

THE PHYSICS AND PATHOLOGY OF WOUNDS



AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY AND THE INTRINSIC DISEASE OF WOUND HEALING

1

The Wound as a System and a Controlled Machine

3

Chronicity and the Physics of Wound Failure

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EDITORIAL ABOUT MODERN WOUND PRACTICE



1

Chronic and pathological wounds (CAP wounds) represent a distinctive class of disease and clinical activity.



2

There is a non-expert legacy misunderstanding of wounds that focuses only on trauma and a few standard categories of CAP wounds - arterial, venous, pressure, diabetes.



3

Legitimate purveyors, professors, and practitioners of this specialty must have the professional level of knowledge required to master these diseases. Like all specialties, this starts with an understanding of the full spectrum of relevant pathologies.



4

What are often dismissed as "atypical wounds" are not atypical at all. In fact, they are the core of chronic and pathological wounds, and they are far more abundant and significant than naives and non-experts perceive.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGICAL WOUNDS
DISORDERS AND DISEASES OF THE WOUND HEALING PROCESS**

**CRAP
WOUNDS**

CHRONIC AND PATHOLOGICAL

- 1 - Wounds caused by chronic illness or pathology.
- 2 - Wounds that fail due to diseases of the healing process.

CAP WOUND DIAGNOSES



ARTERIAL



MECHANICAL / ANATOMICAL



VENOUS



TOXIC / CHEMICAL



DIABETES



IATROGENIC / FACTITIOUS



PRESSURE



RADIATION

- Arterial**
- Micro-occlusive**
- Micro-angiopathies**
- Hemopathologies**
- Hypercoagulable**
- Venous**
- Immunopathies & CVD-CTD**
- Panniculopathies**
- Dermatoses**
- Diabetes**
- Neuropathy**
- Pressure**
- Mechanical**
- Metabolic**
- Toxic & chemical**
- Physical & energy**
- Cancer**
- Infectious**
- Genetic**
- Factitious & iatrogenic**
- Mixed diagnoses**
- Unknown**

If most wounds have an extrinsic cause or pathology, what then are the intrinsic diseases of wound healing?

THE PHYSICS AND PATHOLOGY OF WOUNDS

COMPARE WOUND STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION TO OTHER ORGANS

ORGAN	STRUCTURE & FUNCTION	FAILURE
HEART	<i>pump, valves, & pipes</i>	<i>chf = inadequate pump</i>
KIDNEY	<i>filter & resorption membrane</i>	<i>occluded filter</i>
LUNG	<i>bellows & diffusion membrane</i>	<i>faulty ventilation & respiration</i>
EYE	<i>light collector & detector</i>	<i>blindness</i>
EAR	<i>sound transducer & decoder</i>	<i>deafness</i>
BONE	<i>structural members & motion</i>	<i>impaired support & mobility</i>
NERVES	<i>electrical network & control</i>	<i>palsy & neurologic deficits</i>
WOUND	<i>cell set & self-re-organization</i>	<i>logistical disorganization</i>

What are the quintessential structures & functions of these organs ?

What is the quintessence of dysfunction for these organs ?

THE WOUND MODULE IS A SPECIAL AD HOC RESERVE ORGAN

What are the quintessential structures and functions of the wound ?

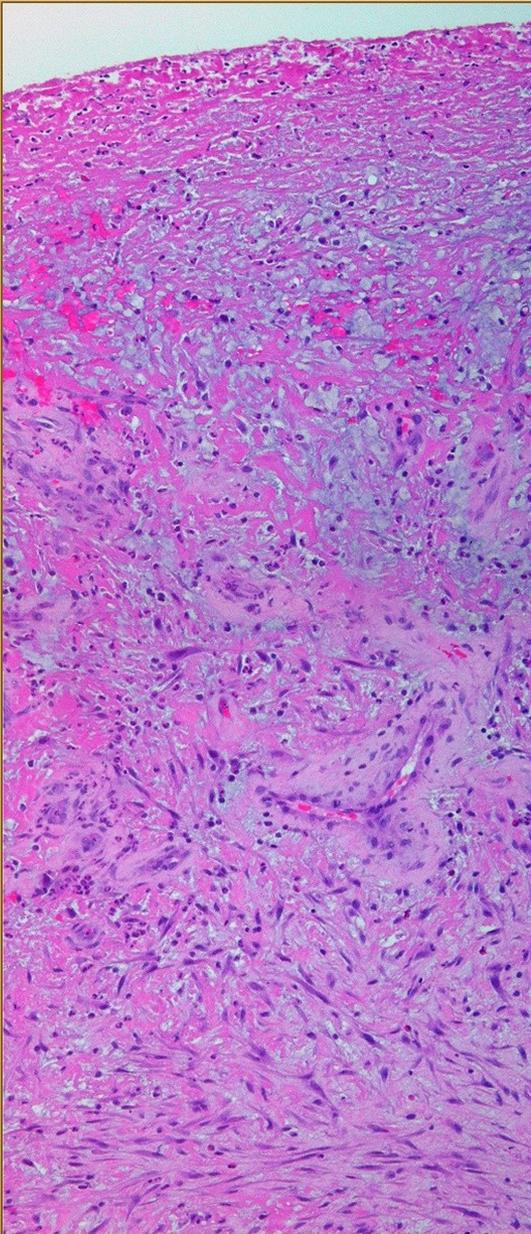
It is a set of mutually interactive cells that self-organizes to recreate generic stroma.

It has no function other than organizing itself into the generic stroma that is the foundation for other tissues and organs.

What is the quintessential derangement of intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity ?

It is a disorder of "logistical" self-re-organization, failing to restore the intended stroma.

When it fails, it simply fails to assemble into its intended final form, to complete its task to become something and then cease.



THE WOUND MODULE

OF PROLIFERATIVE REPAIR

and



the

PHYSIOLOGIC EVENTS - CLINICAL SIGNS



0
injury
inflammation

1
inflammation
subsides

2
macrophages,
eschar separation,
cytokines

3
ground substance,
mucus

4
"granulation"
angiogenesis

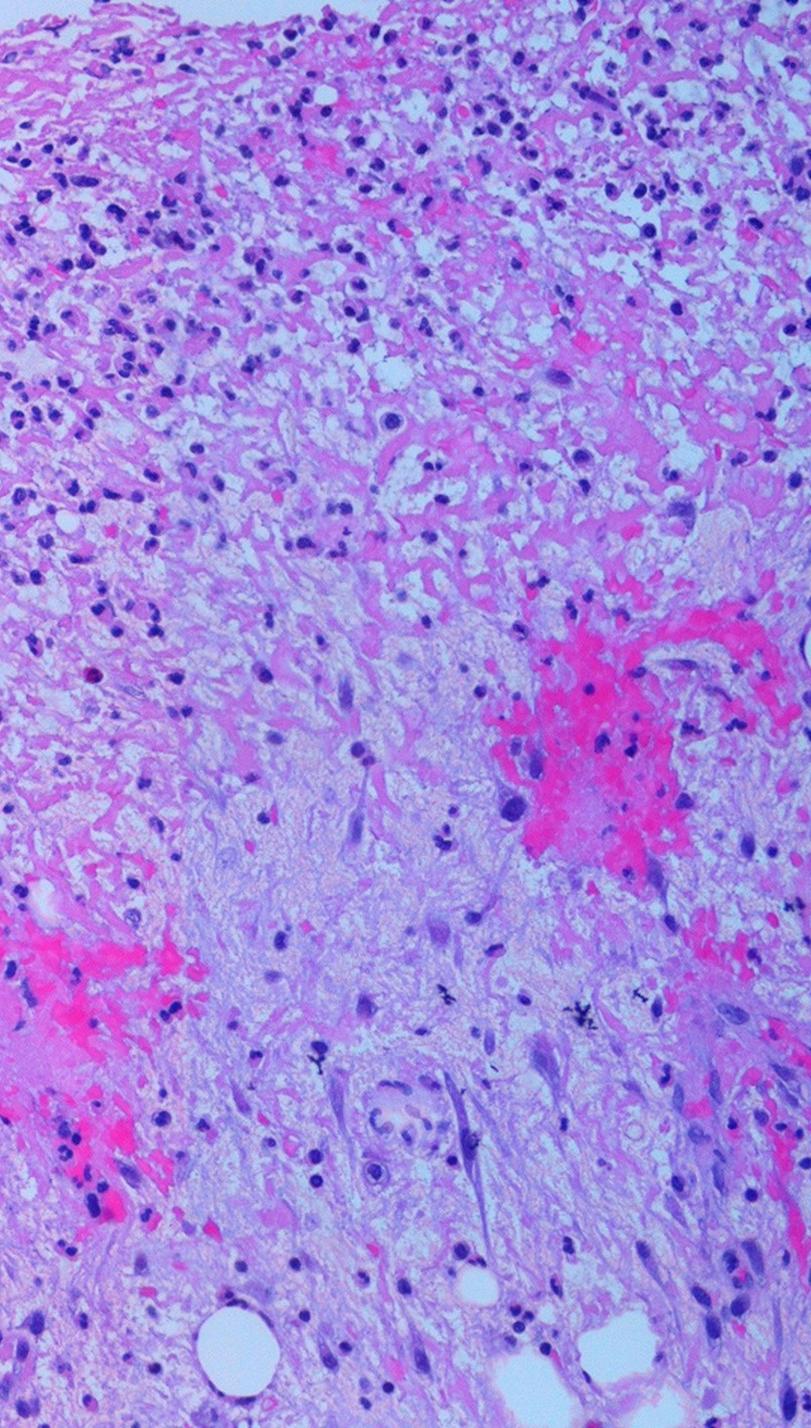
5
histioblasts, fibroblasts,
fibroplasia

6
myofibroblasts
contraction

7
epithelialization

8
maturation





THE WOUND MODULE - NORMAL WOUND HEALING

MAIN EVENTS AND CELLS:

INFLAMMATION

(BLOOD BORNE CELLS)

Platelets

PMN leukocytes

(Granular leukocytes) (No lymphoid cells)

AFFERENT WOUND EVENTS

(TRANSFORMED CELLS)

Macrophages

MESENCHYMAL REPAIR

(LOCAL CELLS)

2 cells:

Angiocytes & Fibroblasts

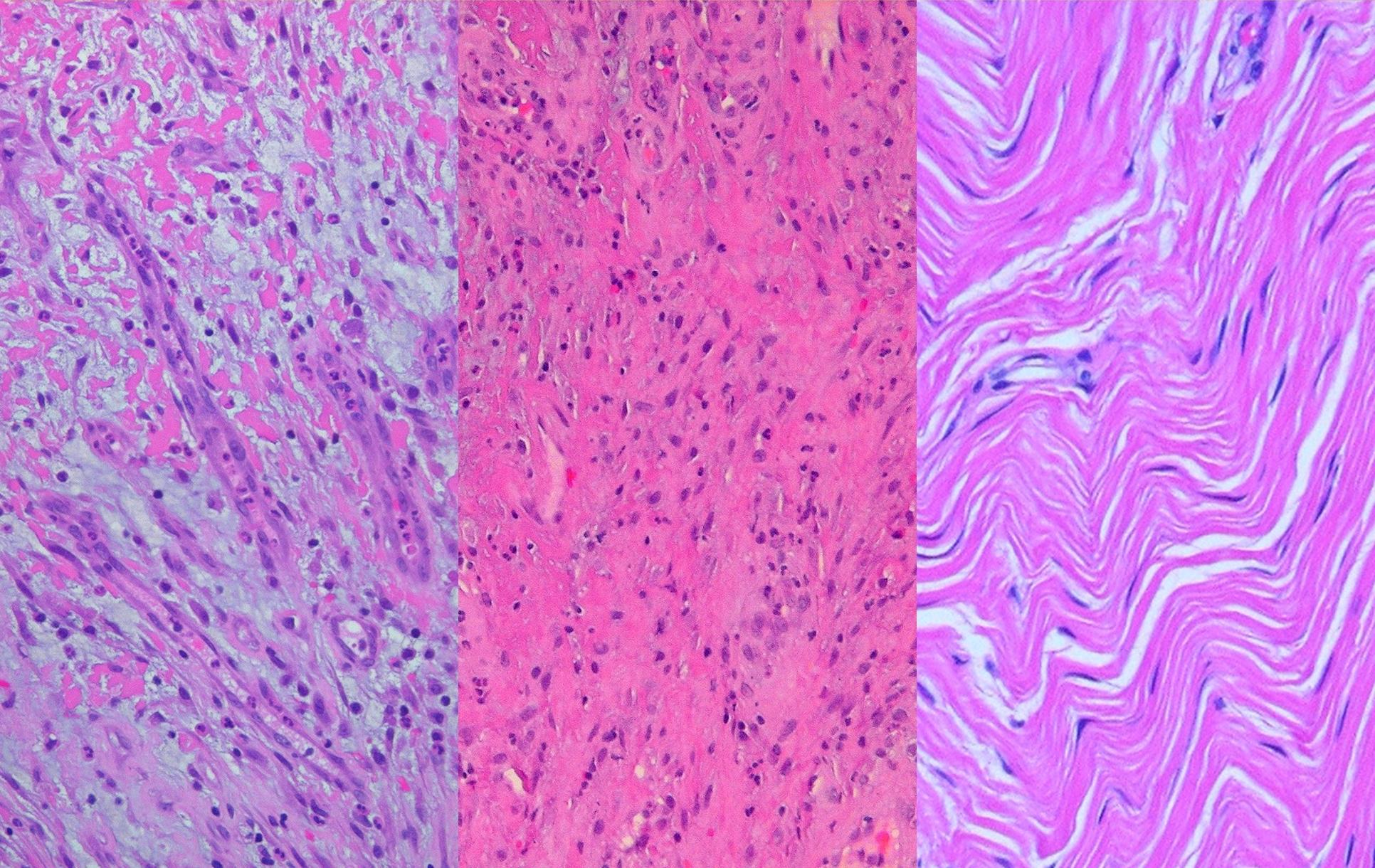
SEQUESTRATION

(LOCAL CELLS)

Epithelium

RESTORATION OF STROMA

REPAIR IS BASED ON 2 CELL TYPES - ANGIOCYTES & FIBROBLASTS



AUTOIMMUNOPATHY, CHRONIC INFLAMMATION, & CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS

THE TRUE INTRINSIC DISEASES OF WOUND HEALING

Stromal angiocytes and fibroblasts (wound cells) have remarkably few inherent metabolic or genetic faults.

Dysfunction of the aggregate population is almost always the result of deprivation or predation.

Such adverse states are caused by

- (1) non-targeted exogenous conditions
e.g. arterial ischemia or repetitive trauma
- (2) targeted damage directed against these cells and their structures.

Targeted predation against the wound module is due to a state of auto-immunopathy in which lymphoid cells are sensitized to wound components.

This occurs with classic connective tissue disorders and other recognized auto-immunopathies.

It also happens when a wound becomes intrinsically chronic and pathological.

Hypercoagulability and other conditions of persistent thrombosis and acute inflammation are the underlying states that induce the auto-immunization.



NECROSIS & ULCERATION - TWO GENERAL PATHOLOGIES & PATTERNS

THROMBO-INFARCTIVE

Macro-occlusive
Micro-occlusive
Micro-angiopathies
Hemopathologies
Hypercoagulable / Coagulopathic

INFLAMMATORY-LYTIC

Inflammatory
Autoimmune
Atopic, Suppurative
Connective Tissue Disorders
Lymphoreticular / Reticuloendothelial



HYPERCOAGULOPATHY

NOMENCLATURE OF THROMBO- & MICRO-OCCLUSIVE DISORDERS

hemodynamic disorders	vessels, blood, & coagulation normal fluid dynamics abnormal	Examples: arteriovenous malformations vascular compression, atrial fibrillation
endo-vasculopathies	blood & coagulation normal vessels abnormal	Examples: small vessel atherosclerosis thromboangiitis, alloplastic implants
exo-vasculopathies	blood & coagulation normal vessels abnormal	Examples: calcium-phosphate disorders, immunopathies & connective tissue disorders
non-hypercoag hemopathologies	vessels & coagulation normal blood abnormal	Examples: red cell & platelet abnormalities, hemoglobinopathies, dys- & cryoproteinemias
hypercoagulability	vessels & blood normal coagulation abnormal	disorders of the coagulation system intrinsic: the prethrombotic disorders extrinsic: examples - estrogens, cancer

Key Syndromic Features

thrombotic - embolic events • miscarriages • wound pathergy
connective tissue disorder • family history

Prethrombotic Disorders

factor V Leiden
other f.V mutations
prothrombin mutation
antithrombin III
protein C
protein S
fibrinogen
plasminogen
warfarin

Related Disorders

antiphospholipid antibodies
anticardiolipin
lupus anticoagulant
homocysteine disorders
estrogens, pregnancy

Disease Associations

inflammation
connective tissue disorders
acute & chronic venous
cancer (Trousseau)
parox. noct. hemoglobinuria

Macrothrombosis

Acute Large Vessel

**overt life-and-limb
threatening events**

cava-tibial venous thrombosis
aorto-tibial arterial thrombosis
other peripheral thrombosis
coronary artery thrombosis
cerebrovascular thrombosis
pulmonary embolism
intracardiac thrombosis
graft and valve thrombosis
subclavian v. (paget-schroeder)
hepatic veins (budd-chiari)
pituitary apoplexy (sheehan)
retinal artery & vein occlusion
intracranial sinus thrombosis
spinal apoplexy
visceral apoplexy
(renal, adrenal, bowel)

Microthrombosis

Subacute, Chronic, Recurring

**perplexing refractory problems
of non-obvious origin**

**vascular occlusion not overt
secondary clinical events
underlying causes elusive**

**miscarriage
complications of trauma & surgery
non-healing ulcers
non-immune glomerulonephritis
primary pulmonary thrombosis
warfarin necrosis
complications of contraceptives**

**chronic, recurring
refractory to Rx
long history of failed Rx
young age
family history
warfarin resistance**

HYPERCOAGULOPATHY RECOGNITION & DIAGNOSIS

HYPERCOAGULABLE ULCERS HAVE NO PATHOGNOMONIC FEATURES, BUT THEY DO HAVE A DISTINCTIVE APPEARANCE.

