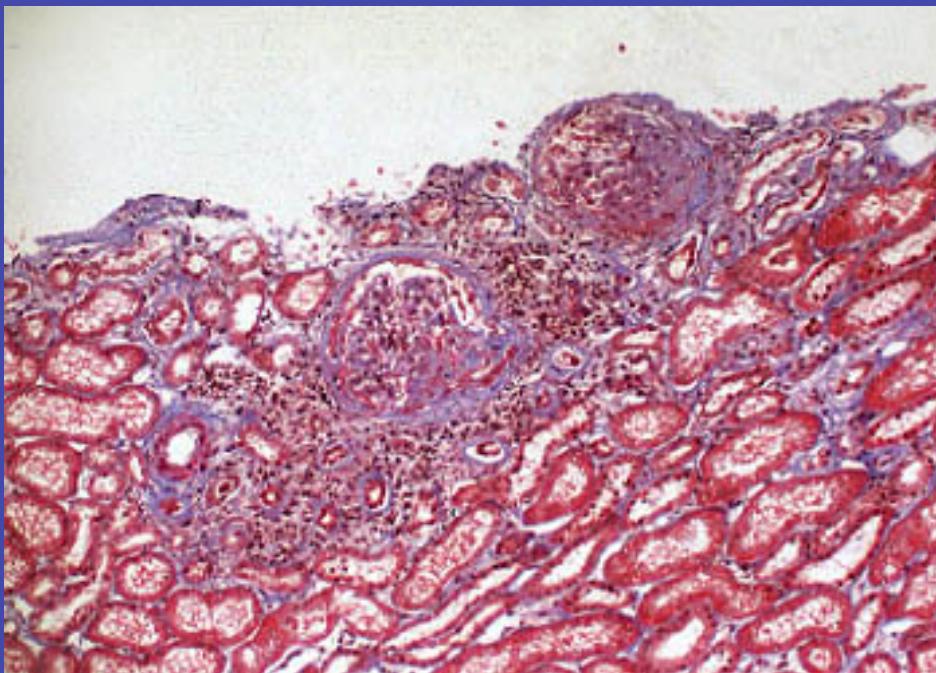


A medida que el filtrado glomerular cae,  
la secreción tubular aumenta hasta el 50%.

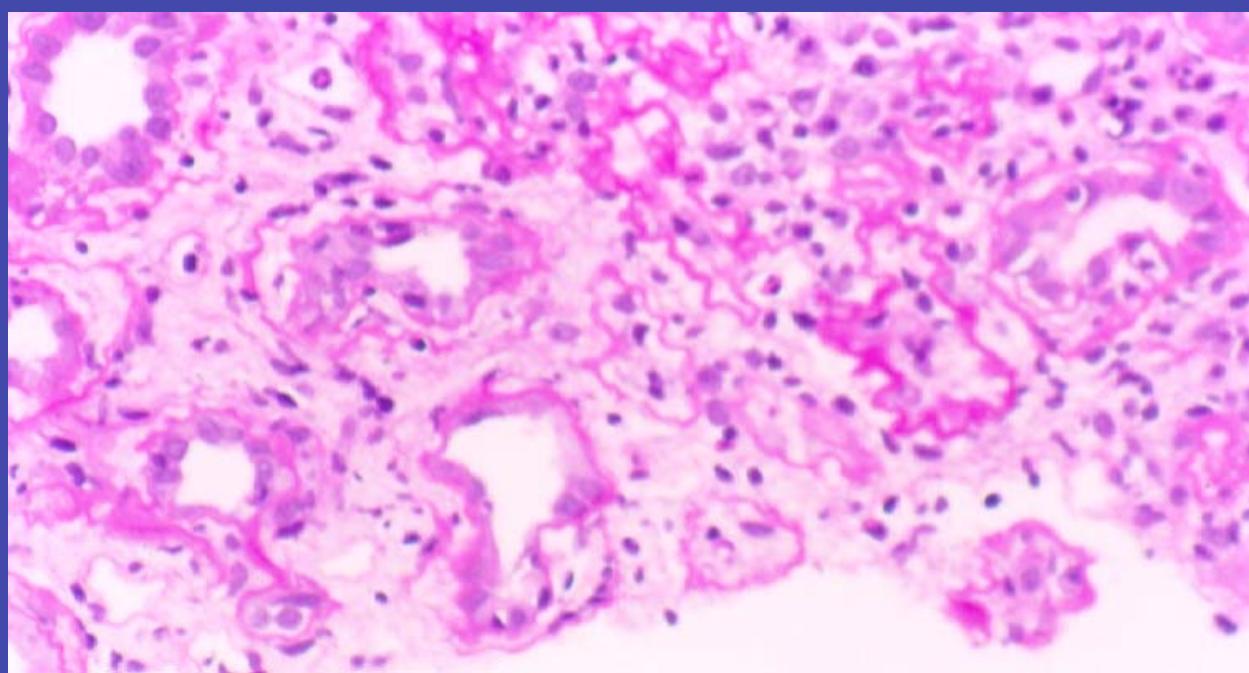
Esto produce resultados falsamente elevados cuando se calcula el  
filtrado glomerular.







