

# Pathophysiology of HUS: Role of Infection

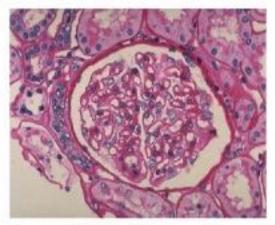
# Ashraf M A Bakr

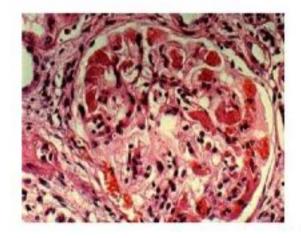
Prof. of Pediatrics, Mansoura Faculty of Medicine Provost, University of Hertfordshire Ex-President, Mansoura University Consultant, Pediatric Nephrology, Mansoura University Children's Hospital

# Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome

A thrombotic microangiopathy manifesting with:

- Micro-angiopathic hemolytic anemia
- Thrombocytopenia
- Acute renal failure





## Hemolytic uremic syndrome *Historical perspective*

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Pub Med.gov	PubMed 🗸	
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### Display Settings: Abstract

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Schweiz Med Wochenschr. 1955 Sep 20;85(38-39):905-9.

[Hemolytic-uremic syndrome: bilateral necrosis of the renal cortex in acute acquired hemolytic anemia].

[Article in German] GASSER C, GAUTIER E, STECK A, SIEBENMANN RE, OECHSLIN R.



Infection-associated HUS Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli HUS Streptococcus pneumoniae H1N1/influenza A

Pregnancy-induced aHUS

Drug-induced aHUS

### ansplant-associated HUS

matopoietic stem cell transplantation mbotic microangiopathy gan transplantation thrombotic iopathy

Secondary aHUS Malignant hypertension Complement-amplifying conditions

Complement-mediated ah Hereditary: mutations of CFH, CFI, C3, CFB, MCP and THBD Acquired: factor H autoantibody-associated HUS

> Non-complementmediated aHUS DGKE WT1 G6PD

Metabolism-associated HUS Cobalamin C disease Methionine synthase deficiency

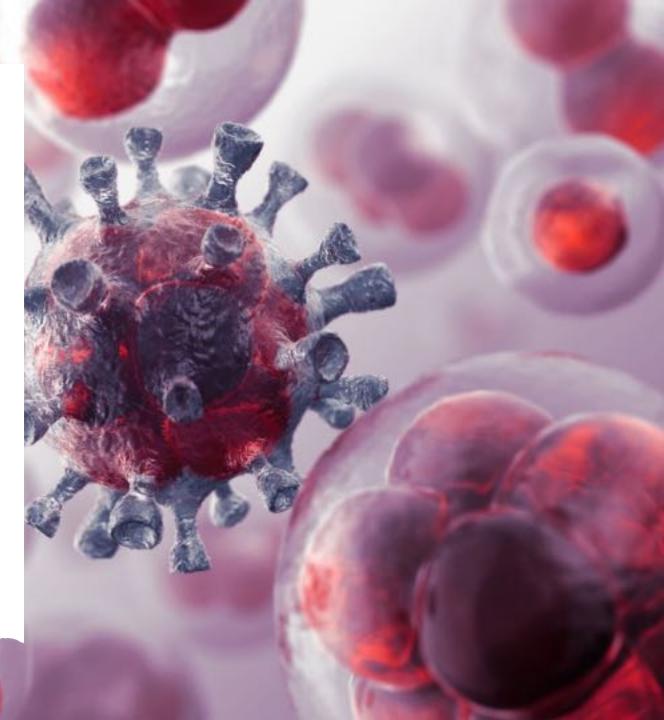
Coagulation-mediated aHUS Thrombomodulin

## Infection-associated HUS Classification

- Shiga-toxin producing E-Coli (STEC)
- Streptococcal pneumoniae
- > Others:

\*Shigella

Viral Infection: Influenza, HIV, COVID-19.....





# STEC-HUS

Historical perspective

Pub	The association between idiopath	The association between idiopathic hemolytic uremic syndrome and infection				
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> J Infect Dis. 1985 N	May;151(5):775-82. doi: 10.1093/infdis/151.5.775.			FULL	TEXT LINKS	
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	and infection by verotoxin-					
Escherichia	50 k	1 0		ACTIC	ONS	
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M A Karmali, M Petric	c, C Lim, P C Fleming, G S Arbus, H Lior			n	Collections	