APPEARANCE

ischemic infarction
periwound stasis
active ulceration
edema absent
inflammation absent
mixed wound module

good pulses
no signs of other dx

RESPONSE TO WRONG RX

pathergy
necrosis
dehiscence
failed response

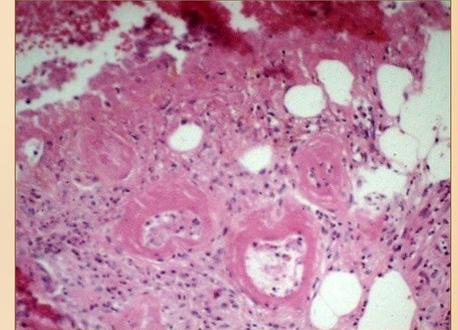
DYNAMICAL BEHAVIOR

impaired wound
behavior characteristic
of severe ischemia

recalcitrant
continuously pathological
persistent active:
necrosis
pathergy
active ulceration

misbehavior over time

rapid evolution
slow resolution



HYPERCOAGULABLE STUDIES

Factor V Leiden
prothrombin mutation
antithrombin III
protein C
protein S
fibrinogen
DIC screen
plasminogen
homocysteine
lupus anticoagulant
anticardiolipin
cryoglobulins
cryofibrinogen

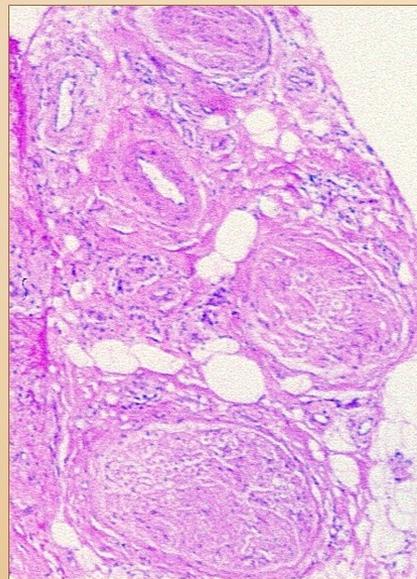
SCREEN FOR CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS

sedimentation rate
CRP
ANA
anti-DNA
rheumatoid factor

OTHER STUDIES

TcPO₂
laser doppler

Biopsy and Histology
microthrombi
aggregates
minimum inflammation
microvasculopathies
vascular fibrosis
stenosis
vasculitis



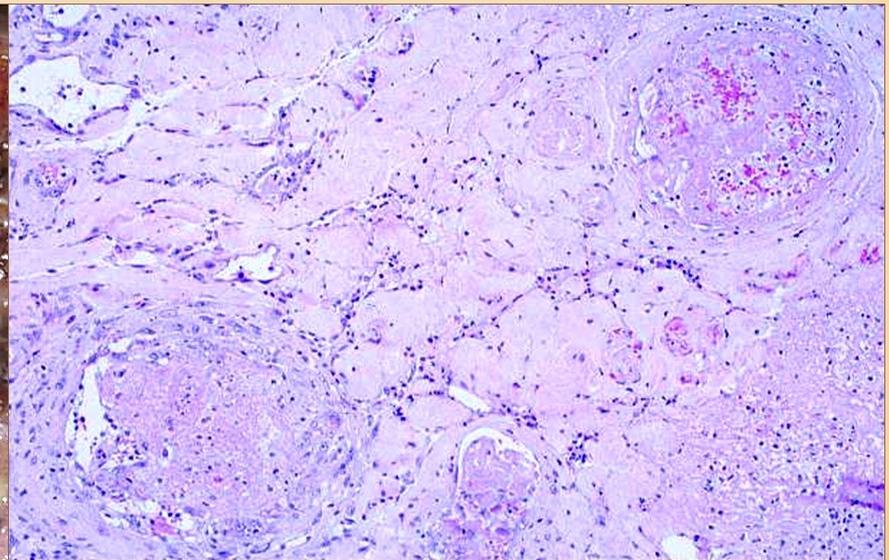
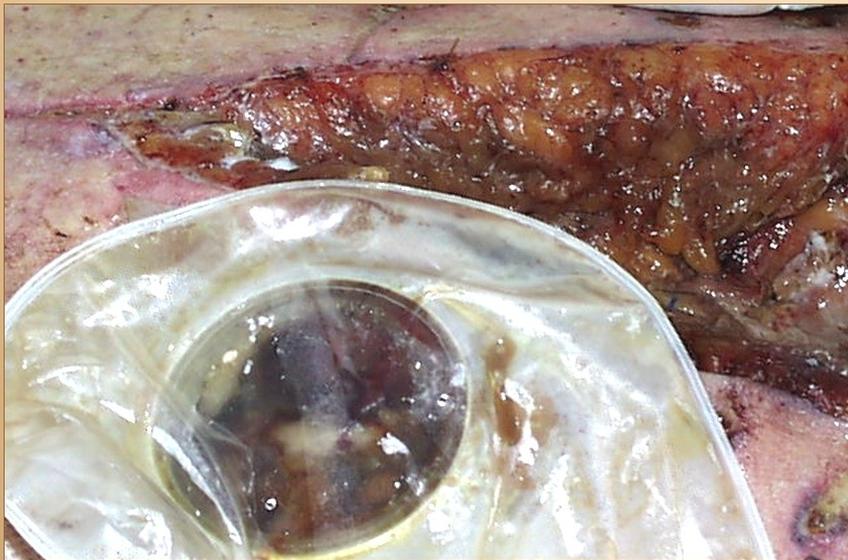
RECOGNITION & DIAGNOSIS - LABORATORY -



**Hypercoagulable ulcers are
NOT diagnoses of exclusion.**

**These diagnoses can be
made on specific criteria.**

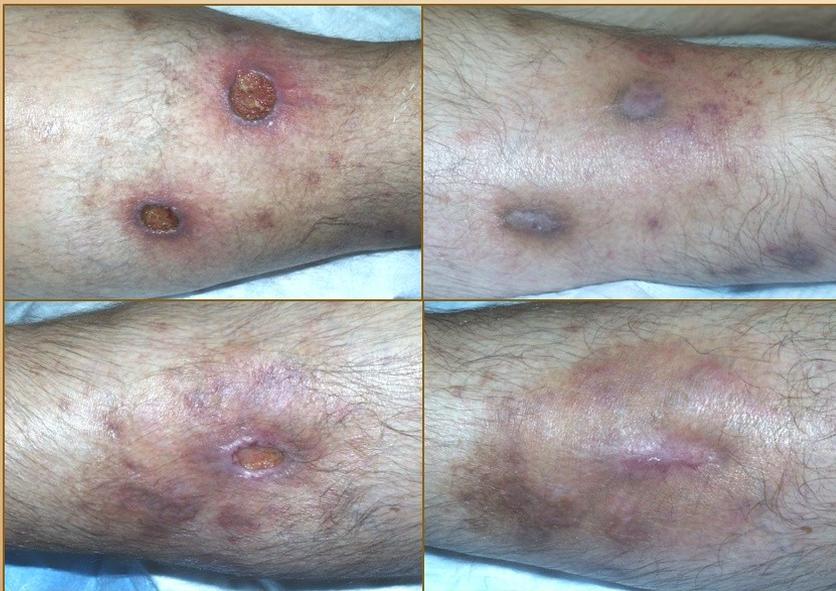
HYPERCOAGULOPATHY - BAD OUTCOMES -



HYPERCOAGULOPATHY - GOOD OUTCOMES -

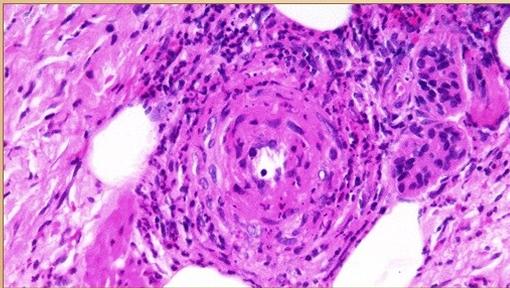
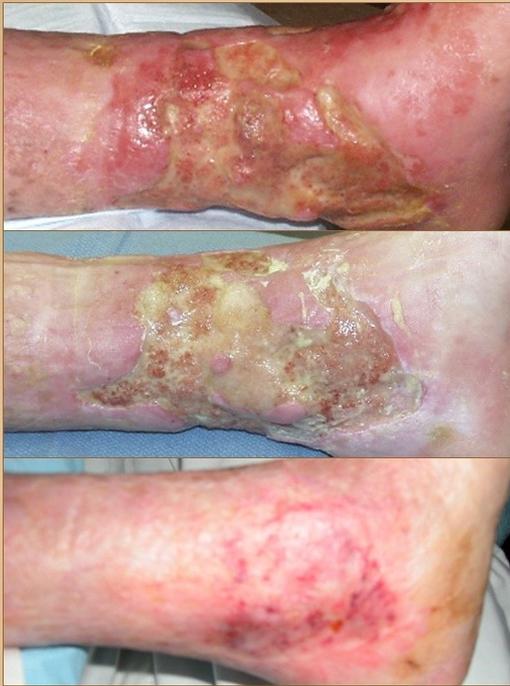
KEY SYNDROMIC FEATURES

thrombotic - embolic events
miscarriages
wound pathergy
connective tissue disorder
family history



AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY





Connective Tissue Disorders

rheumatoid
lupus
sjögren's
scleroderma
polymyositis
mctd (mixed)
uctd (undiff'ed)
ank. spondylitis
behçet's
wegener's
sarcoidosis
fam. med. fever



IMMUNOPATHIES, SPECTRUM OF DISEASE

Vasculitides

polyarteritis nod.
autoimmune
giant cell
hypersensitivity
thromboangiitis



Fasciitis & Panniculitis

weber-christian
nodular fasciitis
erythema nodosum
necrobiosis
lipoidica



Miscellaneous

crohn's
ulcerative colitis
others



Inflammatory Dermatoses

eczema
pyoderma
gangrenosum
erythema nodosum
pemphigus / -goid



IMMUNOPATHIES, FEATURES AND FINDINGS



General and Common Findings

arthropathies
rashes
ulcers
neurological
abnormal serology

Findings by System

musculoskeletal
renal & pulmonary
cardiac & vascular
blood & immune
cns & eye

Distinctive and Unique Findings

crst
sicca
pathergy
necrotizing synovitis
necrotizing vasculitis

Findings by Disease

rheumatoid
lupus
scleroderma
sjogren's
polymyositis

Disease Associations

hypercoagulability
venous
arterial disease
neuro-psych
many misdiagnoses

Other Tip-Offs

multiple allergies
drug hypersensitivity
photosensitivity
malar rash
nasal perforation

IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

PRE-ULCERATIVE



inflammation
edema
dermatitis
panniculitis

vascular stasis
congestion
infarction

systemic sx
malaise
athralgias, etc.
pain

distribution
focal
multifocal



IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

ACUTE & EARLY ULCERS

necrosis & ulceration

focal vs. multifocal

immune lysis vs.
microthrombotic
infarction

inflammed vs. bland

vasculitis & synovitis



general

inflammation

dermatitis

panniculitis

vascular stasis

systemic sx

pain



IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

LATE & CHRONIC ULCERS



**persistent
inflammation**

**progressive
ulceration**

**retarded
wound module**

chaotic behavior

pain & symptoms



IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

OTHER DISTINCTIVE FINDINGS



ulceration
along tendons

unstable scars
lysis & ulceration

not just gaiter
not just leg

skin atrophy
skin sclerosis

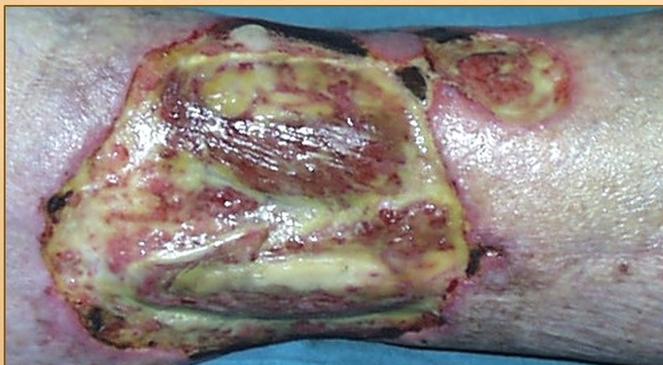
post-op & -injury
pathergy

features of
each disease



IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

WHAT IS NOT THERE



no venous

no arterial

no eschar

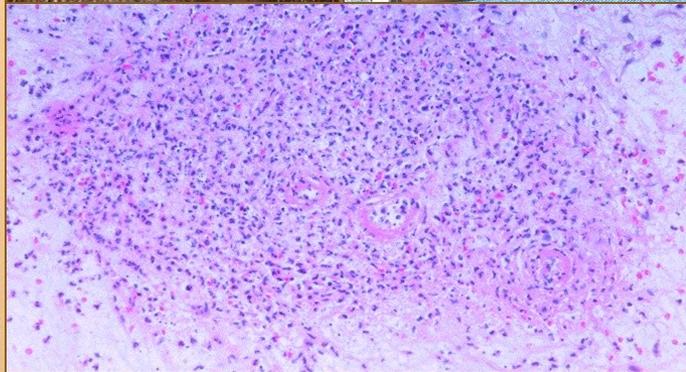
no wound
module

age & risks



IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

GENERAL EXAM & HISTORY



general physical exam

common signs
of immunopathy

inflammatory state

arthropathies

neurolepsy &
neurological

malaise &
systemic

laboratory
histology

history & system review

disease history
family hx
Rx history

steroids lowered
complications of
trauma or surgery

disease associations

vasculopathies
hypercoagulopathy
neurological
renal
pulmonary

IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION . . . PHYSICAL FINDINGS

TREATMENT HISTORY



no response
failed Rx
multiple failed Rx
surgery failures

adverse response
disease flare-up
surg. complication
atopic dermatitis
atopic vasculitis

correct response
steroids
anti-immune
anti-inflammatory

contrary response
cytokines



THE COMMONALITY of the CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS



AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY & THE CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS :: RHEUMATOID WOUNDS



AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY & NON-RHEUMATOLOGY DISORDERS :: DERMATOSES & PANNICULOPATHIES



15 g NDC 51672-1270-1
Desoximetasone Cream USP, 0.25%
 FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY
 NOT FOR OPHTHALMIC USE
**CAUTION: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.
 Keep this and all medication out of the reach of children.**
 Directions for puncturing tube seal: Remove cap. Turn cap upside down and place puncture to orifice tube. Push cap until tube end is punctured. Screw cap back on to reseal tube.
 Mfg. by: TARO Pharmaceuticals Inc.
 Simonsville, Ontario, Canada L0T 1C0
 Dist. by: TARO Pharmaceuticals U.S.A., Inc.
 Newburgh, NY 10952



ULCERATIVE DERMATOSES AND PANNICULOPATHIES

ULCERATIVE
DISORDERS
and
WOUNDS



SKIN DISEASES
and
DERMATOLOGICAL
PRACTICE

Inflammatory, suppurative,
necrotizing, & ulcerative disorders
of the skin and adipose fascias,
mostly immunopathic in origin.

Dermatoses
Eczema
Pyoderma
Pemphigus
Pemphigoid
Sweet's

Panniculitis
Weber-Christian
Erythema nodosum
Necrobiosis lipoidica
Eosinophilic

CTD-CVD
Lupus
Poly-dermatomyositis
RA / granuloma annulare
Scleroderma / CRST
Behcet's
Crohn's

Vasculitis
Leukocytoclastic
Polyarteritis

Miscellaneous
Uncategorized
Drug eruptions

... AND MANY MORE ...