高醫病理科學科





**¿ Los casos de nefropatía lúpica se evalúan todos de la misma manera ante una recaída?**

- a. Sí
- b. No

**¿Cuál de las siguientes opciones define mejor la recaída de una nefropatía lúpica?**

- a. Por el aumento de la hematuria eumórfica
- b. Por la reaparición de proteinuria
- c. Por el aumento de la proteinuria
- d. Por el aumento de la creatinina plasmática
- e. Por la caída del volumen de filtrado glomerular
- f. Por la desaparición de la hematuria dismórfica

¿Cómo se define la remisión o respuesta al tratamiento en la nefropatía lúpica?

SEÑALAR LA INCORRECTA

- a. Resolución de la hematuria eumórfica
- b. Mejoría en el VFG > 25% del basal
- c. Sin cambios en la creatinina sérica si el cuadro es estable
- d. Si un sedimento activo (HT y LEUC  $\geq$  10 x campo de gran aumento) se inactiva
- e. Proteinuria < 1 g/día
- f. Creatinina estable por los últimos 6 meses post-tratamiento

**¿Cuál debe ser a su criterio el objetivo de tratar la nefropatía lúpica activa?**

- a. Basarse en disminuir la creatinina
- b. Basarse en disminuir la hematuria eumórfica
- c. Basarse en disminuir la proteinuria
- d. Basarse en lograr inactividad de la enfermedad renal,  
  independientemente de los niveles de creatinina y de proteinuria
- e. Basarse en disminuir rápidamente la proteinuria

**En la nefropatía membranosa:  
Cuánto esperar para determinar que la proteinuria persistente  
se debe a la falta de respuesta al tratamiento?**

- a. 3 meses post-tratamiento
- b. 6 meses post-tratamiento
- c. 9 meses post-tratamiento
- d. 12 meses post-tratamiento

**En la nefritis proliferativa lúpica, la proteinuria oscila en general entre 1.0 y 1.6 g/día luego de 6 meses de inducción en pacientes con buena evolución:**

- a. Verdadero
- b. Falso

## ¿Cuándo rebiopsiar a un paciente con nefropatía lúpica?

- a. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción persiste proteinuria
- b. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción persiste sólo con HT dismórfica
- c. Cuando inmediatamente al terminar la inducción el cuadro no cambió mayormente
- d. Cuando 3- 6 meses terminada la inducción persiste con proteinuria > 2 g/día
- e. Cuando 6 meses determinada la inducción baja su creatinina

Ante un paciente con nefritis clase IV, creatinina 1.1 mg/dl, albúmina 2.2 g/dl, proteinuria 4.5 g/día y que no responde a la ciclofosfamida en pulsos por 6 meses, Ud., qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 60 días post-inducción?

- a. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, micofenolato mofetil 1 g/día
- b. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, micofenolato mofetil 2-3 g/día
- c. Rebiopsia. Si hay lesiones activas con semilunas, azatioprina 100 mg/día
- d. Trato con plasmaféresis y rituximab
- e. Trato con azatioprina 100 mg/día
- f. Trato con ciclofosfamida iv cada 3 meses x 6 meses más

Ante un paciente con nefritis clase IV, creatinina 2.9 mg/dl, albúmina 3.2 g/dl, proteinuria 1.5 g/día y que está en tratamiento de mantenimiento desde hace 1 mes con micofenolato mofetil 2 g/día, tras inducción x 6 meses con ciclofosfamida. TA: 130/80 mmHg. IMC: 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Ud. qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 40 días post-inducción?

