

CAIRNS HOSPITAL

ALYSSA TIEPPO &
ZOE KLIBBE

Hamman Rich Syndrome

Case Study

58 yo male from Daintree

Previously well, presented with progressive SOB over 1 week

Associated with fever, chills, malaise, lethargy

Not on regular medication; smoked tobacco and marijuana

Worked as a firefighter previously

o/e: SpO2 90% RA, RR 26, BP 140/85, temp 36.4

Chest: fine crepitation over right lower zone

Laboratory

FBC: Hb 115, neutrophil 14.9, Plt 254

Na 126 (normal 135-145mmol/L, K 3.5 (normal: 3.5-5mmol/L), Cr 66 (normal: 65.4-119.3um/L)

LFT & coag profile within normal limits

VBG: pH 7.43, pCO₂ 28, pO₂ 54, HCO₃ 18

Sputum culture NAD

Impression

Diffused alveolitis with broad differentials

Treated with IV ceftriaxone, azithromycin

Supplemental O2

Microbiological screening

Autoimmune screening

Bronchoscopy & washing

Clinically improving

FEELING
MUCH
IMPROVED

“BEST I’VE
FELT IN
YEARS”

HAPPY TO
TRIAL OFF O2

CLINICALLY
IMPROVING
ILD

ABS CEASED

Rapidly Progressive Fibrosis



Initial CT 07/02/2017



14/02/17



Spirometry

		Ref	Pre Meas	Pre % Ref
FEV1	Liters	3.44	3.36	98
FVC	Liters	4.34	4.39	101
FEV1/FVC	%	77	76	
FEF25-75%	L/sec	3.65	2.76	76
FEF50%	L/sec	4.57	3.66	80
PEF	L/sec	8.54	9.78	115



Lung Volumes

TLC	Liters	7.06	5.72	81
VC	Liters	4.52	4.39	97
RV	Liters	2.36	1.32	56
RV/TLC	%	36	23	
FRC PL	Liters	3.58	3.39	94



Diffusion

DLCO	mL/mmHg/min	29.3	10.2	35
DL Adj	mL/mmHg/min	29.3	11.9	40
VA	Liters		5.19	
DLCO/VA	mL/mHg/min/L	5.36	1.97	37
DLVA Adj	mL/mHg/min/L		2.28	

Initial DLFTs
15/02/2017



Spirometry

		Ref	Pre Meas	Pre % Ref
FEV1	Liters	3.44	3.54	103
FVC	Liters	4.34	4.57	105
FEV1/FVC	%	77	77	
FEF25-75%	L/sec	3.65	3.01	82
FEF50%	L/sec	4.57	4.26	93
PEF	L/sec	8.54	11.48	134



Lung Volumes

TLC	Liters	7.06	6.21	88
VC	Liters	4.52	4.74	105
RV	Liters	2.36	1.47	62
RV/TLC	%	36	24	
FRC PL	Liters	3.58	3.97	111



Diffusion

DLCO	mL/mmHg/min	29.3	13.1	45
DL Adj	mL/mmHg/min	29.3	14.9	51
VA	Liters		5.39	
DLCO/VA	mL/mHg/min/L	5.36	2.42	45
DL/VA Adj	mL/mHg/min/L		2.76	