Spectrum of severity
Steroid responsive
Anti-inflammatory rx
Anti-immune rx

Autoimmune Disorders

Classic connective tissue disorders

Synovitis & arthropathies

Dermatoses & panniculopathies

Inflammatory bowel disease

Bowel-dermatosis-arthritis (badas)

Autoimmune hepatitis & biliary

Autoimmune thyroiditis

Autoimmune aspects of diabetes

Rheumatic carditis

Autoimmune neuropathies

Autoimmune myopathies

Myasthenia gravis

Multiple sclerosis

Sarcoidosis

Granulomatous disorders

Autoimmune arteritides

Venous vasculitis

Autoimmune sialoadenitis

Autoimmune nephritis

Autoimmune pneumonitis

Polyserositis

MCTD – UCTD - NCTD

Rheumatology, Dermatology,

Allergy & Immunology, Hematology

Gastroenterology, Neurology, Nephrology,

Endocrinology, Cardiology, Pulmonary

Concept of a common autoimmune disease

MCTD

Mixed connective tissue disorder

UCTD

Undifferentiated connective tissue disorder

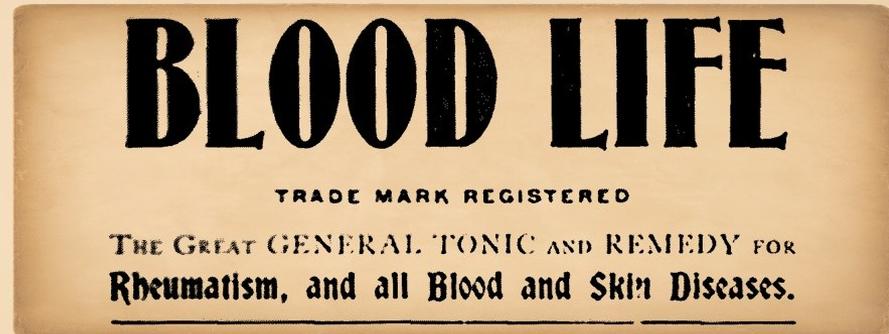
NCTD

Non-specific connective tissue disorder



SUMMARY - HYPERCOAGULOPATHY & AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY

The hypercoagulable disorders and ulcers are a major category of chronic wounds and wound pathology, under appreciated, but overly important.



The “rheumatoid” & immunopathic diseases and ulcers are a major category of chronic wounds and wound pathology, under appreciated, but overly important.



Autoimmune disorders are manifest in a variety of distinctive syndromic patterns. They are thus classified by an accepted nosological nomenclature, but this is artifice. They are in many ways a single disease, and all can be considered MCTD - UCTD - NCTD.

AUTOIMMUNITY - COLLAGEN-VASCULAR & CONNECTIVE-TISSUE PATHOLOGY

WHY ARE THESE CALLED

“COLLAGEN-VASCULAR DISEASES”

“CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS”

rheumatoid
lupus
sjögren's
scleroderma
polymyositis
dermatomyositis
ank. spondylitis
behçet's
wegener's
reiter's syndrome

sarcoidosis
fam. med. fever
polyarteritis nodosa
giant cell arteritis
takayasu's
thromboangiitis
weber-christian
nodular fasciitis
eosinophilic fasciitis
erythema nodosum

WHY ARE THESE TISSUES, CELLS, & STRUCTURES AFFECTED?

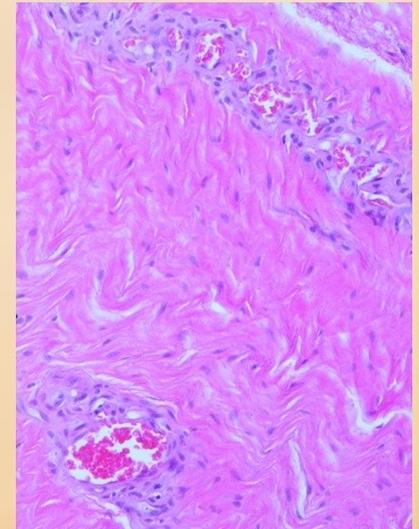
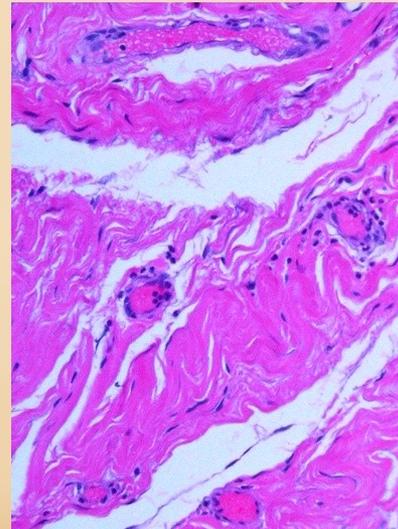
Mesoderm - Mesenchyme

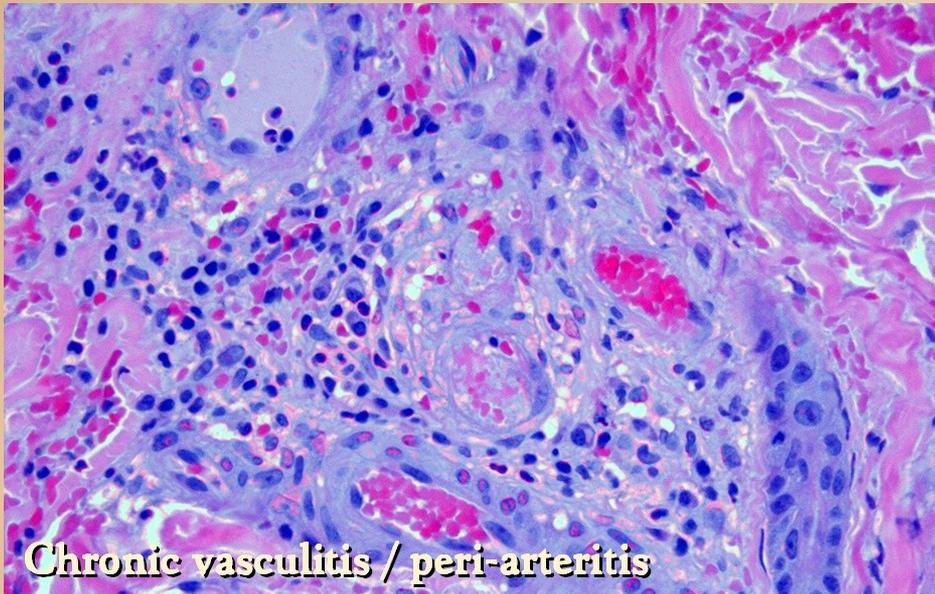
Soft Tissue - Stroma

Histioblasts - Fibroblasts - Angiocytes

Connective tissue - (collagen)

Blood vessels - (vascular)

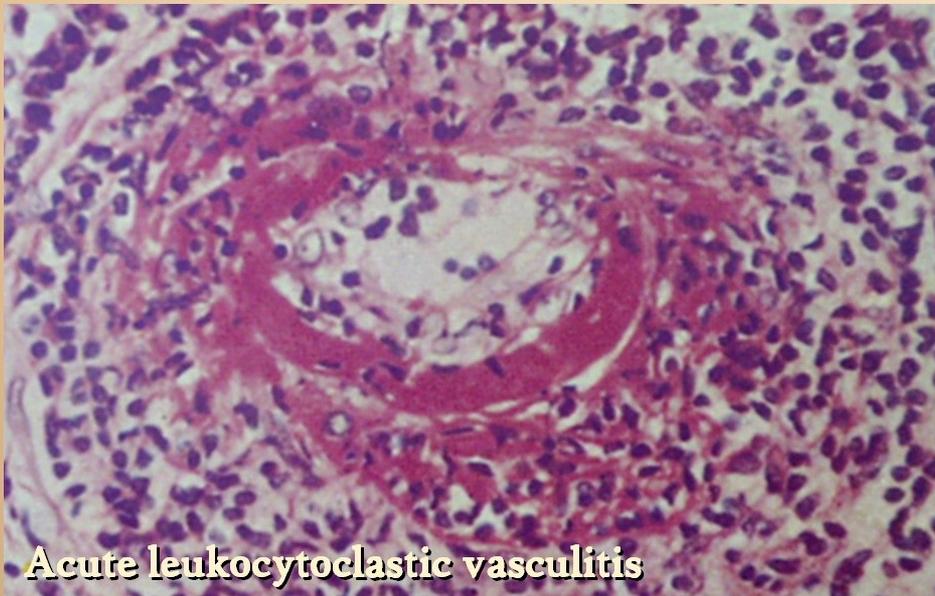




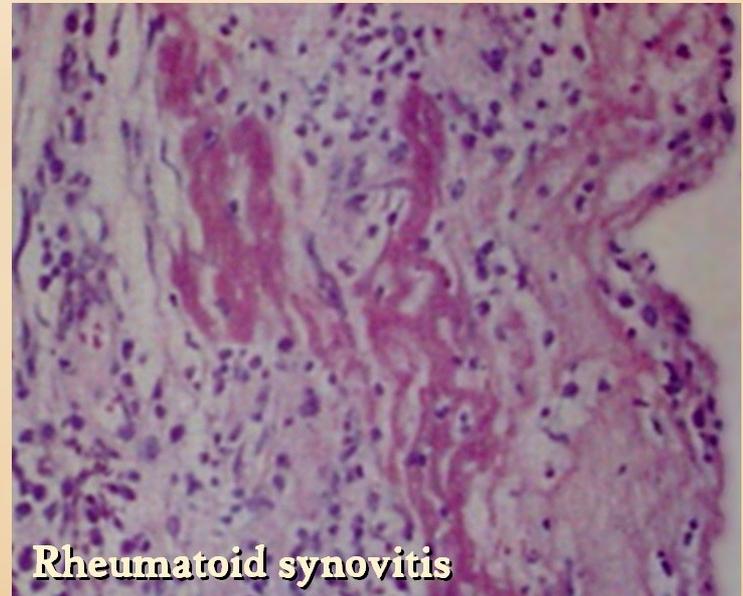
Chronic vasculitis / peri-arteritis

The stromal tissues, engineered by the mesenchymal cells of the mesoderm, predominantly histioblasts-fibroblasts and angiocytes, are composed of collagen and connective proteins, traversed by blood vessels and vascular structures.

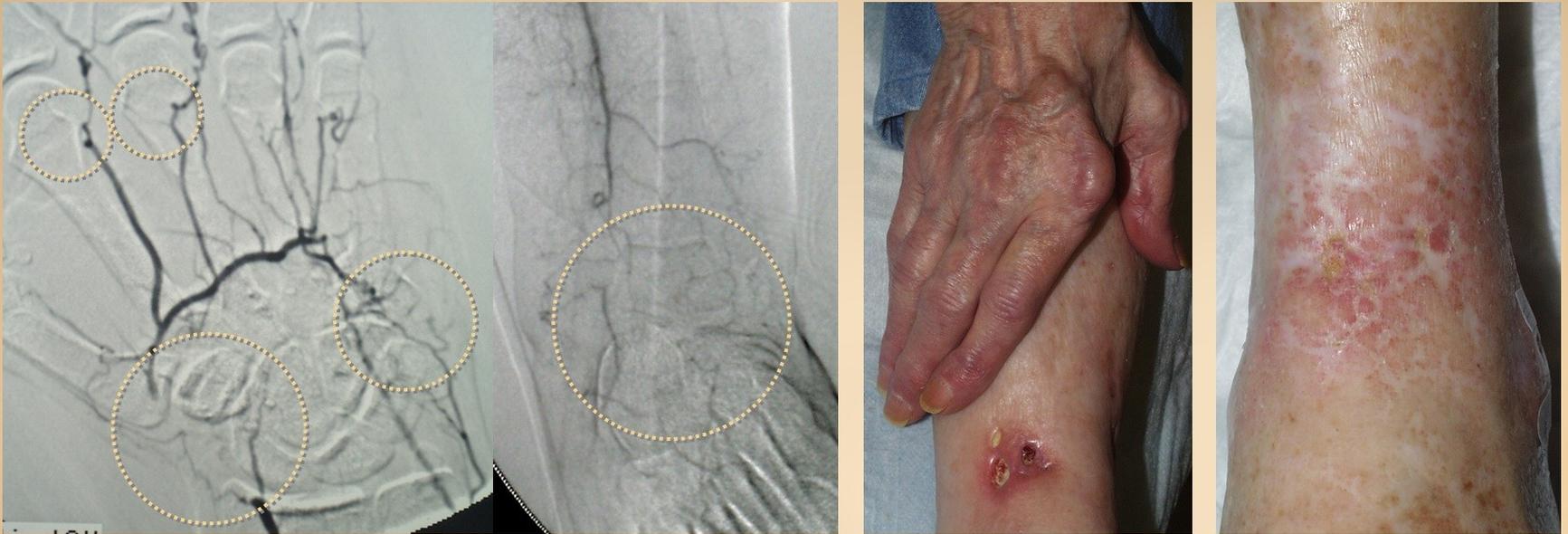
These cells, structures, and tissues are often the target of the autoimmune disorders and immunopathies.



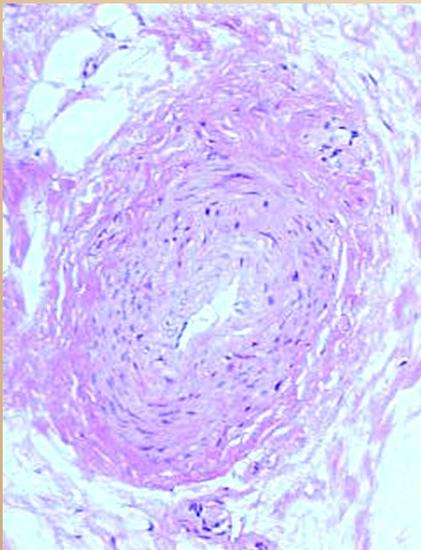
Acute leukocytoclastic vasculitis



Rheumatoid synovitis



Acute and chronic damage to mesenchymal, musculoskeletal, and stromal structures.



TARGET TISSUES & EFFECTS

OF THE AUTO-IMMUNE CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISORDERS

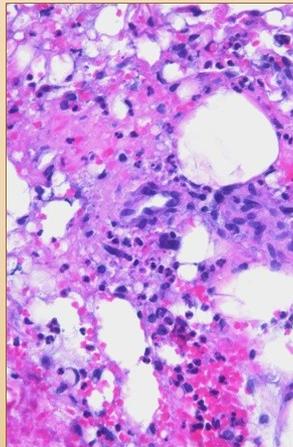
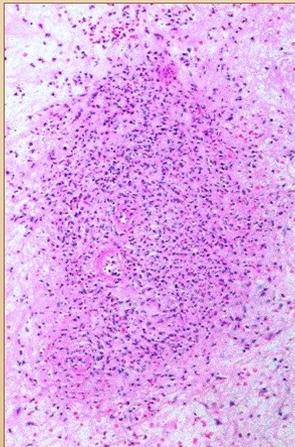
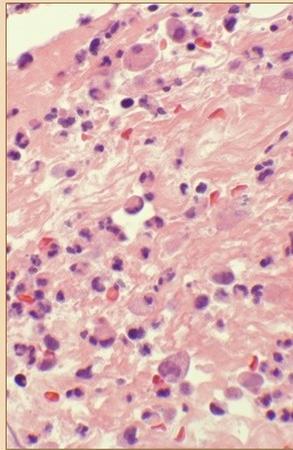
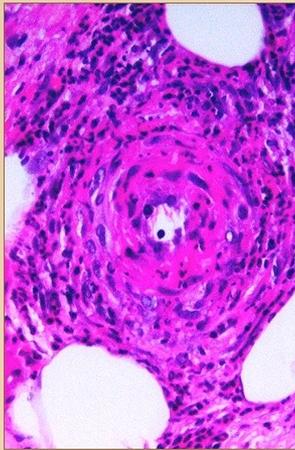
Mesoderm
Mesenchyme

Soft Tissue
Stroma

Histioblasts
Fibroblasts
Angiocytes

Connective tissue
(collagen)

Blood vessels
(vascular)



From the Mesoderm / Mesenchyme

Synovium (RA)

Scar (Lupus complications)

Panniculitis (Sjogren's, Weber-Christian)

Polyserositis (Lupus, Weber-Christian)

Muscle (Polymyositis, PMR, CREST)

Ligament & tendon (RA, MCTD)

Vessels (Vasculitis)

Dermis, sclerosis (Scleroderma)

Dermis, lysis (Ulcer)

WOUNDS

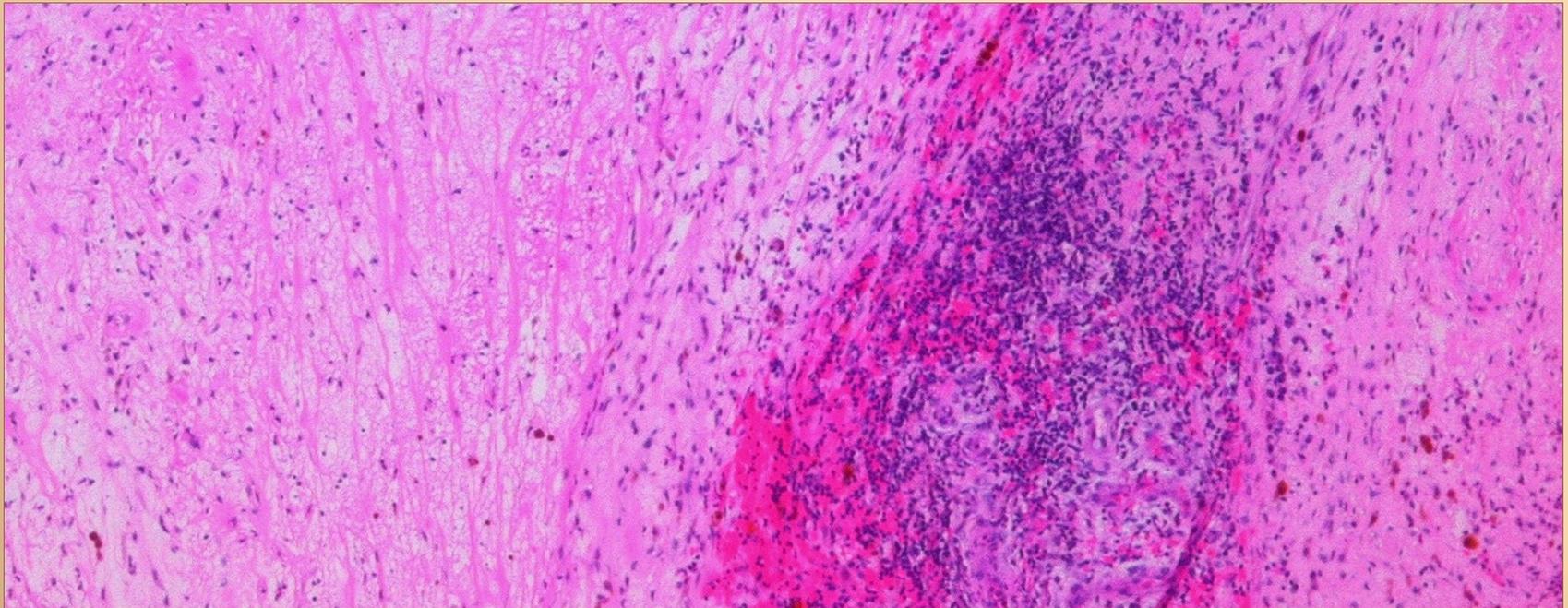
Targets Against Ento-Ectoderm

(liver, kidney, adenoid, epidermis, etc.)