# STEC-HUS in children



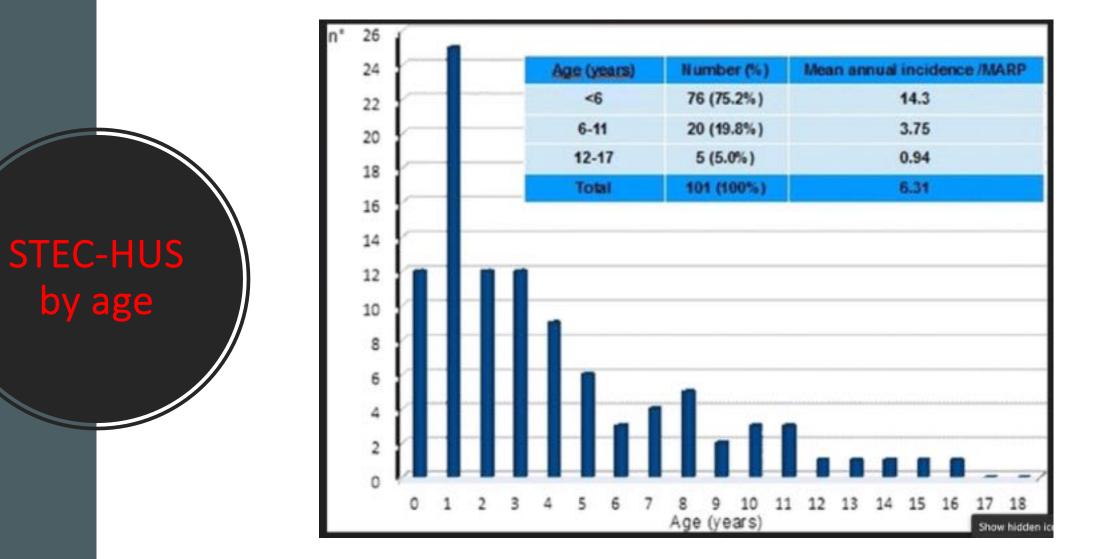
# Europe

Bruyand et al.; Médecine et maladies infectieuses 48 (2018) 167–174

# Incidence of HUS in STEC infections

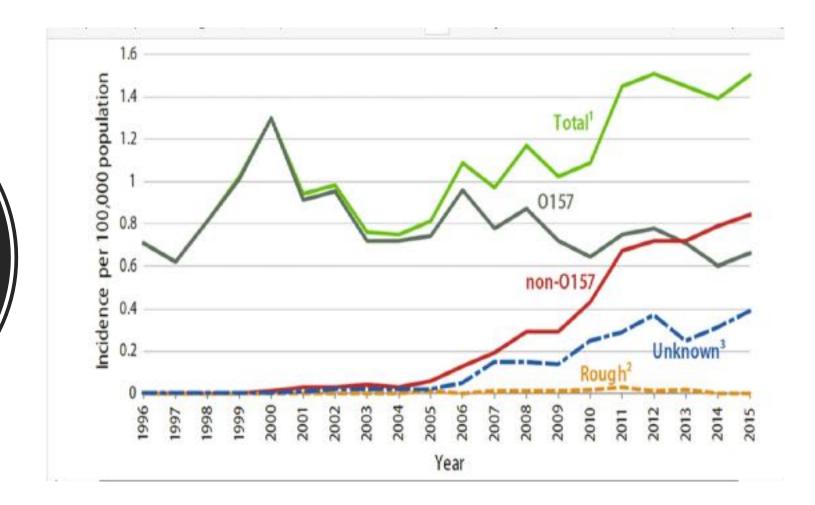


Bruyand et al.; Médecine et maladies infectieuses 48 (2018) 167–174

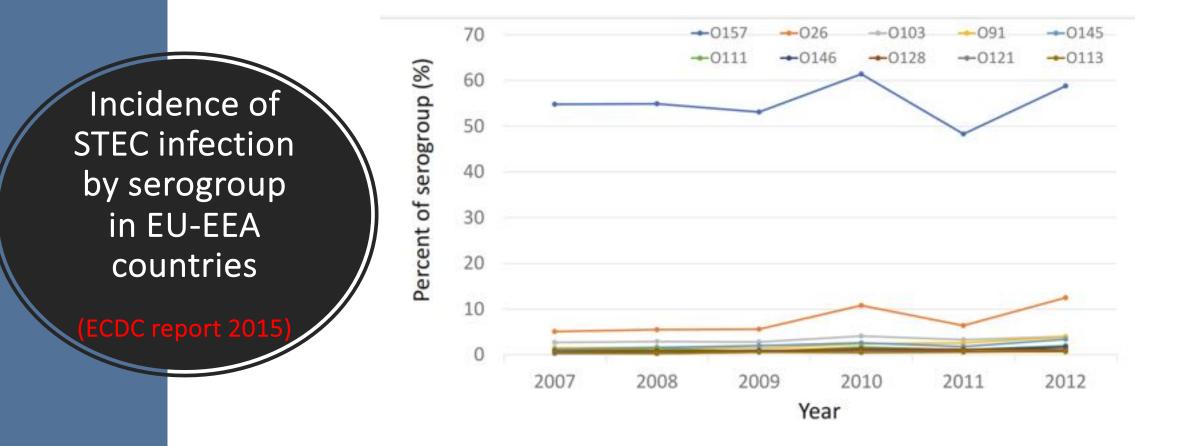




# E-Coli serogroups and HUS

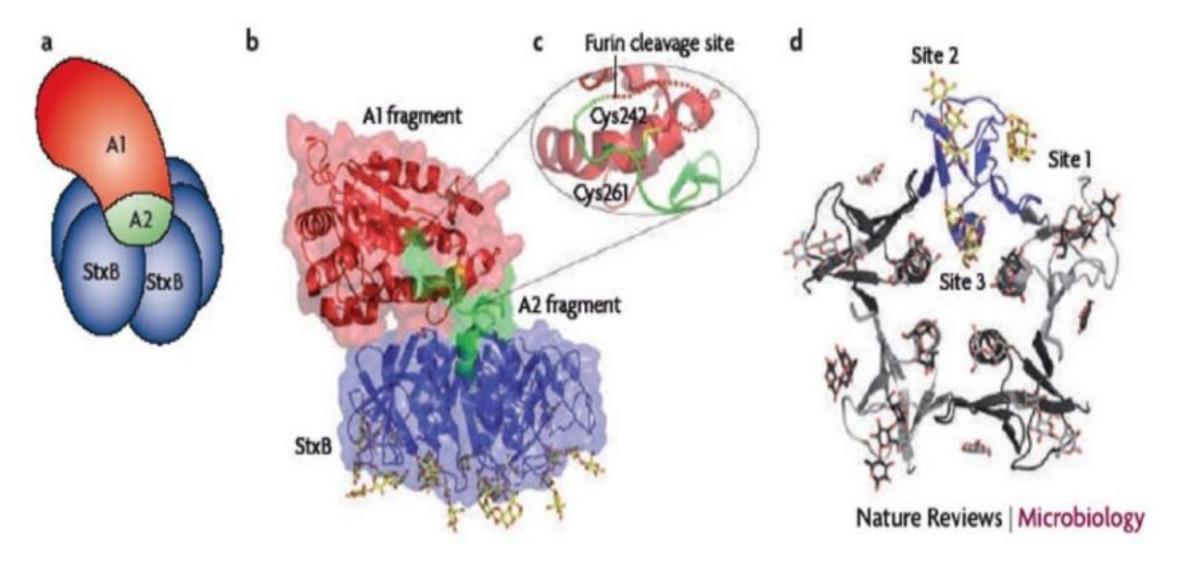


Incidence of STEC Infection by serogroup in USA

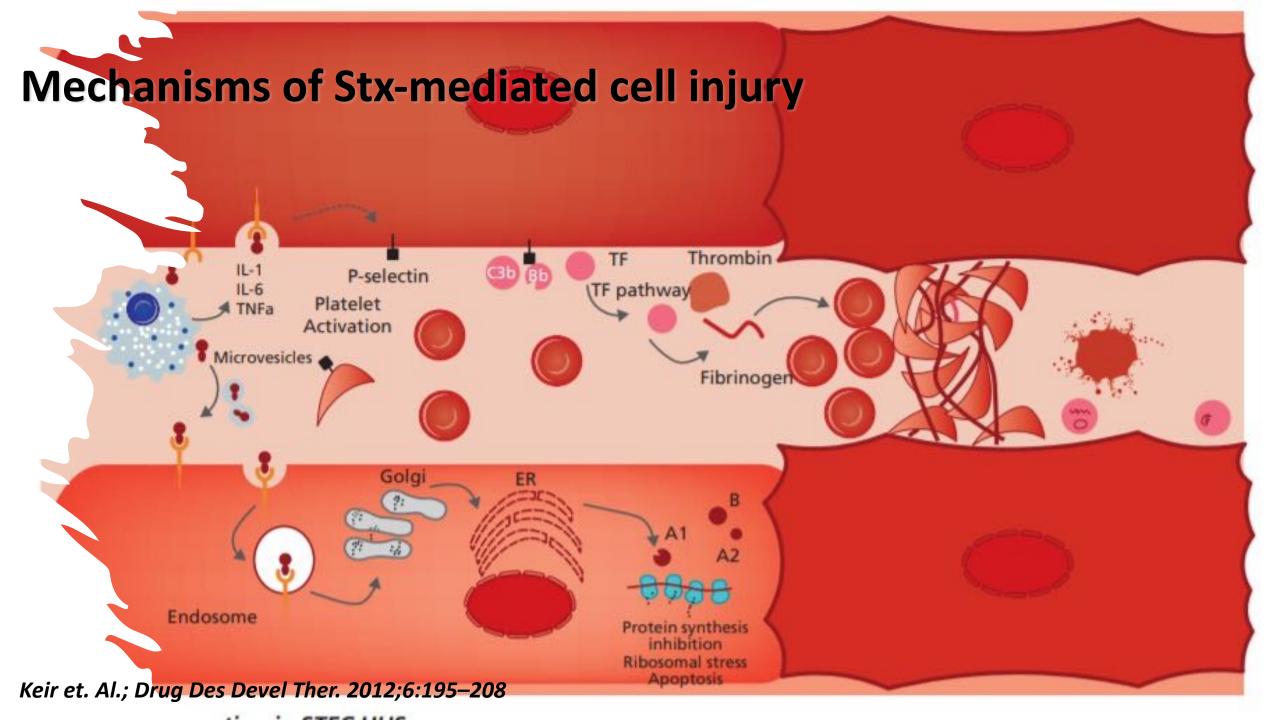