- a. Comenzaría con IECAs
- b. Comenzaría con IECAs y luego ARA II
- c. Comenzaría secuencialmente con IECAs, ARA II, estatinas y eventualmente espironolactona
- d. Comenzaría secuencialmente con IECAs, aspirina 100 mg/día, ARA II, estatinas y eventualmente espironolactona
- e. Comenzaría con estatinas y aspirina

Ante un paciente con nefritis clase V, creatinina 1.1 mg/dl, albúmina 3.2 g/dl, proteinuria 3.5 g/día, TA: 140/90 mmHg, IMC. 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup> y que “no responde” a la ciclofosfamida en pulsos por 6 meses, Ud., qué conducta tomaría en su evaluación a los 40 días post-inducción?

- a. Solicito ionograma urinario de 24 hs
- b. Aumento dosis de IECA/ ARAII
- c. Rebiopsio
- d. Pulsos trimestrales de ciclofosfamida por 12 meses
- e. Considera seriamente ciclosporina 3-4 mg/kg/día

Ante una biopsia renal, qué compartimento afectado tiene el mayor impacto en el pronóstico a largo plazo?

- a. Glomérulo
- b. Vasos
- c. Túbulos
- d. Intersticio
- e. Cápsula



## Aldosterone Antagonists for Preventing the Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

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**Background and objectives:** Addition of aldosterone antagonists (AA) might provide renal benefits to proteinuric chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients over and above the inhibition of renin-angiotensin system blockers (RAS). We evaluated the benefits and harms of adding selective and nonselective AA in CKD patients already on RAS.

**Design, setting, participants, & measurements:** MEDLINE, EMBASE, and Renal Health Library were searched for relevant randomized clinical trials in adult CKD patients. Results were summarized using the random-effects model.

**Results:** Eleven trials (991 patients) were included. In comparison to angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEi) and/or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARB) plus placebo, nonselective AA along with ACEi and/or ARB significantly reduced 24 h proteinuria (seven trials, 372 patients, weighted mean difference [WMD] 0.80 g, 95% CI 1.27, 0.33) and BP. This did not translate into an improvement in GFR (WMD 0.70 ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>, 95% CI 4.73, 3.34). There was a significant increase in the risk of hyperkalemia with the addition of nonselective AA to ACEi and/or ARB (relative risk 3.06, 95% CI 1.26, 7.41). In two trials, addition of selective AA to ACEi resulted in an additional reduction in 24 h proteinuria, without any impact on BP and renal function. Data on cardiovascular outcomes, long-term renal outcomes and mortality were not available in any of the trials.

**Conclusions:** Aldosterone antagonists reduce proteinuria in CKD patients already on ACEis and ARBs but increase the risk of hyperkalemia. Long-term effects of these agents on renal outcomes, mortality, and safety need to be established.

## Rituximab in Severe Lupus Nephritis: Early B-Cell Depletion Affects Long-Term Renal Outcome

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**Background and objectives:** Standard treatment for lupus nephritis, including corticosteroids and cyclophosphamide, is efficient but is still associated with refractory or relapsing disease, or severe deleterious effects. Rituximab, a monoclonal chimeric anti-B cell antibody, is increasingly used in patients with lupus nephritis, but reported series were small and had a short follow-up.

**Design, setting, participants, & measurements:** The authors analyzed clinical and histologic data of 20 patients who were treated with rituximab for lupus nephritis and followed up for at least 12 mo.

**Results:** Nineteen women and one man received rituximab as induction treatment for an active class IV (15 cases) or class V (5 cases) lupus nephritis. Rituximab was given for lupus nephritis refractory to standard treatment (12 cases), for relapsing disease (6 cases), or as first-line treatment (2 cases). Three patients received cyclophosphamide concomitantly with rituximab. Ten received new injections of rituximab as maintenance therapy. Side effects included mainly five infections and four moderate neutropenias. After a median follow-up of 22 mo, complete or partial renal remission was obtained in 12 patients (60%). Lupus nephritis relapsed in one patient, who responded to a new course of rituximab. The achievement of B cell depletion 1 mo after rituximab, which negatively correlated with black ethnicity and hypoalbuminemia, was strongly associated with renal response. Rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis did not respond to rituximab.

