

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation







University of California San Francisco



Acute Gastrointestinal Infections

Watery Diarrhea- Viral Pathogens

Manuel R. Amieva, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases Department of Microbiology & Immunology Stanford University School of Medicine

Sharon F. Chen, M.D.

Department of Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases Stanford University School of Medicine







Learning Objectives

- List the main viruses that cause acute gastroenteritis
- Describe the viral structure and genomic organization, and link these to clinical features, diagnostic methods, and epidemiology
- Explain the most salient features of their pathogenesis
- Recognize mechanisms of protective immunity and whether vaccines are available



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Rhinovirus Coxsackie Enteroviruses Poliovirus Rotavirus Norovirus Hepatitis A Hepatitis C HIV HTLV-1 Measles Mumps Rubella

RNA

Astrovirus

Viruses

Influenza A, B Parainfluenza RSV Human metapneumovirus Coronavirus (MERS, SARS) Ebola Rabies

Vector borne

West Nile Dengue Chickengunya Yellow Fever

DNA

Adenovirus

Herpes simplex Varicella zoster Cytomegalovirus **Epstein Barr virus** HHV6, HHV7, HHV8 Smallpox Molluscum contagiosum Hepatitis B Parvovirus Human papillomavirus **BK** polyomavirus



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Watery Diarrhea

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Clinical Features	Large volume watery stools without inflammatory cells or blood. Can lead to dehydration. Possibly accompanied by nausea, vomiting, bloating, colicky
Complications	Dehydration, electrolyte abnormalities, malnutrition
Management	Assess degree of dehydration, consider DDx, rehydrate, maintenance hydration
Anatomical Location	Proximal Small Intestine
Pathogenesis	Non-invasive, several are toxin mediated, secretory vs malabsorptive
Viruses	Rotavirus, Norovirus, Adenovirus, Astrovirus (all non-enveloped capsids)
Bacteria	<i>Vibrio cholerae</i> , Enterotoxigenic <i>E. coli</i> (ETEC), EPEC, EAEC
Protozoa	Giardia, Cryptosporidium





- Most common cause of viral diarrhea worldwide.
- Infects most children by 2-5 years peaks 6 mo to 2 yrs
- Vomiting and fever commonly accompany diarrhea
- Peaks in Winter months
- Member of the Reoviridae family
- Rota- means "wheel" in latin- VP4 spikes in the three-layered capsid give its characteristic shape
- Double stranded RNA segmented genome
 - 11 segments-each codes for one protein





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Rotavirus Entry into Host

- Fecal oral transmission
 - Contamination of hands, toys, water
 - Stable in environment
 - 10 trillion particles per ml in stool
 - Not destroyed by acid or digestive enzymes and resistant to bile salts in duodenum
 - Activated for attachment to epithelial cells trypsin cleavage of spike



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Rodriguez et al. 2014 *PLoS Pathogens* 10(5):e1004157



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- Spreads systemically and causes fever
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- Diarrhea is multifactorial
 - Blunting of the villi
 - Less absorption of solutes
 - Loss of brush border enzymes
 - osmotic diarrhea
 - Non-structural protein 4 (NSP4) acts as an enterotoxin
 - loss of CI- and leaky junctions
 - Activation of the enteric nervous system
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- Mucosal infection is patchy
 - ORT is helpfjul
- In about one week viral replication stops
 - loss of susceptible cells
 - cell mediated immunity
 - interferon responses
 - antibodies?
- Cells repopulate the villi
- Infection in adults and re-infection in children is milder
 - IgA & immunological memory





Rotavirus prevention

- Two rotavirus vaccines are available and several in development
 - Human-bovine reassortant vaccine
 - Attenuated human rotavirus
- Rotavirus vaccination for all healthy children
 - Contraindicated in SCID
- A human-rhesus monkey reassortant vaccine discontinued
 - Increased risk of intussusception





Norovirus

- Seasonal- "Winter vomiting disease"
- Significant nausea and vomiting followed by watery diarrhea.
 - Self-limited and guick resolution in 1-3 days.
 - more severe and prolonged in infants, elderly, and immunocompromised (weeks to months).
- Most common cause of outbreaks of viral gastroenteritis
 - i.e. cruise-ships, nursing homes, schools, military settings, restaurants & hospitals



CDC data from 232 Norovirus outbreaks- 1997-2000



- Member of the Caliciviridae family
 - Strains named by location of outbreaks Norwalk virus (Norwalk, OH), Dessert Shield, South Hampton, Snow Mountain.
- Non-enveloped icosahedral capsidresistant to bile salts, detergents
- Positive strand RNA genome, nonsegmented
- Does not grow in cell culture-
 - identification through PCR amplification or antigen detection immunoassays