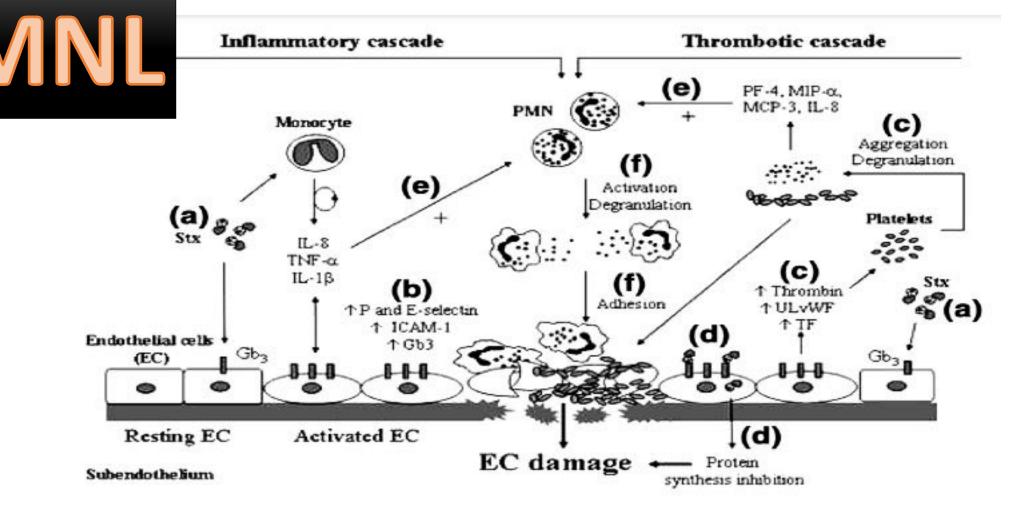
# Shiga toxin structure



*Obrig, Toxins. 2010;2:2769–94* 

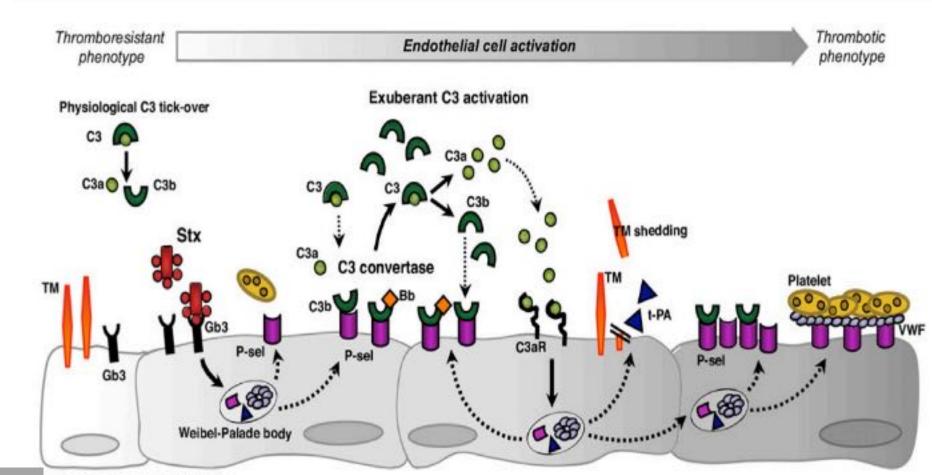


# Inflammatory components



- Increased serum anti LPS Abs
- Low superoxide dismutase activity

Quoted from Exeni et.al.; Pediatr Nephrol. 2018;33:2057–71.



Microvascular endothelial cells

- Low serum C3 levels
  Increased factor Bb
- Increased soluble membrane attack complex (SC5b-9)

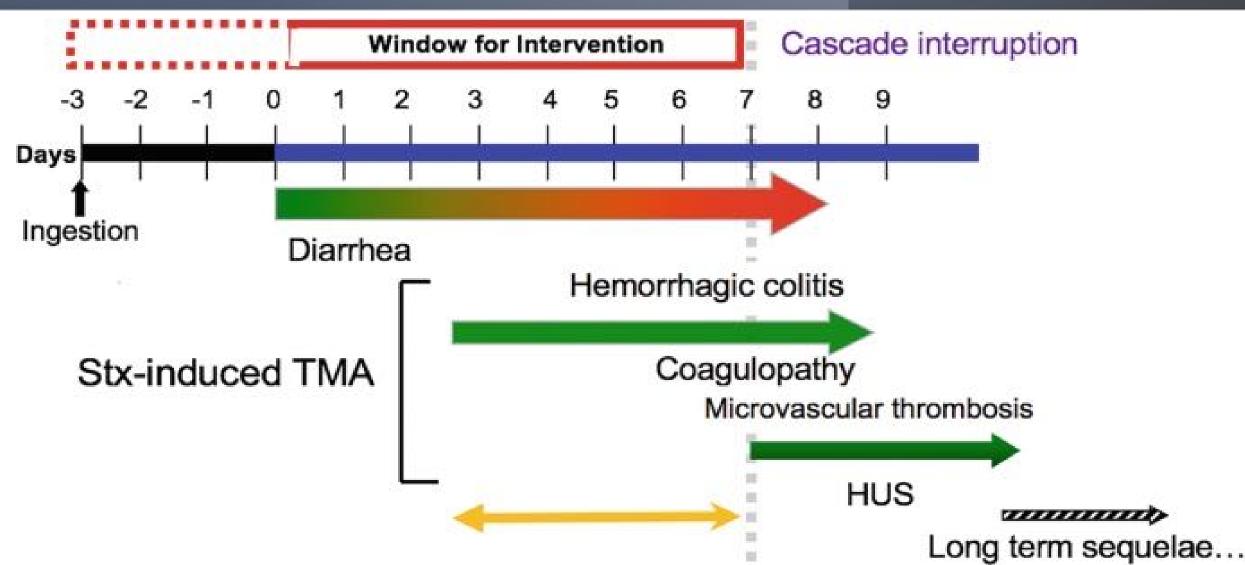
Quoted from Exeni et.a.l; Pediatr Nephrol. 2018;33:2057–71.