SUMMARY - COLLAGEN-VASCULAR & CONNECTIVE TISSUE PATHOLOGY

Why are these called “Collagen-Vascular Diseases” & “Connective Tissue Disorders” ?

Because the immune events and targets affect the mesenchymal cells which constitute the stroma of all tissues, the connective tissues and blood vessels, composed predominantly of fibroblasts & angiocytes.



AUTOIMMUNOPATHY - ORIGINS OF AUTOIMMUNITY & COLLAGEN-VASCULAR DISEASES

Theories About the Origins of Autoimmunization & Autoimmune States

Occult Antigen Exposure

Anti-nuclear & Anti-cytoplasmic Antibodies

actin (smooth muscle)
 antinuclear antibodies
 cardiolipin
 centromere
 chromatin
 cyclic citrullinated peptide (CCP)
 dsDNA
 endomysial
 histone
 interleukin-2 receptor
 Jo-1(histidine-tRNA ligase)
 liver kidney microsome (LKM-1)
 mitochondrial
 neutrophil cytoplasmic (ANCA)
 perinuclear ANCA
 ribosomal P
 ribonucleo-protein RNP
 scleroderma (Scl-70)
 sjögren's SS-A Ro
 sjögren's SS-B La
 Sm, Sm-RNP
 tissue transglutaminase (ATA)

Rheumatic and Related Disease Screening

Table 1. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) & Mixed Connective Tissue Disease

Test	Systemic Lupus Erythematosus	Mixed Connective Tissue Disease
dsDNA antibody ^a	+	-
Chromatin antibody ^a	+	-
Sm antibody ^b	+	-
Sm/RNP antibody	+	+ (high titer)
RNP antibody	+	+ (high titer)

^a Highly sensitive for SLE.

^b Highly specific for SLE.

Table 2. Sjögren's Syndrome, Scleroderma, and Polymyositis

Test	Sjögren's Syndrome	Scleroderma	Polymyositis
SS-A antibody	+	-	-
SS-B antibody	+	-	-
Scl-70 antibody	-	+	-
Jo-1 antibody	-	-	+

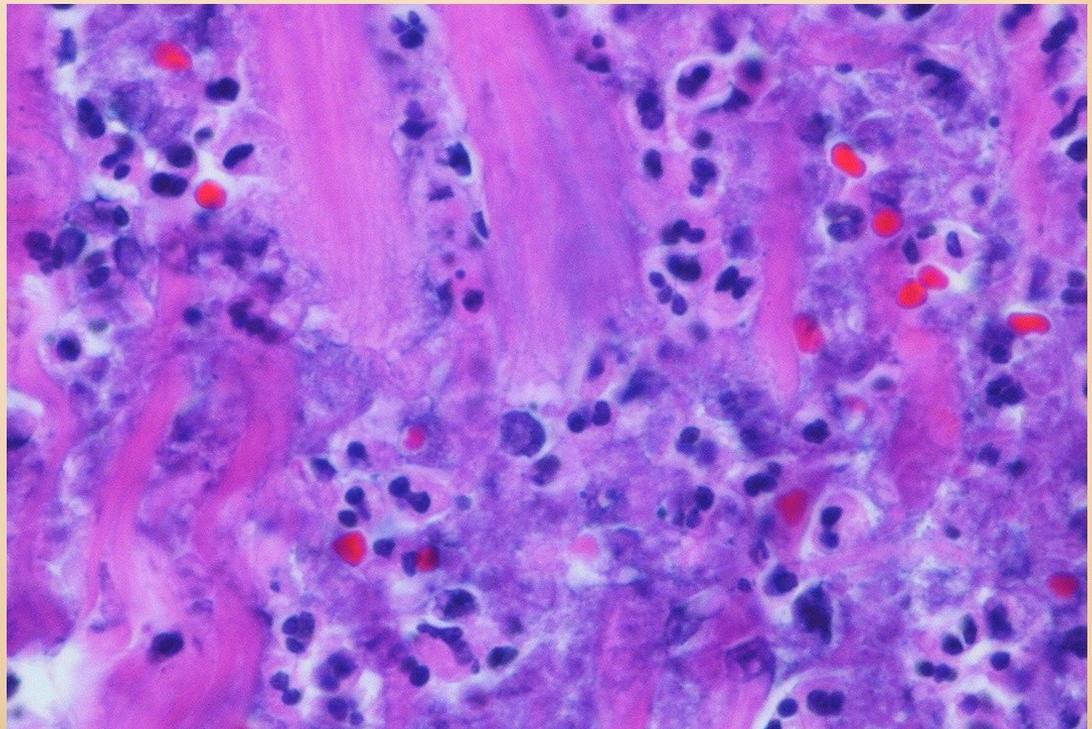
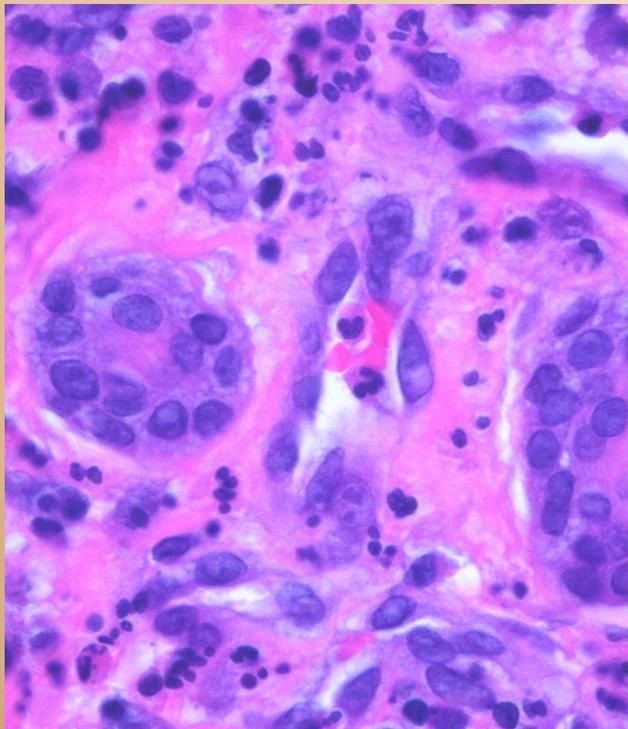
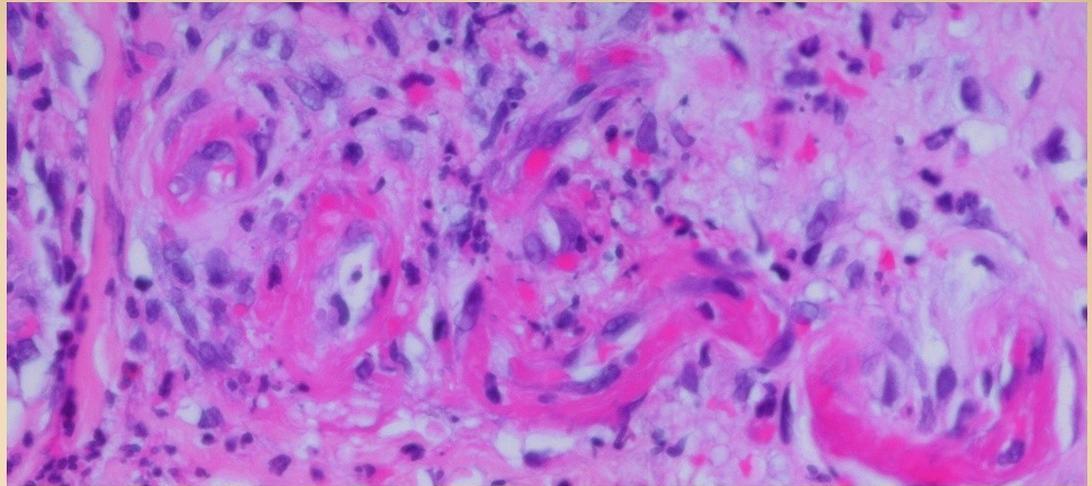
Table 3. CREST Syndrome and Neurologic SLE

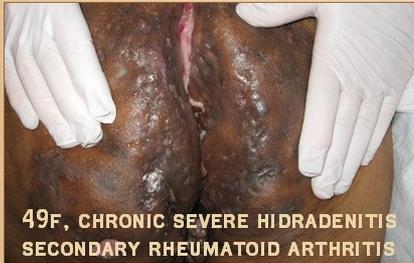
Test	CREST Syndrome	Neurologic SLE
Centromere antibody	+	-
Ribosomal P antibody	-	+

SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus.

**The origins of
anti-cytoplasmic
& anti-nuclear
antibodies**

**endocellular debris
nuclear debris
poly dust**





49F, CHRONIC SEVERE HIDRADENITIS
SECONDARY RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS



AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY

MECHANISMS OF AUTOIMMUNITY

Auto-Sensitization

depends on recognition, processing,
& presentation of antigens to lymphocytes

Exposure of Occult & Sequestered Antigens

endocellular debris (acute inflammation)

intra-cytoplasmic antibodies

endonuclear debris (acute inflammation)

anti-nuclear antibodies

cell and tissue specific debris

e.g. hidradenitis

e.g. uveitis

antigen cross-reactivity

e.g. latex & spina bifida

Opsonization - Haptenization of Open Antigens

opsonization / inverse haptenization

e.g. rheumatic carditis & parf

e.g. reiter's syndrome

Antigen Processing & Presentation

neutrophil & acute inflammatory debris

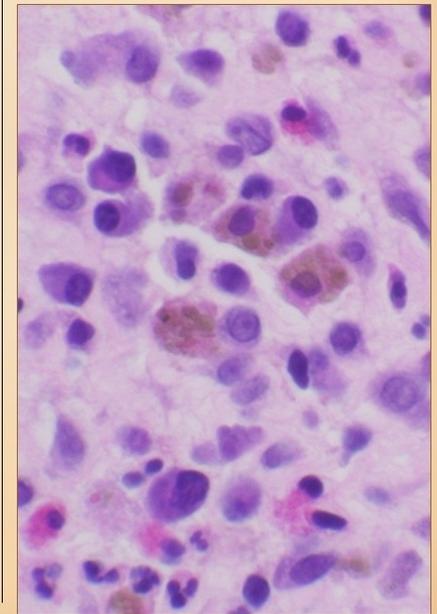
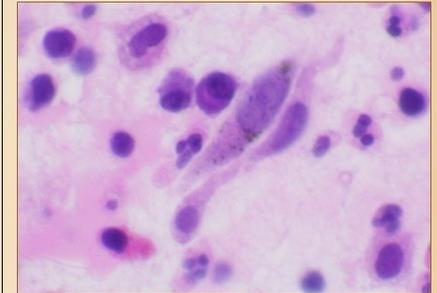
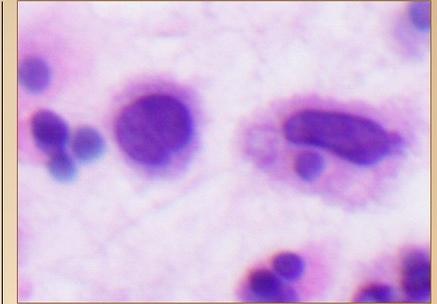
local & specific cell debris

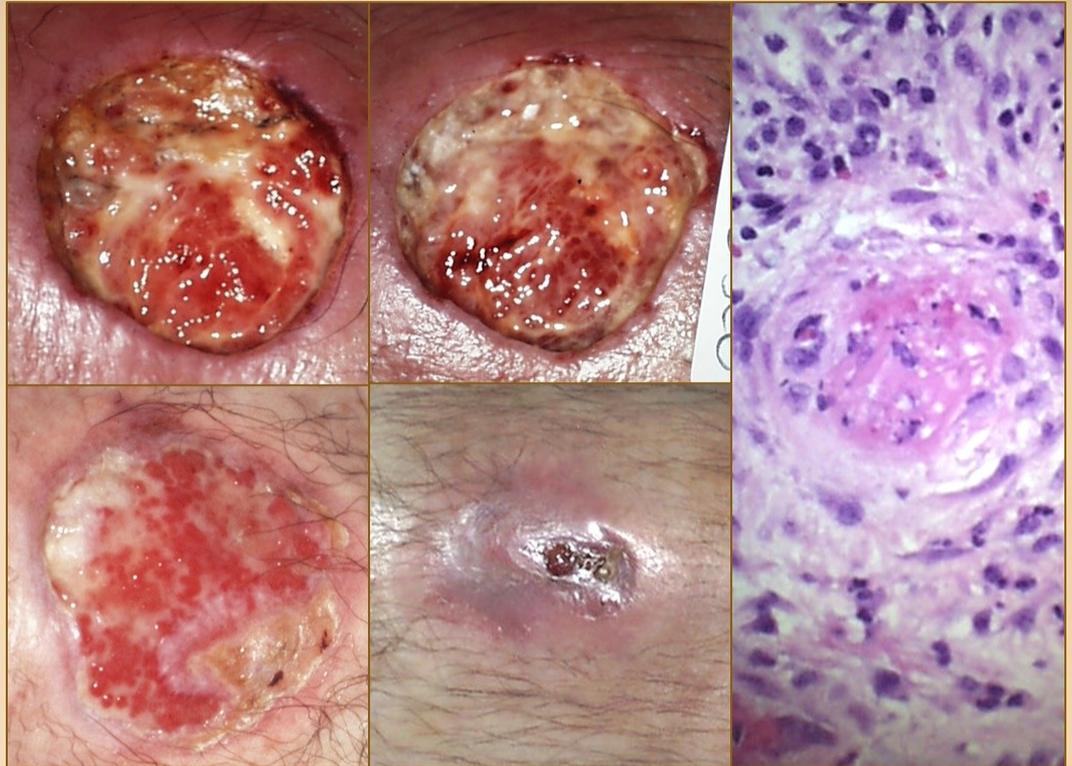
macrophages, histiocytes, & antigen

lymphocytes & plasma cells

sustained acute inflammation

chronic inflammation





TOMBSTONE CLINICAL LABORATORY

sed rate	56	+
C-reactive protein	7.4	+
ANA	1:1280	++
cardiolipin IgM	134	++
fibrinogen	477	+
plasminogen	> 150	+
protein S	58	-

34M, lupus, trauma wounds

pathergy, multiple wound failure: hand, groin, leg

multiple failed operations, refractory to all care

antiphospholipid antibodies

healed with warfarin



54M No prior diagnosis

FactorV Leiden	heterozyg	+
ANA	1:80-sp	+
lupus anticoag	pos	+
cardiolipin IgA	15	+
cardiolipin IgG	>150	+++
cardiolipin IgM	20	+
protein C	60	-
protein S	56	-
homocysteine	14.6	+