**Conclusion:** Rituximab is an interesting therapeutic option in relapsing or refractory lupus nephritis when early B cell depletion is obtained.

## Mycophenolate Mofetil for Induction Therapy of Lupus Nephritis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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**Background and Objectives:** Although the accepted standard of care for induction of lupus nephritis has been cyclophosphamide, recent trials suggest that mycophenolate mofetil may be as or more effective and less toxic. A systematic review and meta-analysis were performed to determine the risk for failure to induce remission of lupus nephritis in patients who were treated with mycophenolate mofetil compared with cyclophosphamide.

**Design, Setting, Participants, & Measurements:** Studies were identified by a search of electronic databases, bibliographies, and conference proceedings and by contacting experts. Randomized trials that compared mycophenolate mofetil with cyclophosphamide for induction therapy in adults with biopsy-proven lupus nephritis were eligible. The primary outcome was failure to induce a remission of nephritis as defined by the original studies (based on proteinuria, renal function, and urine sediment).

**Results:** Four studies that included 268 patients and had homogeneous results across studies were identified. In a fixed-effects model, the pooled relative risk for failure to induce remission for mycophenolate mofetil compared with cyclophosphamide was 0.70. The relative risk for the composite outcome of death or end-stage renal disease for mycophenolate mofetil compared with cyclophosphamide was 0.44. Leukopenia and amenorrhea occurred more frequently in cyclophosphamide-treated patients.

**Conclusions:** Treatment of lupus nephritis with mycophenolate mofetil compared with cyclophosphamide reduces the risk for failure to induce remission during induction therapy and may reduce the risk for death or end-stage renal disease. Mycophenolate mofetil may be considered as a first-line induction therapy for the treatment of lupus nephritis in patients without severe renal dysfunction.

## Reduction of proteinuria with mycophenolate mofetil in predominantly membranous lupus nephropathy

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**Introduction.** Lupus membranous nephropathy (LMN) presents a difficult clinical problem as no particular treatment has been proven to be effective. Studies have shown good results with mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) in proliferative lupus nephropathy (LN) (WHO class III and IV disease).

**Objectives.** To study whether MMF treatment was effective in membranous predominant LN in patients resistant to or intolerant of other immunosuppressive agents.

**Patients and methods.** We retrospectively studied 10 patients with systemic lupus erythematosus who had biopsy-proven predominant LMN (six Vc patients and four Va or Vb patients). Previous treatments included cyclophosphamide, azathioprine, ciclosporin and corticosteroids. The following parameters were recorded at baseline and follow-up: blood pressure, ECLAM, proteinuria, serum albumin and creatinine, routine haematology and immunology.

**Results.** The study included eight women and two men, mean age 38.47.1 yr (range 30–49 yr). The racial distribution was as follows: five Caucasian, and five Black patients. The mean treatment time with MMF was 18.815.4 months (range 3–52 months). Twenty-four-hour urinary protein excretion was reduced from median 2.26 g (range 0–7.92 g) to median 0.66 g (range 0.08–3.85 g) at follow-up ( $P^{\wedge}0.0039$ ). Serum albumin increased significantly after treatment from median 29.5 g/l (range 14.0–42.0 g/l) to 33.5 g/l (range 23.0–40.0 g/l) at follow-up ( $P^{\wedge}0.04$ ). There were no significant changes in serum creatinine ( $P^{\wedge}0.55$ ).

**Conclusion.** MMF is a potentially useful immunosuppressive agent in reducing the proteinuria associated with membranous predominant LN.

## Mycophenolate mofetil in induction and maintenance therapy of severe lupus nephritis: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

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**Background.** The outcomes of previous trials of mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) in treating severe lupus nephritis (LN) are not in exact agreement. This meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) assesses the benefits and harms of MMF in the induction and maintenance therapy of severe LN.

**Methods.** We searched Medline, EMBASE and the Cochrane Collaboration Database for RCTs that compared MMF with other immunorepressive regimens for treating lupus nephritis and extracted data for remissions, side effects and prognosis in induction therapy and prognosis and side effects in maintenance therapy, and we summarized the combined results of the data of the RCTs as relative risk (RR).