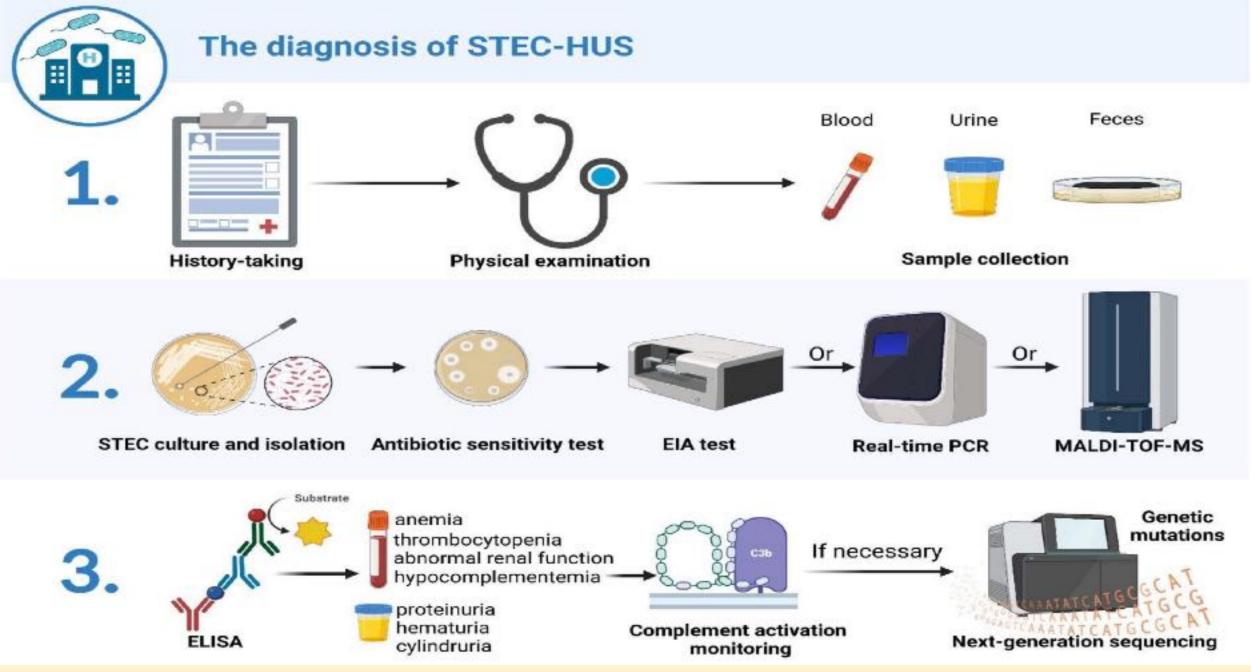


# Shiga toxins



# Clinical course of STEC-HUS

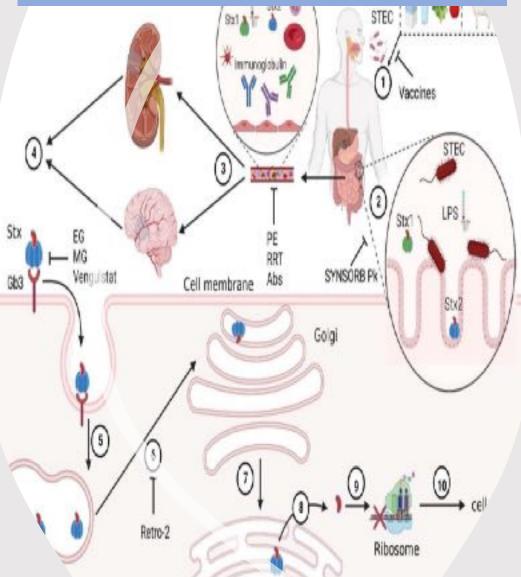




Liu et. Al., Toxins 2023, 15(1)

### **STEC-HUS** therapeutic targets.

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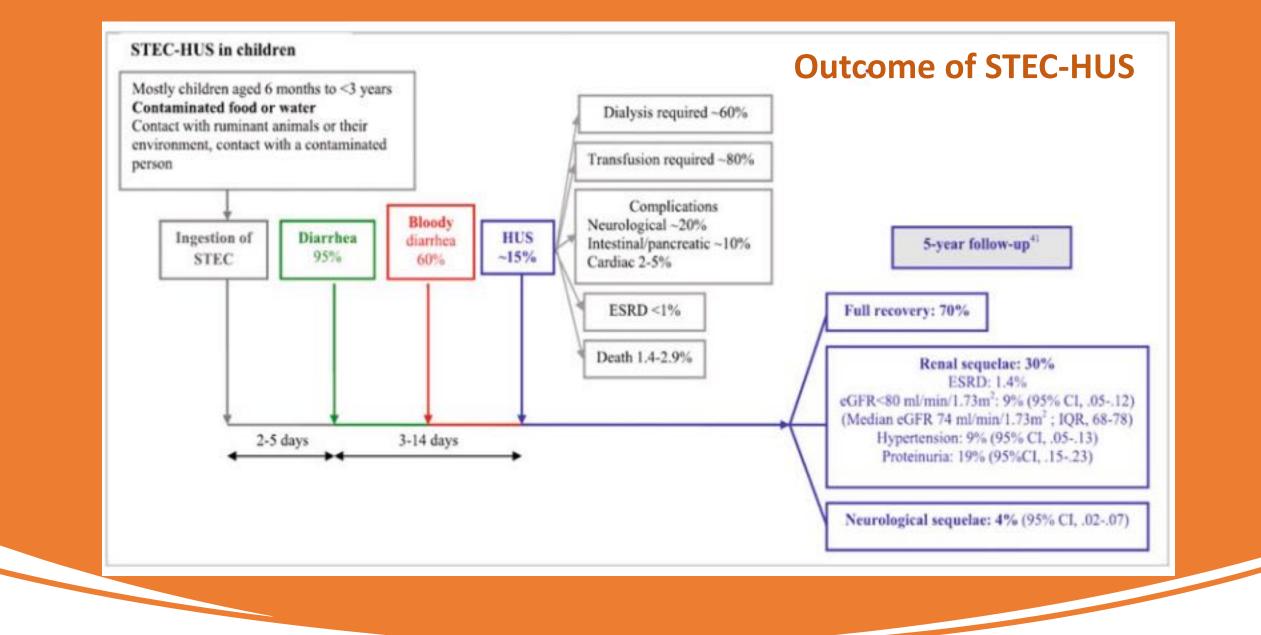
### **BioRender.com** (accessed on 12 October 2022)