72F Polycythemia Vera

ANA	1:160	+
cardiolipin IgM	80	++
protein S	53	-

75M Anemia / Cythemia

rheumatoid factor	2780	++
cardiolipin IgM	70	+
protein C	65	-
cryoglobulin	pos	+





69F Rheumatoid Arthritis

FactorV Leiden	heterozyg	+
protein C	51	-
protein S	52	-

81F Leg ulcer



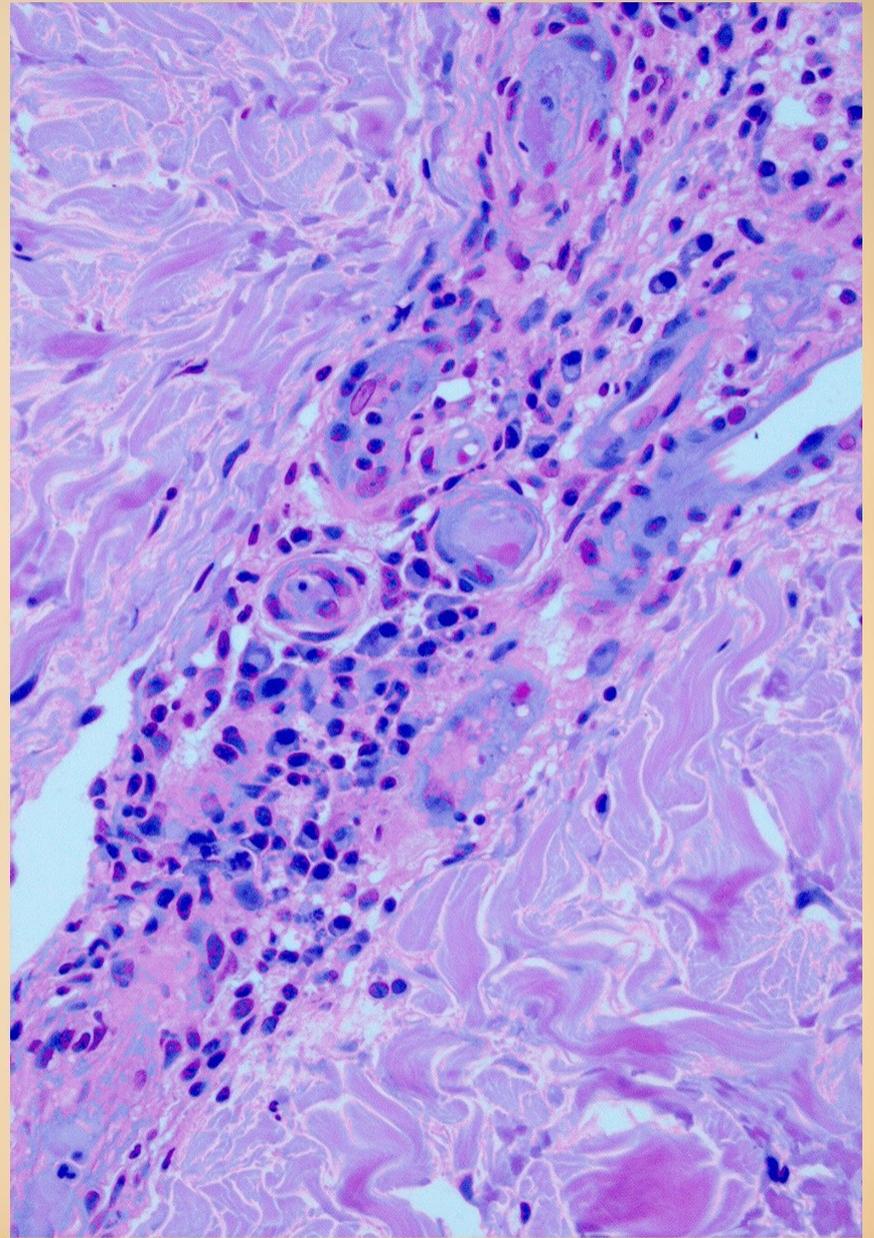
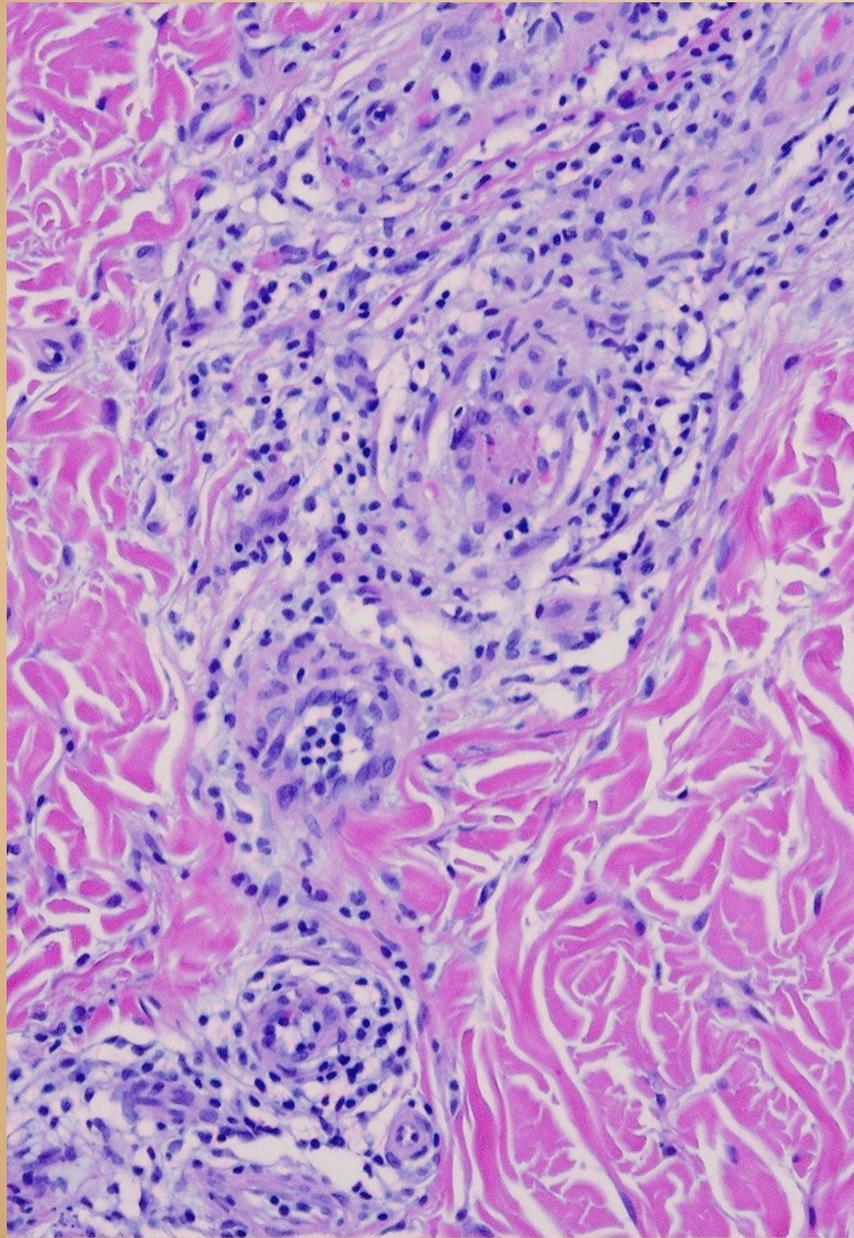
rheumatoid factor	27	+
ANA	1:1280-hm	++
lupus anticoag	pos	+
cardiolipin IgM	51	+
protein C	142	+
fibrinogen	429	+
homocysteine	19.3	+

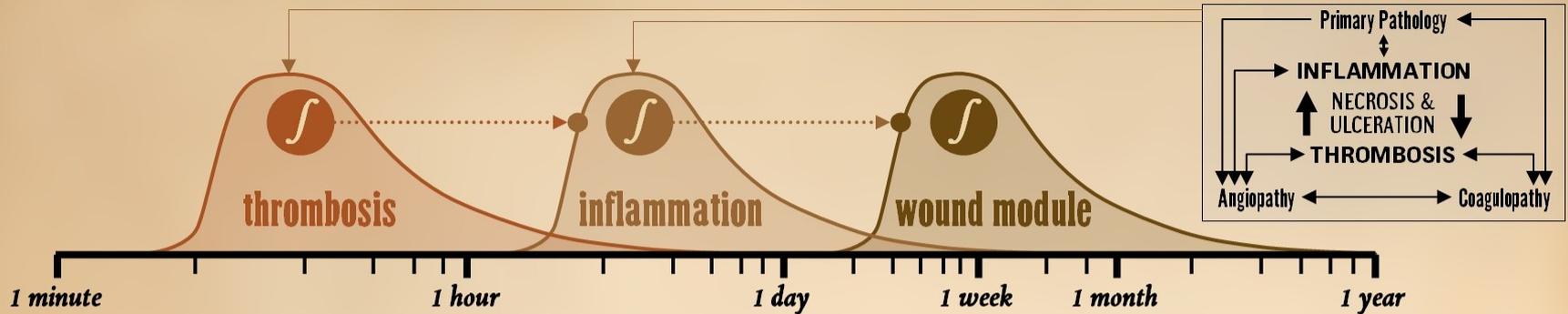


66F Scleroderma / MCTD

rheumatoid factor	35	+
ANA	1:1280-cn	++
protein S	62	-
fibrinogen	499	+







TYPES OF INFLAMMATION

ACUTE -> SUSTAINED ACUTE -> CHRONIC

ACUTE INFLAMMATION

One shot

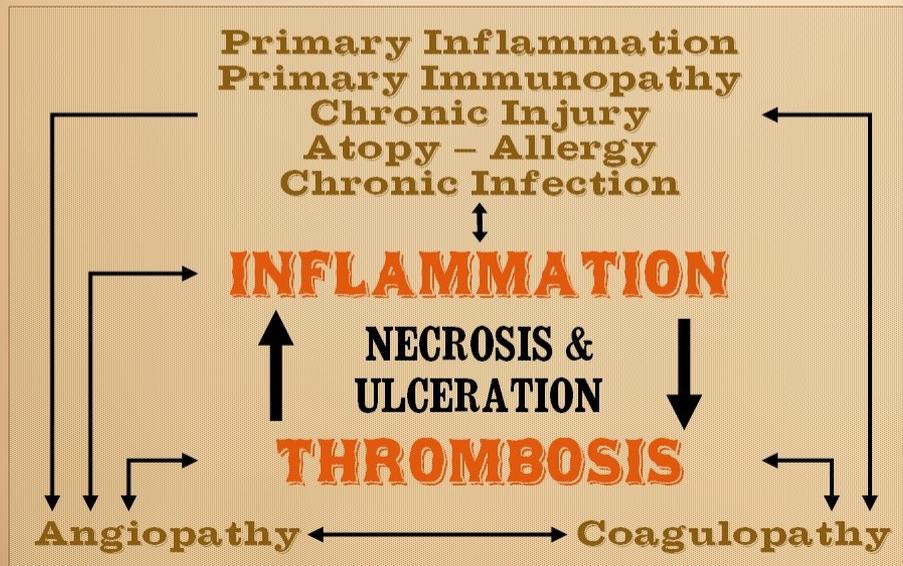
Minimum exposure of sequestered antigen
 Minimum macrophage-lymphocyte admixture
(Time & place for macrophages & lymphocytes)

SUSTAINED ACUTE INFLAMMATION

Repetitive or unresolved primary injury
 Increased load of cellular and nuclear debris
 Increased time of exposure
 Increased load of reactive cells
 Increased chance of lymphocyte appearance
 Increased macrophage-lymphocyte admixture
 Increased macrophage-lymphocyte interaction

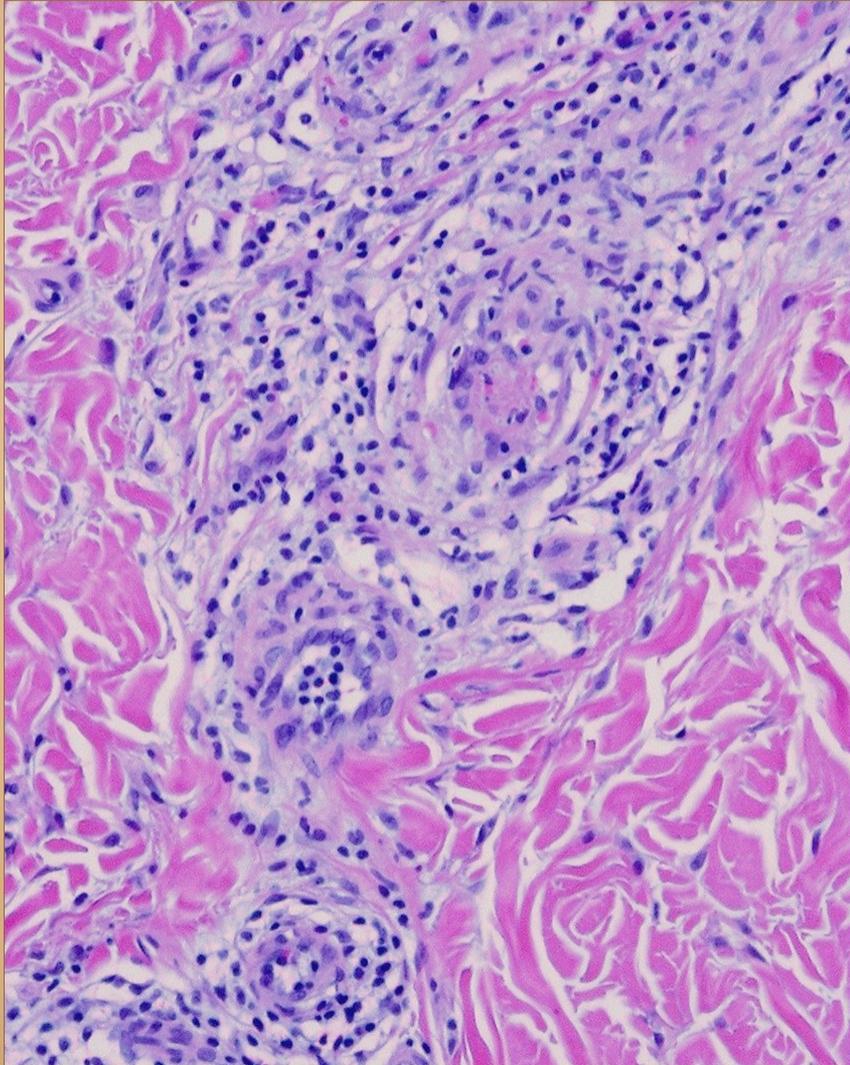
CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

Sensitization has occurred
 A new population enters the mix (lymph-plasma)
 Perpetuation of injury and altered dynamics



ACUTE, SUSTAINED ACUTE, & CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

CAUSES



"Chronic Inflammation" (*vernacular*)
has been there a long time
sustained or persistent acute inflammation

- versus -

Chronic Inflammation (*pathological*)
3rd population
lymphocytes - plasma cells - eosinophils

What conditions cause sustained injury, sustained inflammation, and high-load exposure or opsonization of normally safe or sequestered antigens ?