Norovirus Entry

- Fecal oral or vomitus transmission
 - VERY infectious 5-10 particles can initiate an infection
 - Contaminated food and water
 - Person to person transmission is common in outbreaks
 - Fomites
 - Aerosolized vomit
 - Asymptomatic shedding occurs



CDC data from 232 Norovirus outbreaks- 1997-2000



Norovirus Pathogenesis

- · Pathogenesis is not well understood-
 - No animal models for human norovirus.
 - No cell culture system
- Preferred sites of replication not known
 - Enterocytes? but also dendritic cells, monocytes
- Volunteer studies show shortened microvilli, villus blunting, loss of enzymes and suggest transient malabsorption.
- Also marked decrease in gastric emptying may cause vomiting





Enteric adenovirus 40, 41

- Adenoviruses are double-stranded DNA viruses that are not encapsulated
- 57 serotypes are known- two 40, and 41 cause mainly gastrointestinal symptoms: Febrile diarrhea
- Will not replicate in conventional viral cultures so diagnosis requires immunoassays for antigen detection or PCR
- No seasonality





Astroviruses

- Plus-strand single-stranded RNA- Non enveloped
- Some particles look like a "five-pointed star"
- It is the cause of acute gastroenteritis in many studies.





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Credits: Watery Diarrhea- Viral

Slide 6: Rice Water Stools. From Figure 22.13 in: Gastrointestinal tract infections. Mims' Medical Microbiology. Goering, Richard V., BA MSc PhD. January 1, 2013. Pages 269-302. © 2013. https://www.clinicalkey.com

Slide 7-8 Diagram of the rotavirus particle structure. From: Usonis, et al. 2012. *Vaccine*. Volume 30, Issue 31. Pages 4596-4605. The triple-layered particle consists of: the core (inner layer) with VP2 (green) as scaffolding protein, containing the viral genome of 11 segments of double-stranded RNA (shown schematically), VP1 (light blue), the RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp), and VP3 (red), the capping enzyme; the middle layer (inner capsid) made of VP6 (blue), determining the species [group]; and the outer layer (outer capsid), consisting of VP7 (a glycoprotein; orange) determining G types and VP4 (a protease-sensitive protein; deep red) determining P types.

A rotavirus particle from a transmission electron micrograph made by Thomas Henry Flewett and left in the possession of Dr G.M. Beards.

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Flewett_Rotavirus.jpg

Slide 9: Structure of Rotavirus. From: Rodríguez et al. (2014) New Insights into Rotavirus Entry Machinery: Stabilization of Rotavirus Spike Conformation Is Independent of Trypsin Cleavage. PLoS Pathog 10(5): e1004157. http://journals.plos.org/plospathogens/article?id=10.1371/journal.ppat.1004157

Slide 15: Monthly diarrhea and rotavirus-associated hospitalizations among children 1–23 months of age for 10 sentinel hospitals, New York, January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2008. In: Chang et al. 2010. *Vaccine*. Volume 28, Issue 3. Pages 754-758. Reduction in hospitalizations for diarrhea and rotavirus infections in New York state following introduction of rotavirus vaccine.

https://www.clinicalkey.com

Credits: Watery Diarrhea- Viral

Slide 16: Norovirus outbreak characteristics. The Centers for Disease Control collected data from 232 norovirus outbreaks between July 1997 and June 2000.

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/norovirus-factsheet.htm.

Slide 17 Norwalk virus. In October 1968, an outbreak of acute gastroenteritis among students and teachers in an elementary school in Norwalk, Ohio was investigated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (5). During a two-day period, 50% of the students and teachers (116 of 232) developed a gastrointestinal illness with a secondary attack rate of 32% among contacts of primary cases. The illness was characterized by nausea and vomiting in more than 90% of cases and diarrhea in 38% of affected individuals, and the duration of illness was typically 12 to 24 h... http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Norwalk_Caspid.jpg

Slide 18: Figure 1: Norovirus outbreak characteristics. The Centers for Disease Control collected data from 232 norovirus outbreaks between July 1997 and June 2000.

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/norovirus-factsheet.htm

Slide 19: Symbol of gastroenteritis. Chicago Department of Public Health

Slide 20: Adenovirus structure.

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Adenovirus_structure.png

Slide 21: Transmission electron micrograph of Astrovirus particles.

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Astrovirus_4.jpg