Nucleus

S. Kagami et al.

Cirtoplar

Shiga toxin binding	Scavenging Shiga toxin mimicking GB3 receptor	Intracellular interference with Stx	Inhibitors	Natural products	Inflammation/ immunomudualtion	Antibiotics
Oral bovine colostrum <sup>a</sup>	Synsorb Pk <sup>b</sup>	Chloroquine	Pyocins <sup>c</sup>	White carob tree <sup>a</sup>	Eculizumab <sup>a,b</sup>	
Recombinant antibodies in plants for cattle feed (elimination from reservoir) <sup>c</sup>	Starfish/Daisy carbohydrate ligands, Super Twig (carbosilan) <sup>c</sup>	Retro1,2 Ac-PPP-tet, TVP <sup>c</sup>	Phages <sup>c</sup>	Ziziphus mistol extract <sup>c</sup>	Steroids*	
Humanized Stx targeting antibodies like Urtoxazumab <sup>e</sup> , 13C4,11E10 Stx targeting camelid antibodies <sup>e</sup>	Neutralizing peptides binding to GB3 <sup>c</sup>			Elagitannin <sup>c</sup>	IVIG <sup>4</sup>	
	Oral administered bacteria expressing GB3 <sup>c</sup>					
	Nanoparticles displaying Stx ligands <sup>e</sup>					
	GB3 expression inhibitors <sup>e</sup>					



Quoted from Kagami et al, in Pediatric Nephrology, 2021 F. Emma et al. (eds.), © Springer-Verlag GmbH Germany, part of Springer Nature <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-27843-3\_99-1">https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-27843-3\_99-1</a>



500 cases

Review > Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg. 2012 Jul:106(7):395-9. doi: 10.1016/j.trstmh.2012.04.001. Epub 2012 May 10.

### Haemolytic uraemic syndrome during shigellosis

#### Thomas Butler

Affiliations + expand PMID: 22579556 DOI: 10.1016/j.tmtmh.2012.04.001

### Abstract

Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS), which is comprised of the triad of haemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia and renal insufficiency, occurs in about 13% of dysenteric patients with shigellosis due to Shigella dysenteriae type 1 (SD1) infections, who are mostly children less than five years old in Africa and Asia. With a case-fatality rate of about 36%, it is the leading cause of death in SD1 outbreaks. Research suggests that Shiga toxin and lipopolysaccharide from the causative bacteria play roles in pathogenesis. The risk of HUS is increased when inappropriate antimicrobial drugs, against which infecting bacteria are resistant, are used or when any antimicrobial drug is given more than four days after the start of diarnhoea. To prevent HUS, it is advised to initiate an appropriate drug early and to consider withholding antimicrobial therapy in patients presenting more than four days after the oriset of diarnhoea.

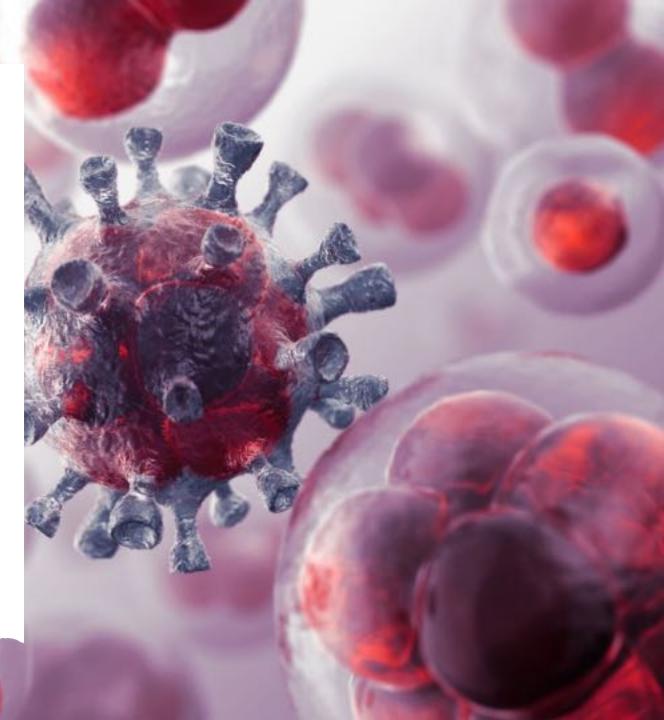
- 13% of dysenteric patients with shigellosis due to Shigella dysenteriae type 1 (SD1) infections develop HUS.
- Mostly children less than five years old.
- HUS develops 4-17 days after the onset of bloody diarrhea.
- The risk of HUS is increased with delay in the start of appropriate antimicrobial drugs.
- Shiga toxin and lipopolysaccharide play roles in pathogenesis.
- Mortality rate is 36%.

### Infection - Associated HUS Classification

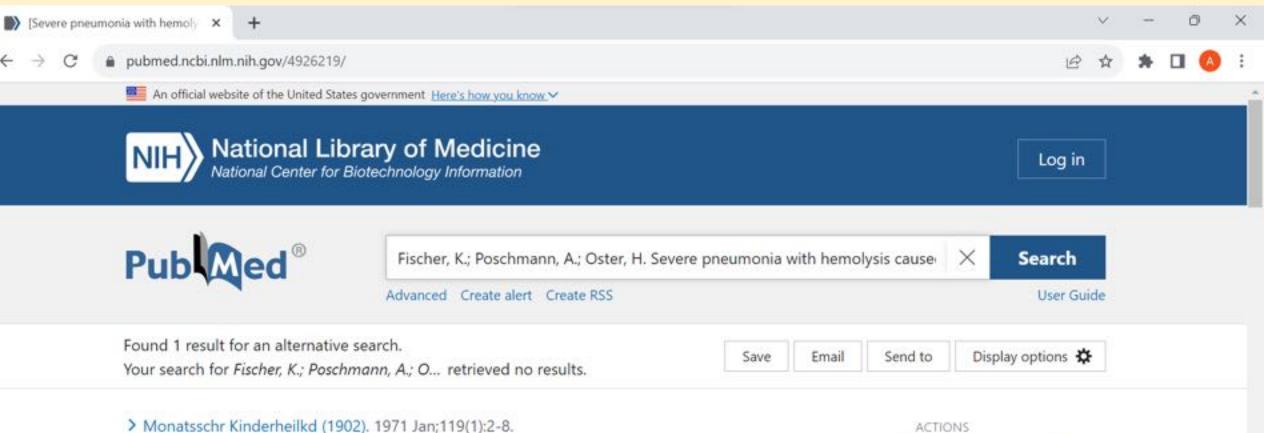
- Shiga-toxin producing E-Coli (STEC)
- Streptococcal pneumoniae
- > Others:

\*Shigella

Viral Infection: Influenza, HIV, COVID-19.....