**SUSTAINED & CHRONIC
INFLAMMATION (REACTIVE & INDUCED)**

INFECTION & IMMUNITY

TRAUMA & INJURY

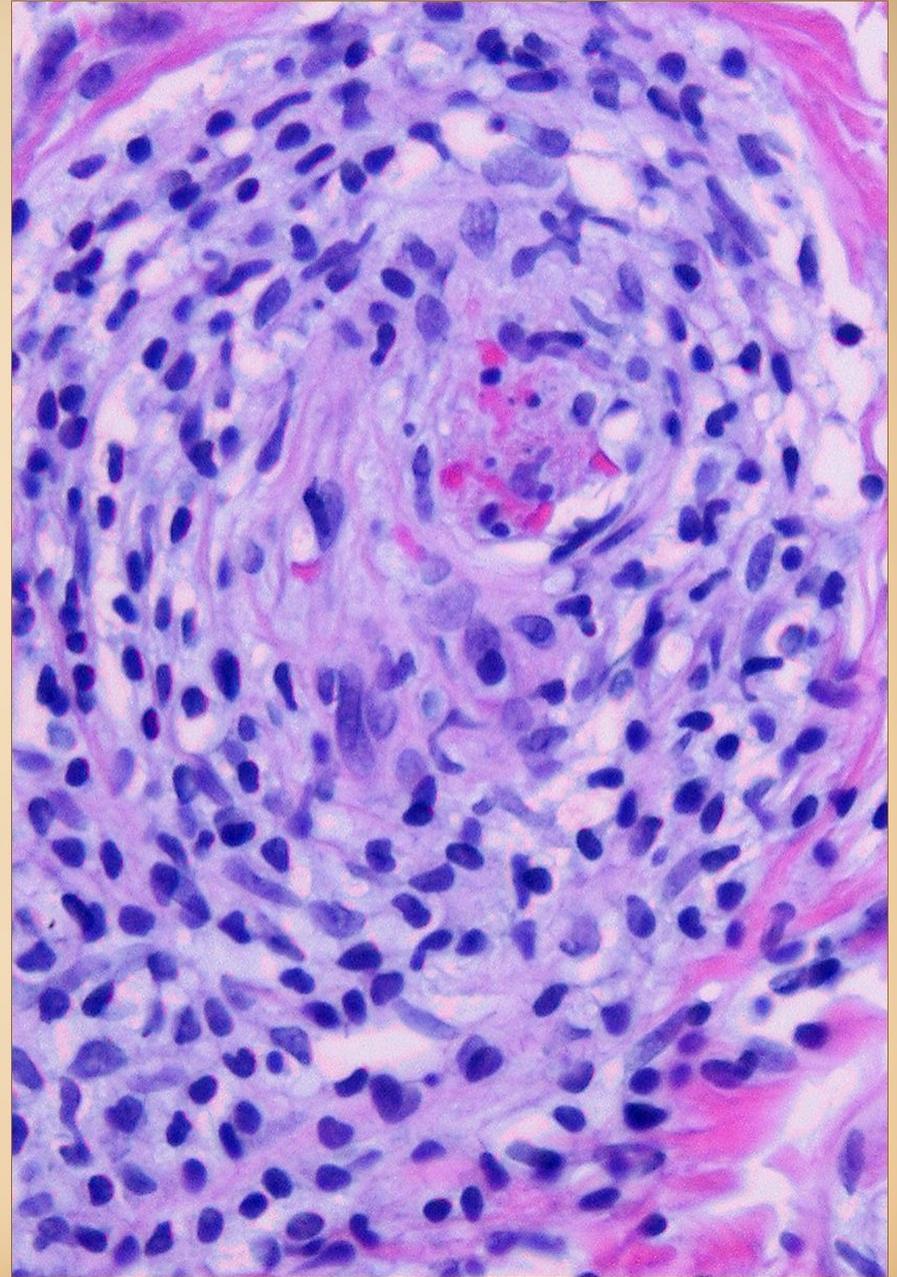
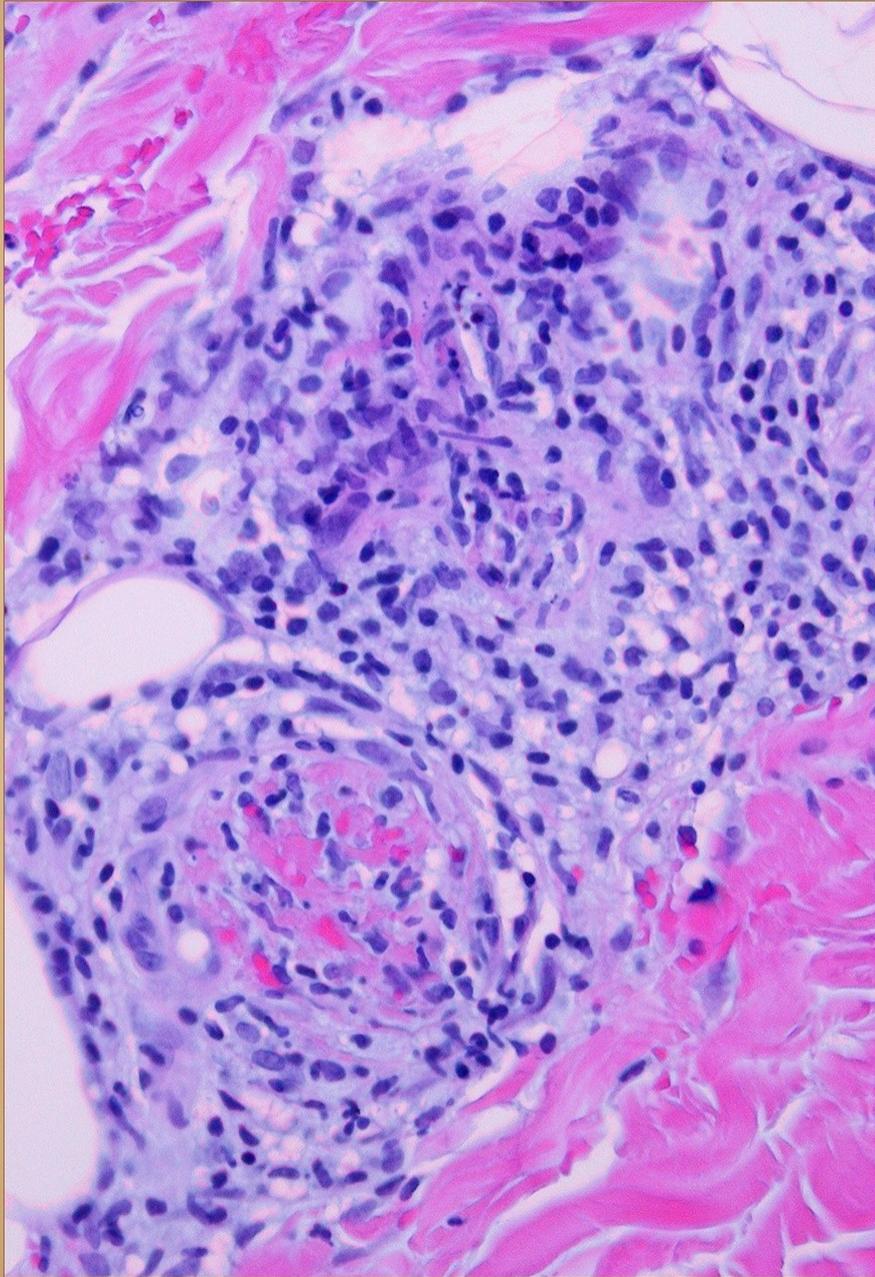
ALLERGY - ATOPY

THROMBOSIS

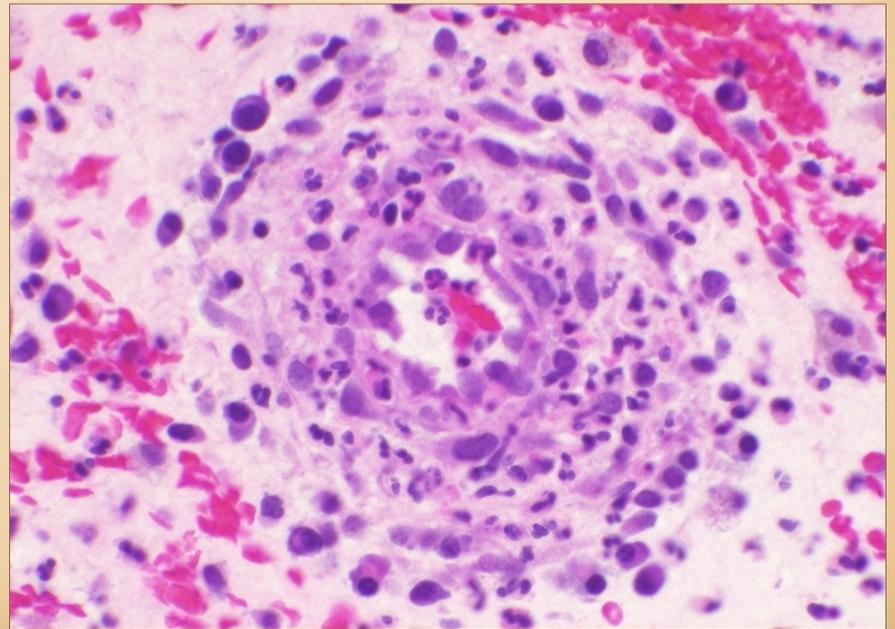
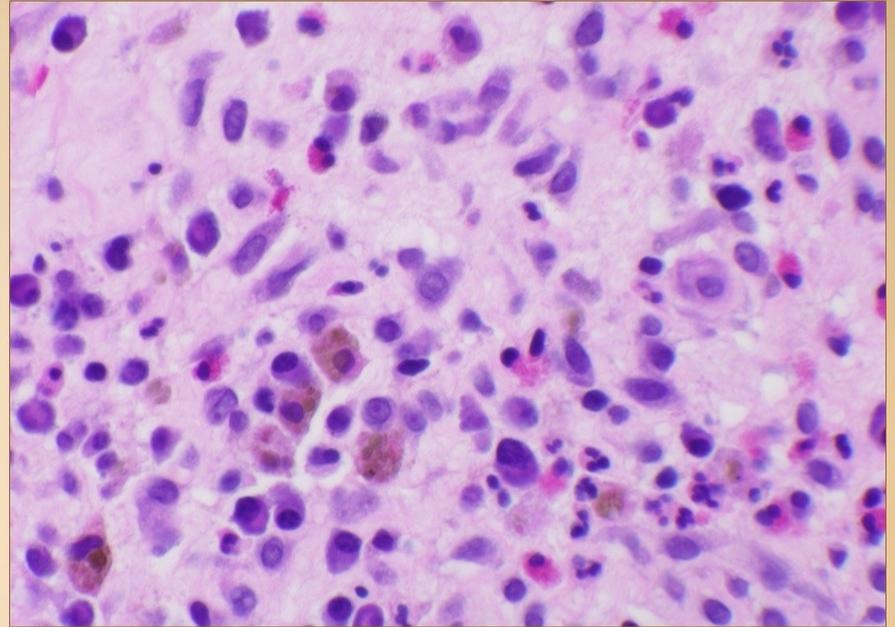
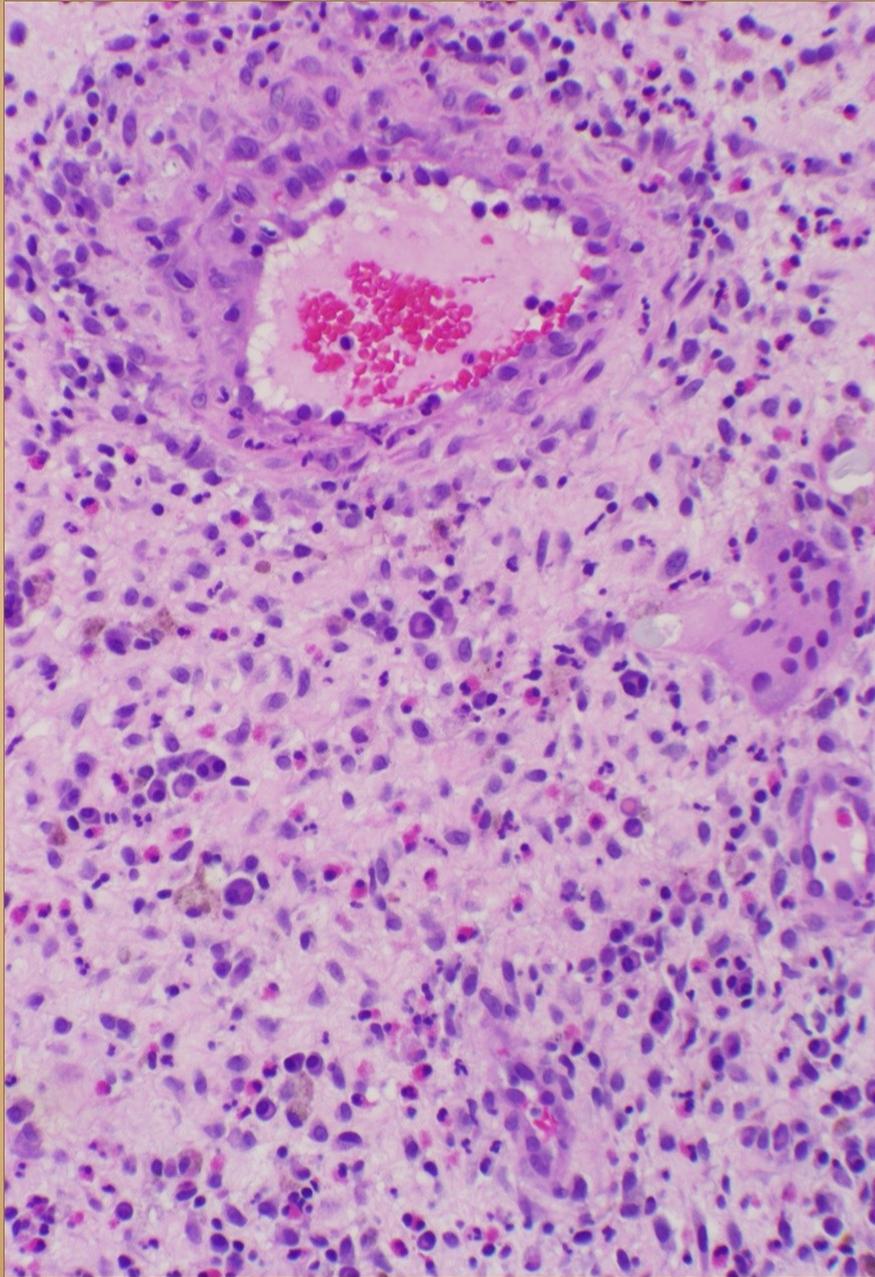
ACUTE INFECTIONS (RHEUMATIC HEART, REITER'S)

GENETICS (E.G. HLA-B27, HLA-B51, MEFV)

hypercoagulability / chronic thrombosis: 74 f; advanced crippling rheumatoid arthritis; hypercoagulopathy; leg ulcers

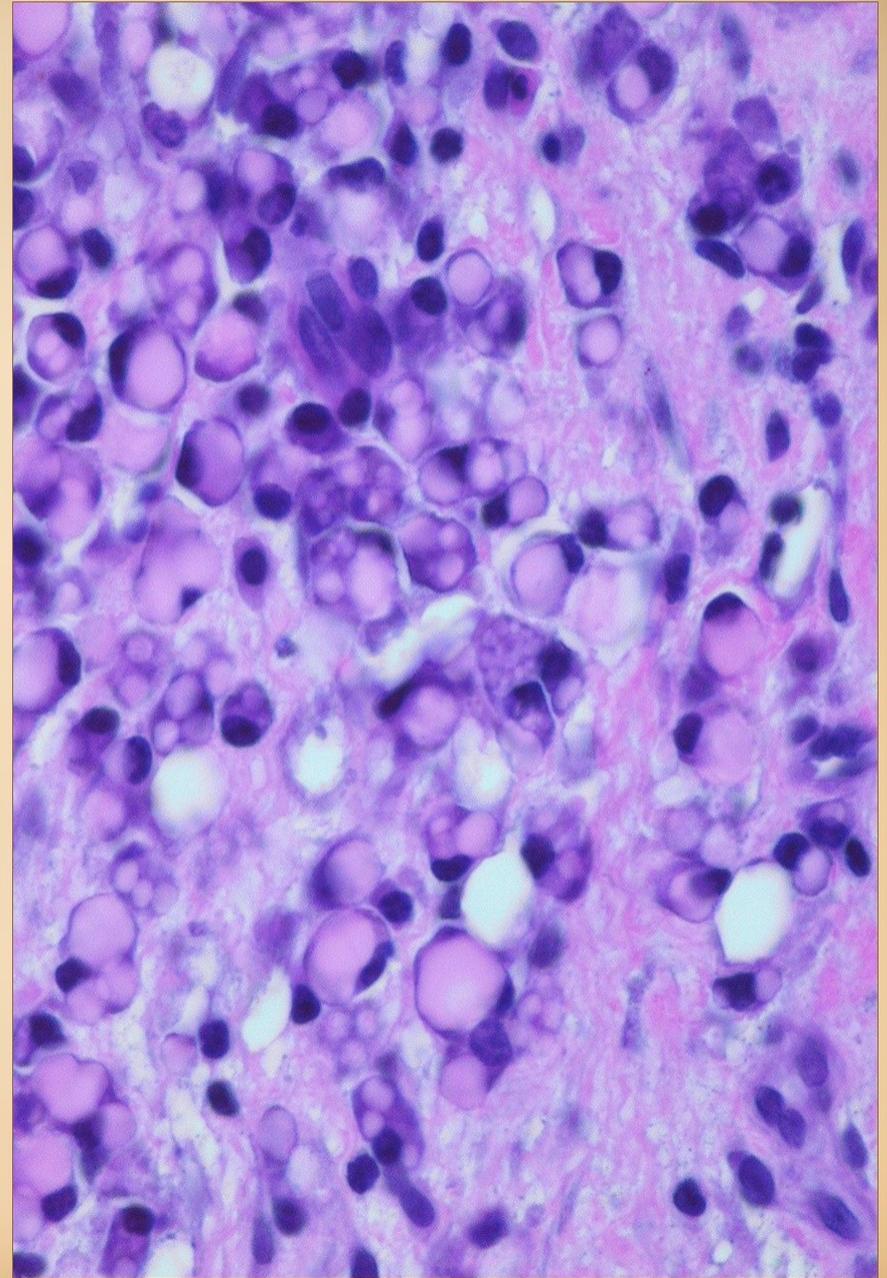
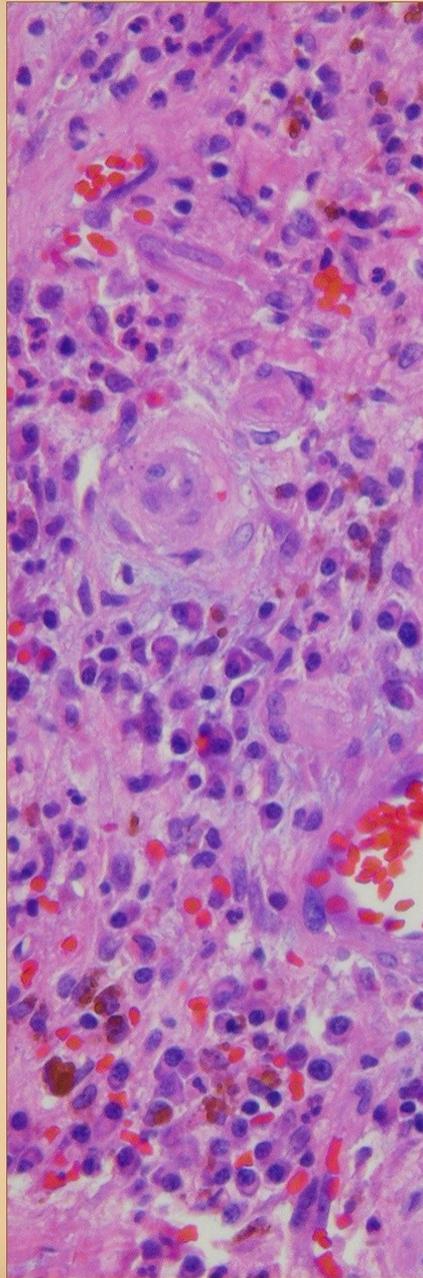
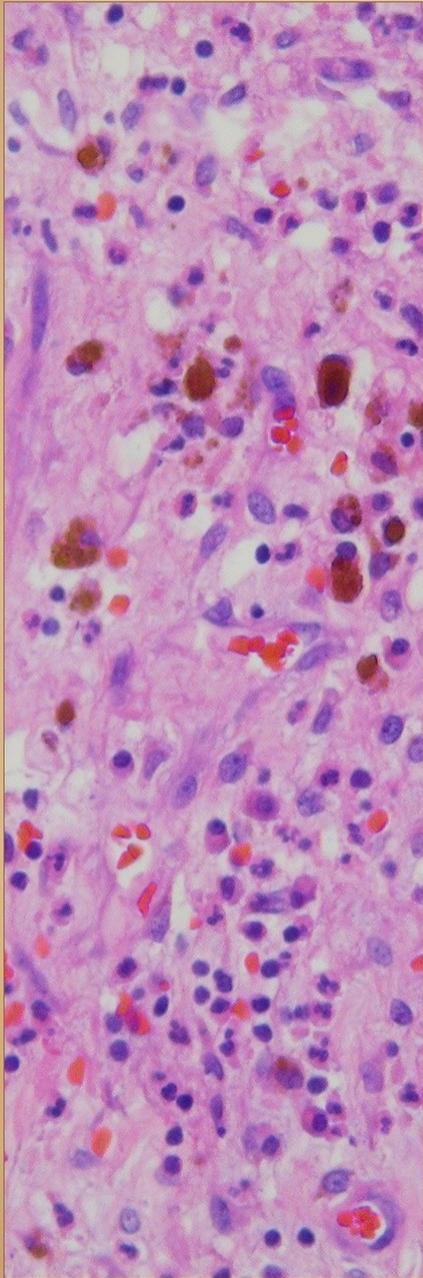


chronic allergy-atopy: 33 m; spine injury paraplegia; bullous pemphigoid; pressure & diffuse pemphigoid ulcers