Sequential DLFTs
20/02/2017

Discharged 24/02/17

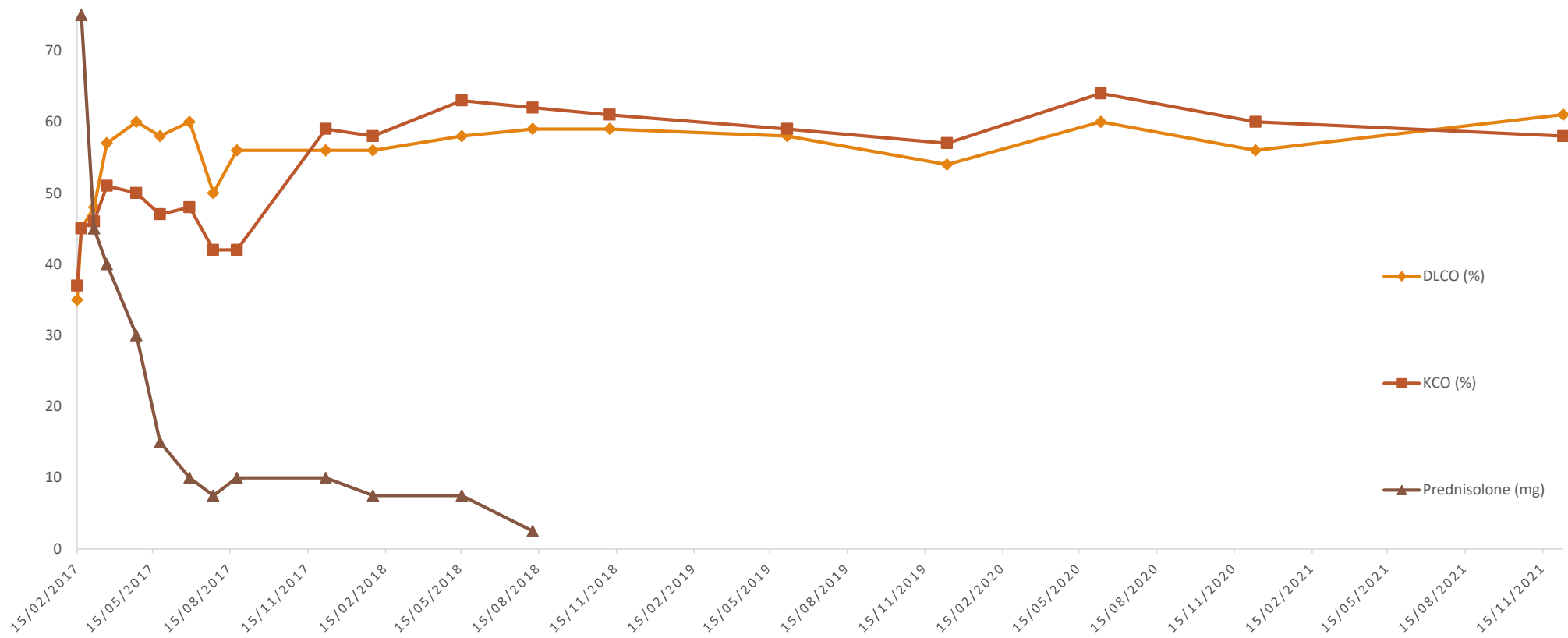
Clinically improving despite hypermania secondary to steroids

Drop to 50mg prednisolone


Plan for DLFTs every 2 weeks after discharge


Repeat CXR before discharge and every 2 weeks after


DLCO & KCO Over Time



Final DLFTs – 09/12/2021

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FEV1/FVC	%	77	76	
FEF25-75%	L/sec	3.65	2.76	76
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DLCO/VA	mL/mHg/min/L	5.36	1.97	37
DLVA Adj	mL/mHg/min/L		2.28	

15/02/2017

Spirometry

		Pred	LLN	Pre	%Ref	Z	Star	Pre	Post
FEV1	L	3.51	2.60	2.83	80.7	-1	*		
FVC	L	4.57	3.46	4.81	105.1	-1	*		
FEV1 % FVC	%	75.87	64.08	58.78	77.5	-1	*		
PEF	L/s	8.43	6.44	7.83	92.9	-1	*		

Lung Volumes

		Pred	LLN	Pre	%Ref	Z	Star	Pre	Post
TLC	L	7.31	5.84	7.97	109.1	-1	*		
VC MAX	L	5.00	3.99	4.87	97.4	-1	*		
FRCpl	L	3.79	2.62	4.93	129.9	-1	*		
RV	L	2.37	1.45	3.09	130.5	-1	*		
RV%TLC	%	31.85	21.82	38.75	121.6	-1	*		