### [Severe pneumonia with hemolysis caused by neuraminidase. Detection of cryptantigens by indirect immunofluorescent technic]



[Article in German] K Fischer, A Poschmann, H Oster

PMID: 4926219



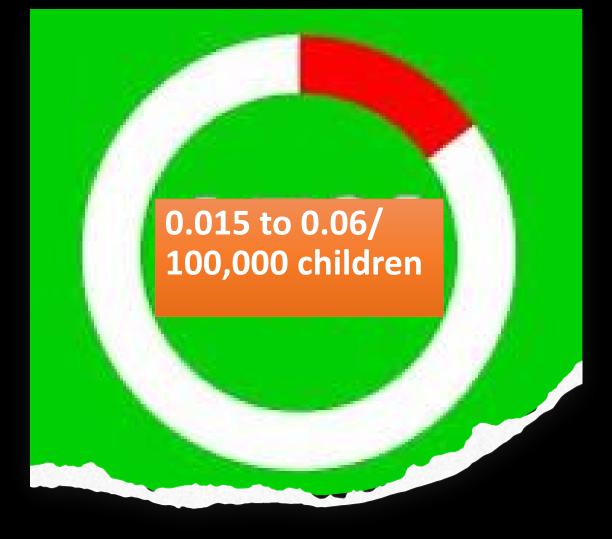




# Sp-HUS in children

Bruyand M et al,. Médecine et maladies infectieuses 48 (2018) 167–174

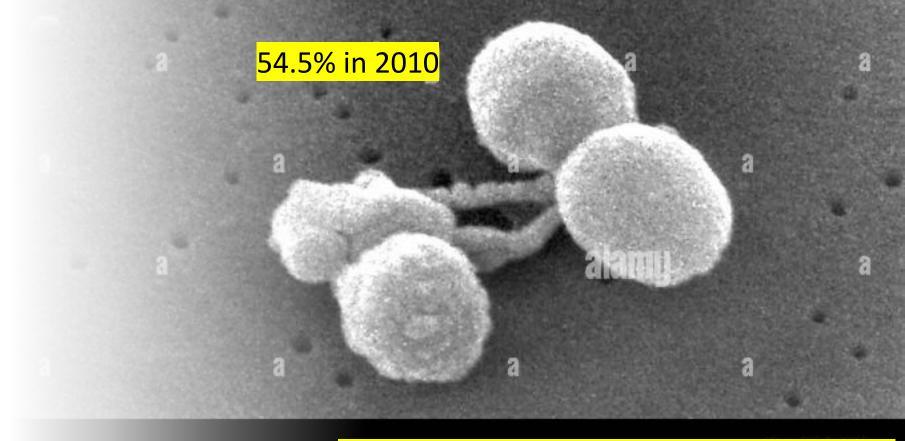
## Incidence of HUS in Streptococcal pneumoniae infections.



*Copelovitch & Kaplan, Pediatr. Nephrol. 2008, 23, 1951–1956.* 

# Streptococcal pneumoniae serogroups and Sp-HUS

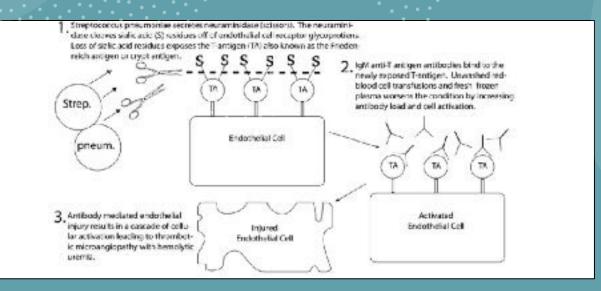


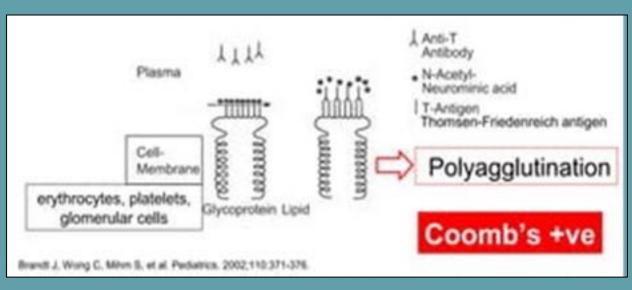


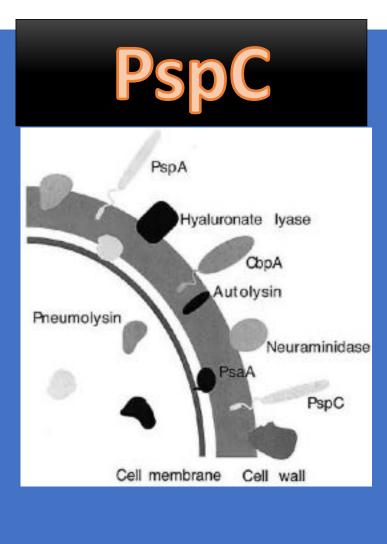
Copelovitch & Kaplan;. Pediatrics. 2010;125(1):e174–82.

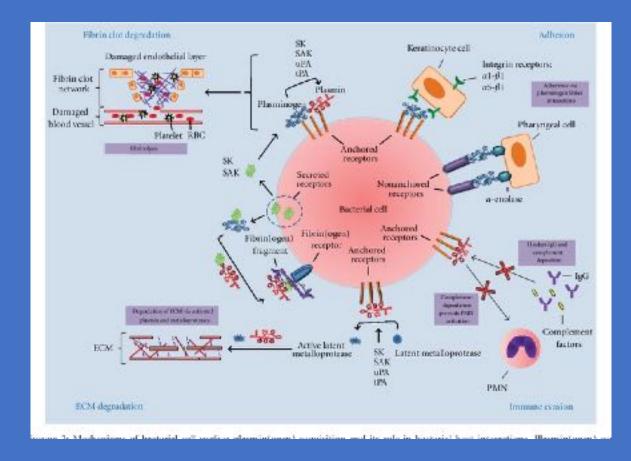
# Neuraminidase

# Mechanisms of neuraminidase -mediated cell injury

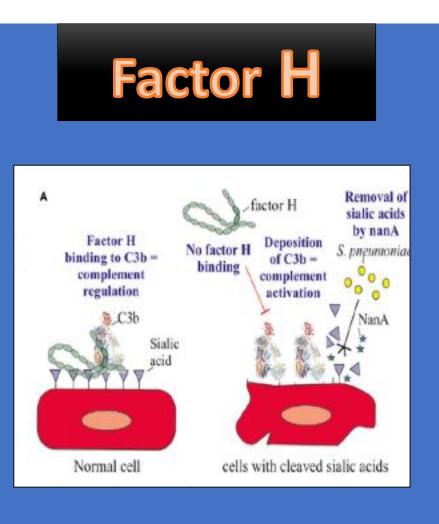




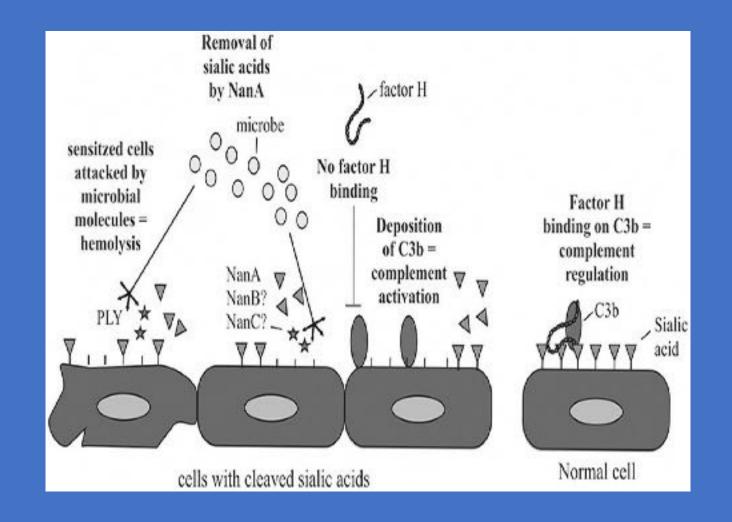




### Meinel et al., J. Infect. Dis. 2018, 217, 358–370



### **Pathophysiology of Sp-HUS**



#### *Spinale et al.; Curr. Opin. Pediatr. 2013, 25, 203–208*

### Complement dysregulation

Case Reports > Med Hypotheses, 2013 Sept81(3):400-3, doi: 10.1015/j.mehy.2013.05.030. Epub 2013 Jun 17.