**Results.** We analysed five RCTs with 307 patients—four RCTS providing the data for comparing MMF with cyclophosphamide (CYC) for induction therapy and two RCTs providing the data for comparing MMF with azathioprine (AZA) for maintenance therapy of severe LN. Overall, compared with CYC, induction therapy with MMF reduced the risk of infection significantly (RR 0.65, P<0.001). It also significantly increased the complete remission rate compared with intravenous CYC (RR 3.10, P<0.006). Compared with intravenous CYC, induction therapy with MMF reduced the incidence of leucopenia significantly (RR 0.66, P<0.04). The prognosis and other side effects were not significantly different between MMF and CYC induction therapies. There was no significant difference between the patients receiving MMF and those receiving AZA for maintenance therapy in prognosis or the risks of amenorrhoea and herpes zoster.

**Conclusions.** MMF has higher efficacy in inducing remission in severe LN than pulsed intravenous therapy with CYC. Induction therapy with MMF is also associated with fewer side effects than induction therapy with CYC. Compared with AZA, MMF also is an alternative for maintenance therapy of severe LN without significant difference in the prognosis or risks of amenorrhoea and herpes zoster.

## Rituximab Therapy for Membranous Nephropathy: A Systematic Review

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**Background and objectives:** The treatment of membranous nephropathy (MN) remains controversial. Rituximab, which selectively targets B cells, has emerged as a possible alternative treatment option with limited toxicity.

**Design, setting, participants, & measurements:** The available data on rituximab therapy for MN were reviewed using the MEDLINE database (inception to August 1, 2008), Google Scholar, and selected reference lists. English-language studies investigating the use of rituximab in idiopathic and secondary MN, in native and transplanted kidneys, were included. Study design, subject number, clinical characteristics (diagnosis, previous and concomitant treatment courses, baseline proteinuria, baseline renal function), rituximab protocol, follow-up period, achievement of complete or partial remission, changes in proteinuria and renal function, and adverse effects of therapy were extracted.

**Results:** Twenty-one articles were included for review; all were either case reports or case series without controls. More than half of the published cases (50 of 85) came from one center where rituximab was used as primary immunosuppression for idiopathic MN. The available data suggest that rituximab, dosed either as 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> once weekly for 4 wk or as 1 g on days 1 and 15, achieves a 15 to 20% rate of complete remission and a 35 to 40% rate of partial remission. The drug was well tolerated with minimal adverse events.

**Conclusions:** Although rituximab may prove to be a better treatment option for MN than alkylating agents or calcineurin inhibitors, the current literature only supports using the drug in research protocols. Whether, when, how, and why to use rituximab in MN remains to be determined.

*Clin J Am Soc Nephrol* 4: 734–744, 2009.

## Efficacy of enteric-coated mycophenolate sodium in patients with resistant-type lupus nephritis: a prospective study

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The role of mycophenolate mofetil (MMF) is still controversial in the treatment of cyclophosphamide-resistant proliferative lupus nephritis (PLN). Enteric-coated mycophenolate sodium (EC-MPS) has less gastrointestinal adverse effects than MMF and is, therefore, increasingly utilised in organ transplantation. The aim of this study was to compare the efficacy and safety of EC-MPS versus an extended-course of intravenous cyclophosphamide (ED-IVCY) in resistant-type PLN. Thirty-one, biopsy-proven PLN, patients who failed to respond to an induction of IVCY were enrolled in a prospective, open-labelled, historically controlled study. Patients received 6 month of EC-MPS (720 mg b.i.d.) treatment. The patients in the ED-IVCY group, collected from a database, received a repeated 6-month course of monthly IVCY 0.5–1 g/m<sup>2</sup> of body surface area. Both groups received 0.5–1 mg/kg/day of prednisolone. Primary outcomes were partial or complete responses. A repeated kidney biopsy was performed to evaluate the histological response. No serious adverse events or patient deaths were observed during the study. Both groups had comparable baseline characteristics. At 6 months, the EC-MPS group had a comparable response rate with the ED-IVCY group. There were significantly less adverse events in the EC-MPS group. Repeated biopsies showed significant improvement in the EC-MPS group. EC-MPS provides salutary efficacy and safety in the treatment of resistant-type PLN and can be a suitably alternative treatment to ED-IVCY. *Lupus* (2008) 17, 744–751.