Gas Transfer

		Pred	LLN	Pre	%Ref	Z	Star	Pre	Post
DLCO_SB	mL/(min*mmHg)	27.33	20.36	16.61	60.8	-1	*		
DLCOcSB	mL/(min*mmHg)	27.33	20.36	17.70	64.8	-1	*		
VA_SB	L	6.61	5.34	6.85	103.6	-1	*		
KCO_SB	mL/(min*mmHg*L)	4.16	3.13	2.43	58.3	-1	*		
KCOc_SB	mL/(min*mmHg*L)	4.16	3.13	2.58	62.1	-1	*		
VIN_SB	L	5.00	3.99	4.81	96.2	-1	*		
Hb	g(Hb)/dL			12.60					

09/12/2021

Summary

Clinically and radiologically improved during admission

Discharged after 18 days admission on oral prednisone

Discharged from OPD December 2021 after remaining stable

Hamman Rich history



Described by Louis Hamman and Arnold Rich in 1935

Known as acute interstitial pneumonitis

Acute onset and rapid progressive course

Epidemiology

Prevalence
1-9/100 000

Affects previously
healthy
individuals

Mean age 50-55
years

No gender
predominance

Not associated
with cigarette
smoking

Clinical Presentation

Rapid onset with myalgia, arthralgia, chills, malaise

Fever, cough, progressive breathlessness

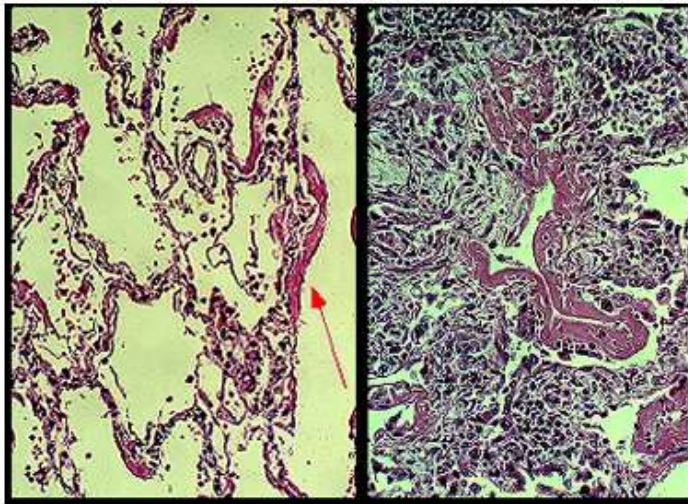
Tachypnoea and diffused crackles on chest exam

Hypoxemic respiratory failure requiring ventilatory support within a few days

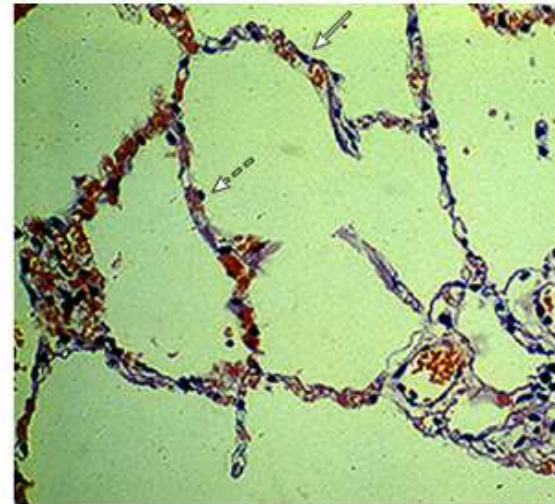
Broad Differentials for Diffuse Alveolitis

Ethchlorvynol
Aspirin
Radiation therapy
Oxygen toxicity
Heroin
Cocaine
Toxic inhalants
Chlorine gas
Nitrogen dioxide
Phosgene
Smoke
Ingestants
Paraquat
Kerosene
Rapeseed oil-toxic oil syndrome
Connective tissue disease

Lung Biopsy – Histology



AIP



Normal lung

Prognosis

In-hospital mortality > 50%

Most initial survivors die within 6 months of presentation

Recurrence has been reported

Management

Consider Hamman Rich early and treat aggressively

Respiratory support

Glucocorticosteroids

Consider empirical antibiotics

Consider Lung transplantation



Questions?