Does dysregulated complement activation contribute to haemolytic uraemic syndrome secondary to Streptococcus pneumoniae?

Rodney D Gilbert <sup>1</sup>, Arvind Nagra, Mushfequr R Hao

 3/5 patients had mutations and/or risk haplotypes in the complement genes.

### **Pathophysiology of Sp-HUS**

Case Reports > Int J Med Microbiol. 2018 Dec;308(8):1096-1104. doi: 10.1016/j.ijmm.2018.08.007. Epub 2018 Aug 29.

Complement depletion and Coombs positivity in pneumococcal hemolytic uremic syndrome (pnHUS). Case series and plea to revisit an old pathogenetic concept

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Martin Bitzan<sup>1</sup>, Omar AlKandari<sup>2</sup>, Blair Whittemore<sup>3</sup>, Xiao-Ling Yin<sup>4</sup>
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- Activation of the classic pathway secondary to exposing T-antigens on different cells.
- Activation of the alternative pathway secondary to decreased factor H binding to endothelial cells.

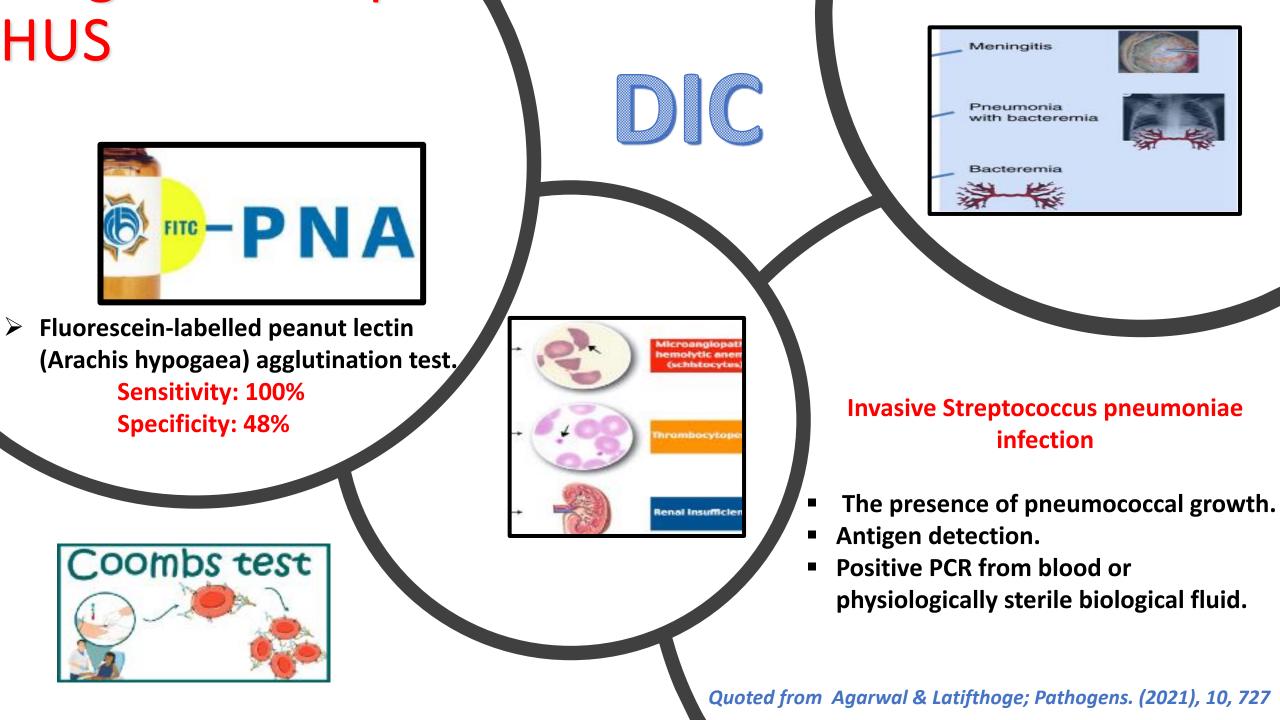
### **Pathophysiology of Sp-HUS**





# Neuraminidase

Complement dysregulation





# Diagnosis of Sp-HUS

Copelovitch et.al.; Pediatrics 2010, 125, e174–e181. Cody & Dixon; Pediatr. Clin. N. Am. 2019, 66, 235–246.

#### **Definite case**

- Presence of HUS.
- Presence of invasive Streptococcal pneumoniae infection.
- Absence of DIC.

#### **Probable case**

- Presence of HUS.
- Presence of invasive Streptococcal pneumoniae infection.
- Presence of DIC.
- Presence of T-Antigen activation.

#### **Possible case**

- Presence of HUS.
- Presence of pneumonia, meningitis or other evidence of invasive infection without identification of specific organism.
- Presence or absence of DIC.
- Presence of T-Antigen activation.

### Clinical course of Sp-HUS

- 20% have complicated pneumonia (50% need ventilation).
- **260% have meningitis.**
- 30% have bacteremia (Overlap with some of the symptoms of multi-organ failure seen with pneumococcal sepsis).
- develop extra-renal complications
   (Hepatitis, cholecystitis, pancreatitis, hearing deficit, and limb ischemia).

# HUS usually develops 3 to 13 days following the onset of IPD.

Quoted from Agarwal & Latifthoge; Pathogens. (2021), 10, 727

### Management of Sp-HUS



Quoted from Agarwal & Latifthoge; Pathogens.(2021), 10, 727 Eradication of Streptococcus pneumoniae infection Vancomycin and an extended-spectrum cephalosporin.

Management of renal injuries RRT (HD or PD) must be initiated early in patients with severe kidney injury.

Management of hematologic injuries Washed red blood cells or platelets must be used.

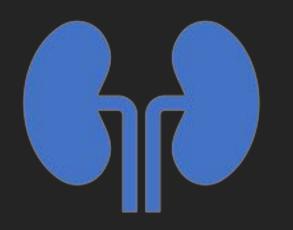
#### Plasma exchange

ASFA reports insufficient evidence to establish the efficacy or the risk/benefit ratio.

#### Eculizumab

There may be a role for use in severe cases especially those with reduced C3.

### Outcome of Sp-HUS



Sp-HUS patients have, compared to STEC-HUS patients, more complicated clinical course, longer periods of oliguria and more days of intensive care.

Proteinuria: 20-28%
Hypertension: 19-30%
ESRD: 10%
Death: 11-16%

Quoted from Agarwal & Latifthoge; Pathogens. (2021), 10-727





BOLHEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH-NON-MALIGNANT CONDITIONS | NOVEMBER 5, 2020

#### Triggers in Patients with Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome: An Observational Cohort Study Using a US Claims Database

loannis Tomozoa, Katherine Garlo, Yan Wang, Peter Chen, Jeffrey Laurence, MD

Check for updates

Blasd (2020) 135 (Supplement T): 30-31.

https://doi.org/101182/blood-2020-136278

#### **450 aHUS patients**

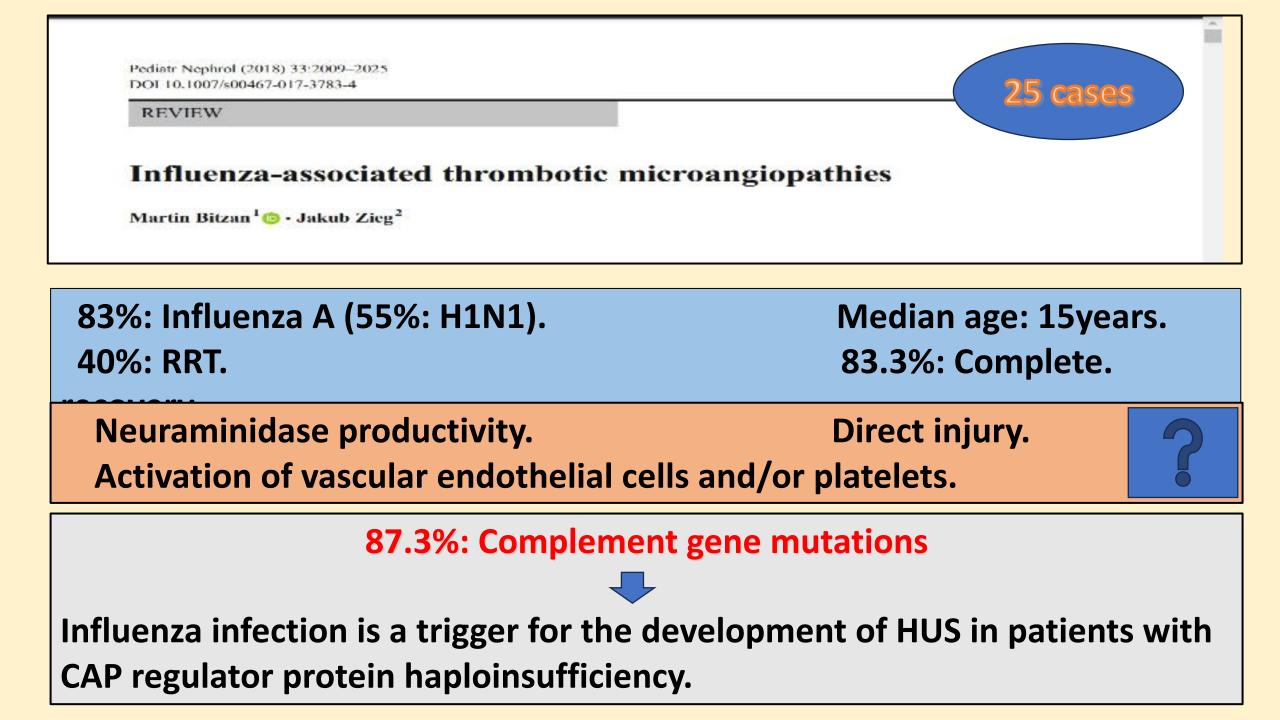
#### Introduction

Atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS) is a rare systemic thrombotic microangiopathy (TMA) characterized by hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia and end organ damage, predominately in the kidneys. Disease emergence is often unpredictable, occurring with or without an identified trigger or in the presence of a concomitant clinical condition. The persistence of TMA and long-term disease manifestations are also not well described. The aims of this study were to characterize the frequency and distribution of potential

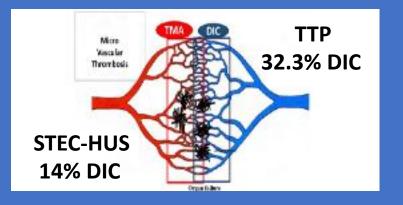
Potential triggering condition reported at 0–3 months prior to the date of first aHUS/TMA diagnosis	Number of patients, n (%) (N = 147)
Infections	92 (63)
Upper respiratory infection	49 (33)
Bacterial infection	26 (18)
HIV Visel infection	3 (2)
Viral infection Gastroenteritis	8 (5) 27 (18)
Chemotherapy	28 (19)
Systemic lupus erythematosus (all)	26 (18)
Lupus nephritis	1 (1)
Excluding lupus nephritis	25 (17)
Pregnancy-related triggers (all)	10 (7)
Postpartum	5 (3)
Pre-eclampsia	3 (2)
Pregnancy	10 (7)
	1 (1)

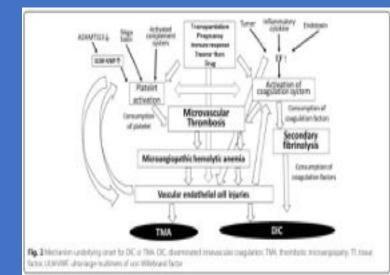
### **Triggers in atypical HUS**

#### Tomazos, et al.; Blood 2020, 136, 30-31









## Sepsis/DIC/HUS

		Severe DKC	Severe TMA
Symptoms	Organ failure	Often (Lung, Kidney, Shocki	Usually (Kidney, CNS)
	Bleeding and bleeding tendency	Frequent	Frequent
	Blood pressure	Low	High
	Hernaturia	Sometimes	Frequent
	Anemia	Often	Usually
Laboratory data	Platelet count	Low	Low
	Hemoglobin	Often low	Low
	Fibrin related markers	Markedly high	Slightly high
	Profinzombin time	Often prolong	Normal
	Antithron	Often low	Normal
	Abumin	Often low	Normal
	Creatinine	Often high	High
	Total bilinubie, LDH	Often high	High
Tasstments	Supportive therapy	Recommended	Recommended
	Blood transfusion (RBC, FFF)	Recommended	Recommended,
	Blood transfusion (PD)	Recommended	Not recommended
	Anticoagulant	Recommended (Japan)	Not mentioned
	PE/FFP	Not mentioned	Recommended
	Special treatment	AT, rhTM (Japan)	Hemodialysis (HUS), Eculizanab (aHUS), Ritunimab (TTP)

#### Quoted from Wada et al. Thrombosis Journal (2018) 16:14

> Infections are involved in more than 90% of HUS cases.

> The Shiga toxin producing Escherichia coli (STEC) is the most common.

The Streptococcus pneumoniae-associated HUS is reported in 4–5% of total HUS.

Direct endothelial cell injury by products of the infectious agents play a central role in the pathophysiology of infection-related HUS.

Acquired complement dysregulation secondary to infection may be involved in infection-related HUS.

Infections may trigger the disease in aHUS patients with heterozygous gene mutations.