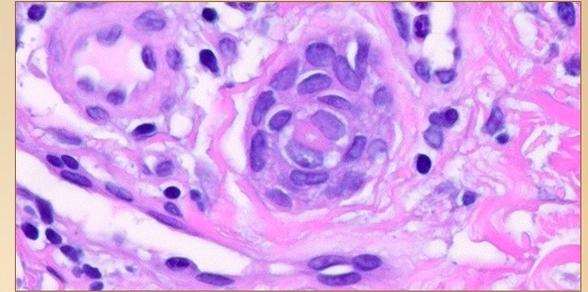
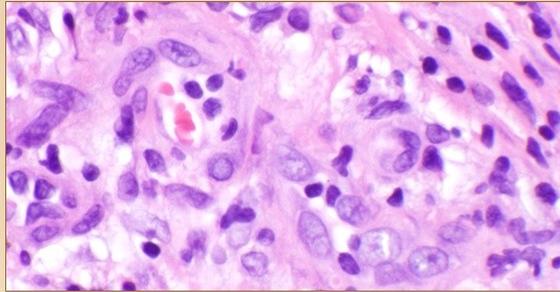
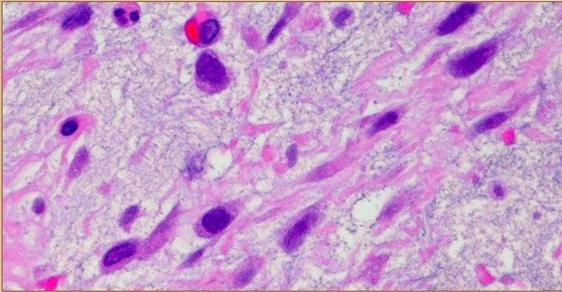
hypercoagulable: 31 f; mixed immune & prethrombotic

radiation: 84 f; chronic wound, sustained inflammation

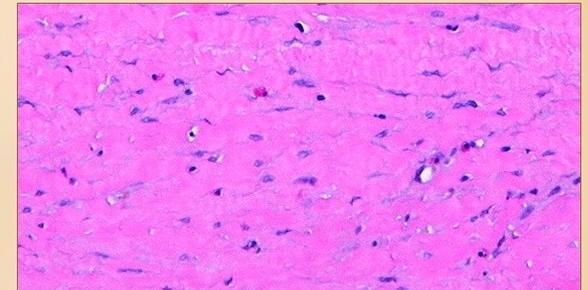
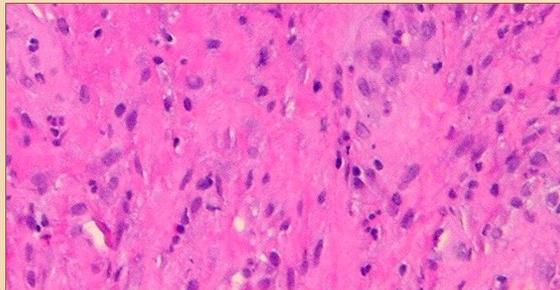
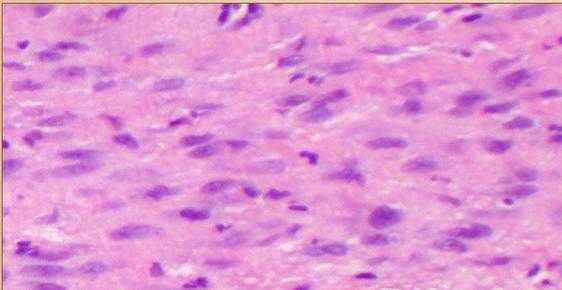


REPAIR IS BASED ON 2 CELL TYPES - ANGIOCYTES & FIBROBLASTS

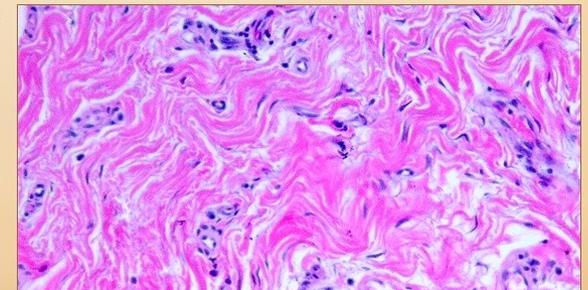
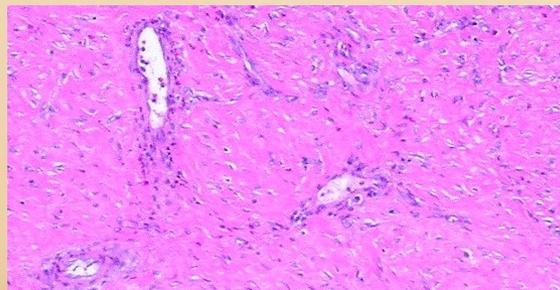
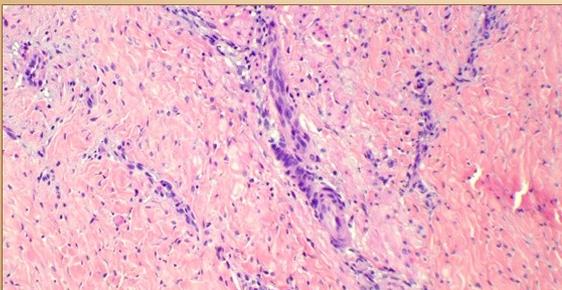
All injury and inflammation trigger repair.



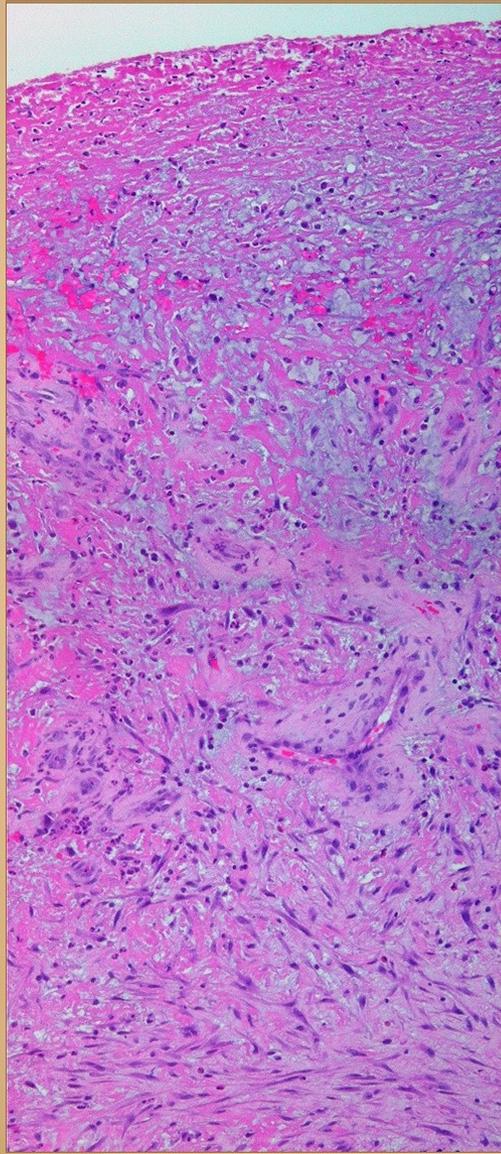
The mesenchymal component of normal wound healing is the proliferative **wound module** of post-inflammatory repair.



This depends on just 2 cells: **histio-fibroblasts** & **vascular angiocytes**, which create the vascular and connective structures which constitute the new stroma.



ACUTE INFLAMMATION, WOUND MODULE, & CHRONIC INFLAMMATION - ADMIXTURE, TIME & PLACE



PP
AI
GAG
ATTR
ACUTE INFLAMMATION

0

GAG
VMIG
ACTIVE ANGIOCYTES

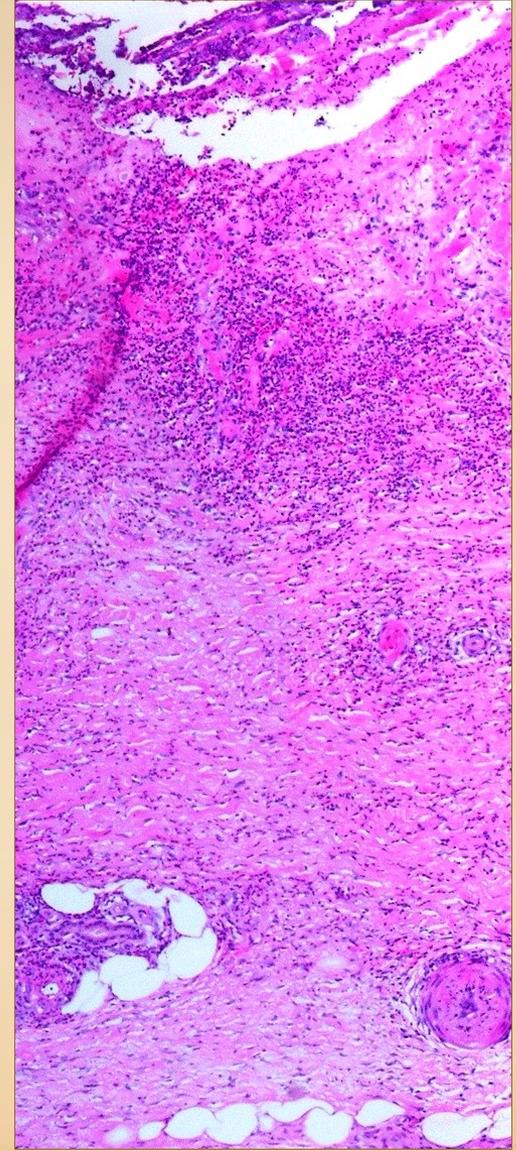
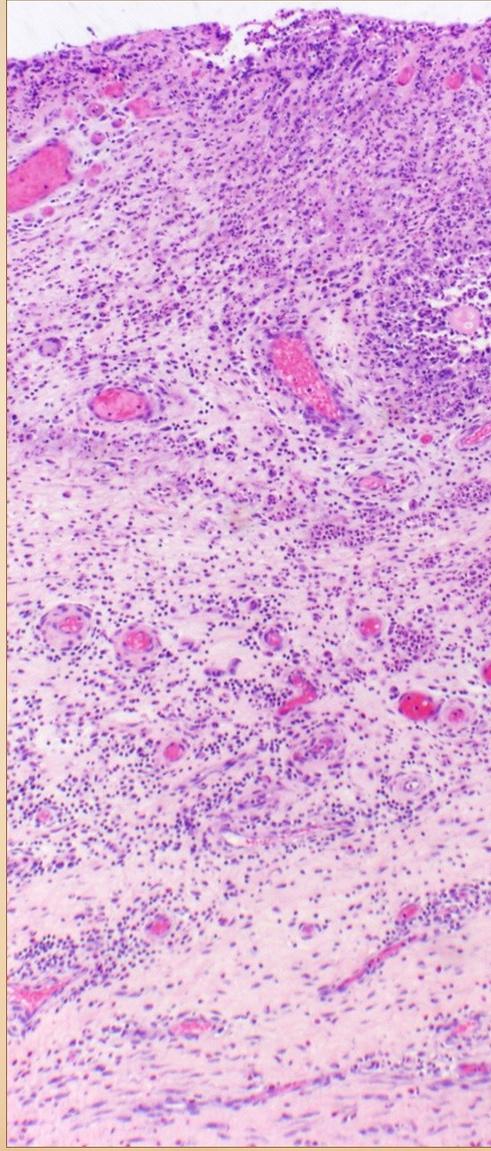
TIME - DAYS

ORG

CONN

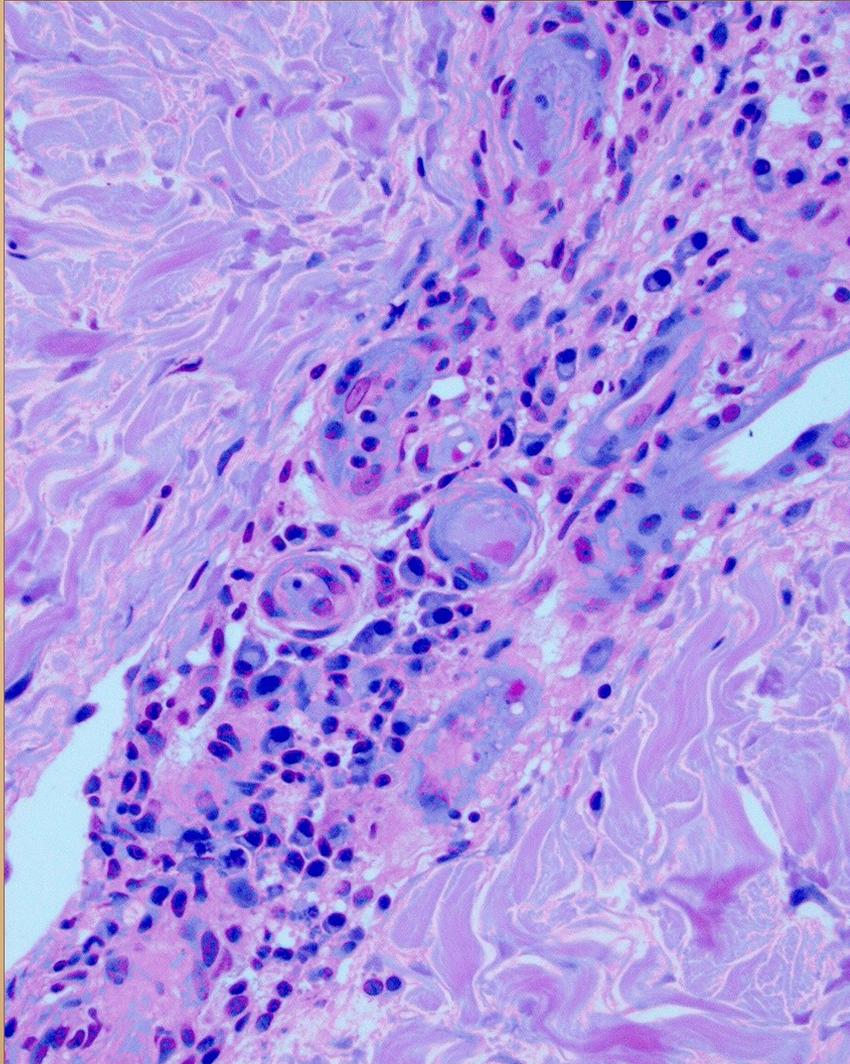
ACTIVE FIBROBLASTS

7



ACUTE, SUSTAINED ACUTE, & CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

CONSEQUENCES



MECHANISMS OF AUTOIMMUNITY

Auto-Sensitization

depends on recognition, processing,
& presentation of antigens to lymphocytes

Exposure of Occult & Sequestered Antigens

endocellular debris (acute inflammation)

intra-cytoplasmic antibodies

endonuclear debris (acute inflammation)

anti-nuclear antibodies

cell and tissue specific debris

e.g. hidradenitis, uveitis

antigen cross-reactivity

e.g. latex & spina bifida

Opsonization - Haptenization of Open Antigens

opsonization / inverse haptenization

e.g. rheumatic carditis & parf, reiter's syndrome

Antigen Processing & Presentation

neutrophil & acute inflammatory debris

local & specific cell debris

macrophages, histiocytes, & antigen

lymphocytes & plasma cells

sustained acute inflammation

chronic inflammation

Wound cell-specific debris & sensitization:

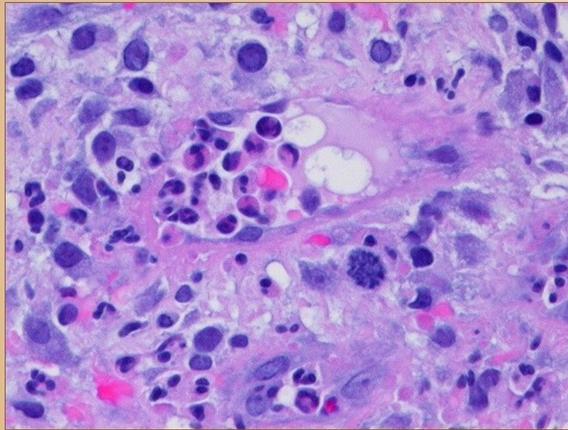
angiocytes & fibrocytes,

vessels & connective tissue, stroma

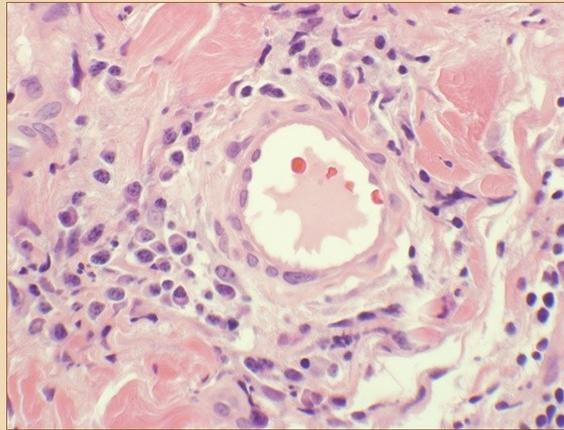
CHRONIC INFLAMMATION, COLLAGEN-VASCULAR DISEASE, & WOUND HEALING



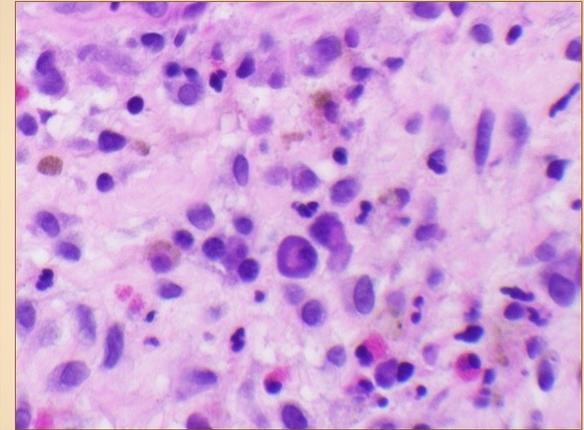
Immunopathic and other chronic and pathological ulcers have distinctive histological variances from normal wound healing (in addition to signs of the primary pathology).



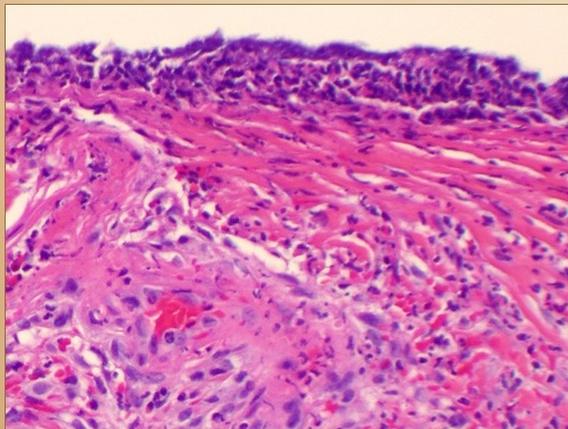
complex inflammation profiles



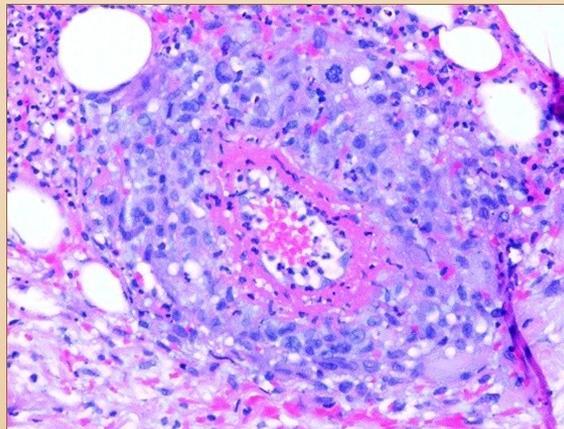
lympho-plasmacyte infiltrates



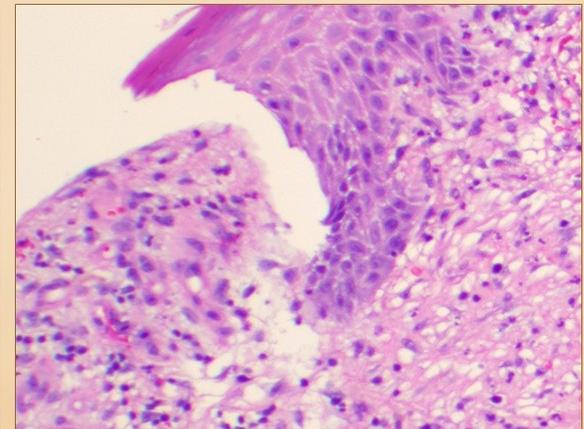
acute-chronic population admixture



failed / missing wound strata

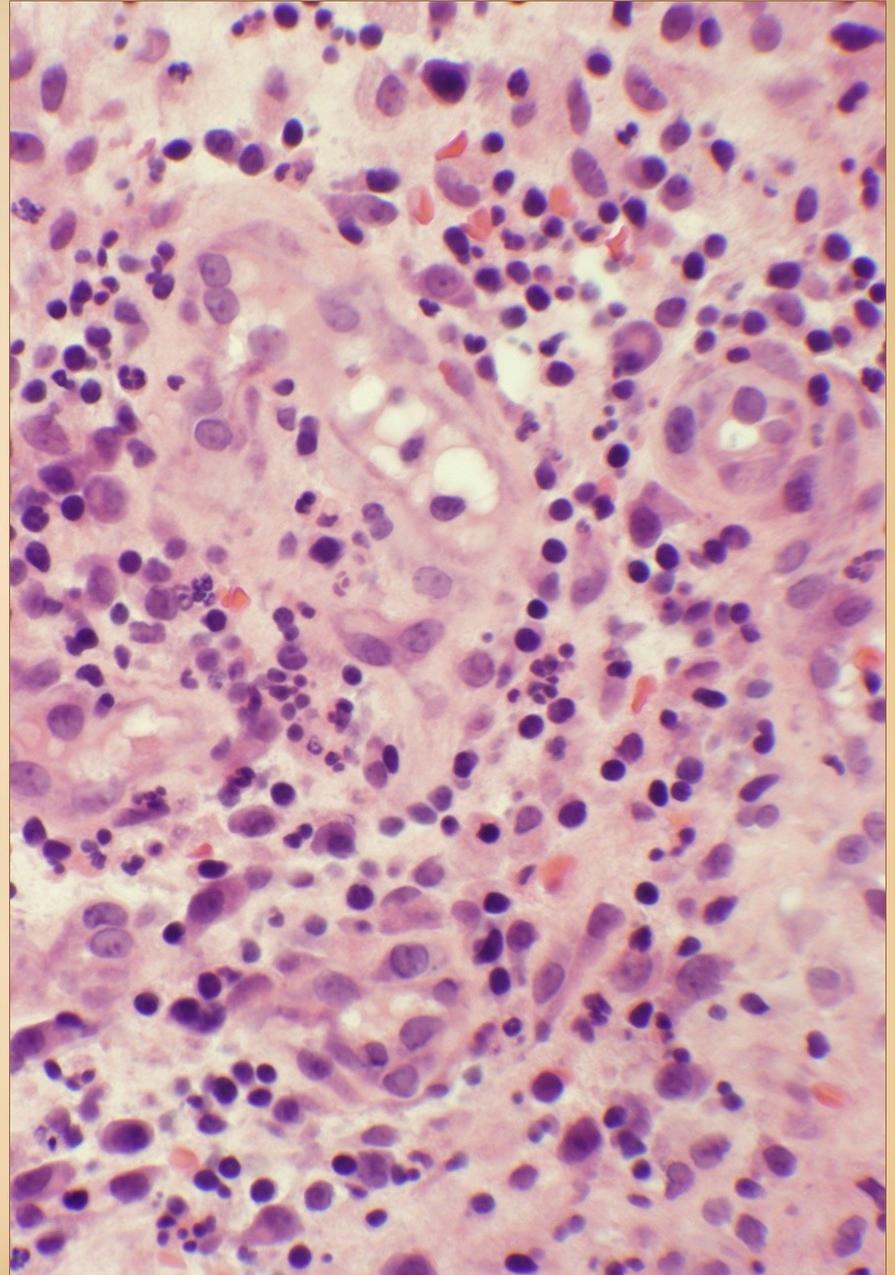
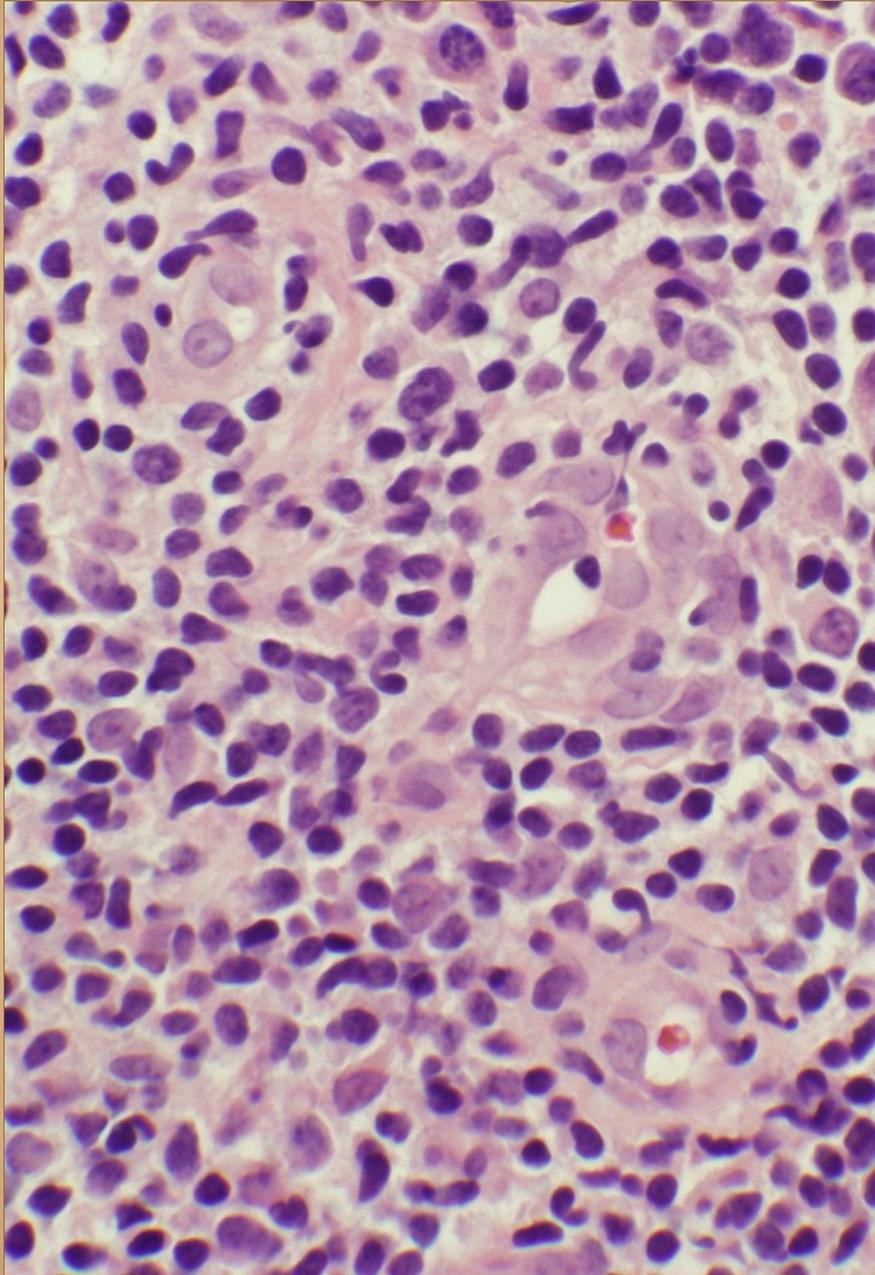


bizarre cell kinetics and disorganization



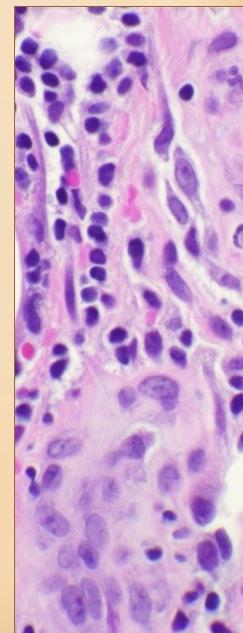
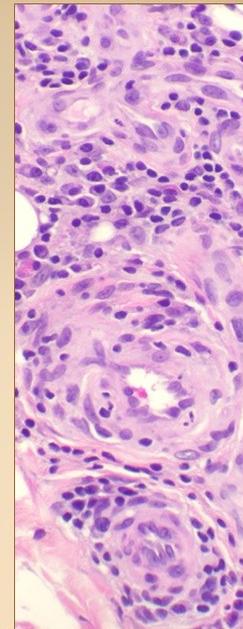
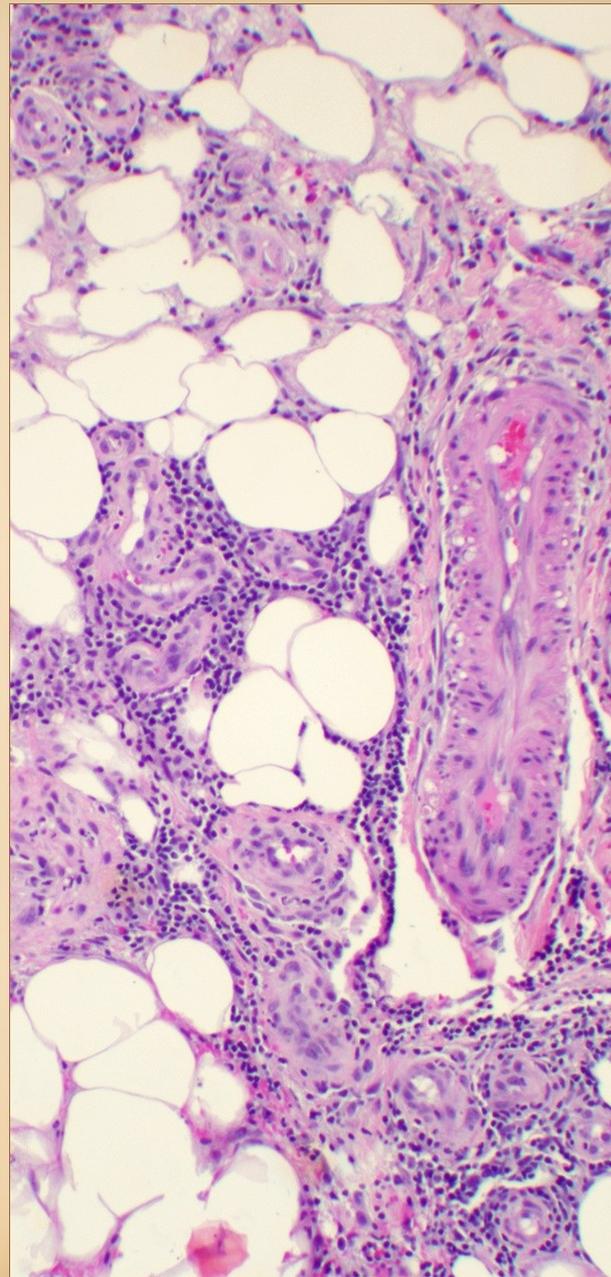
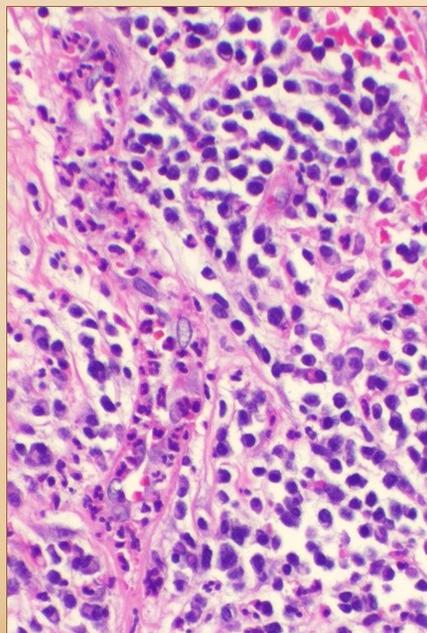
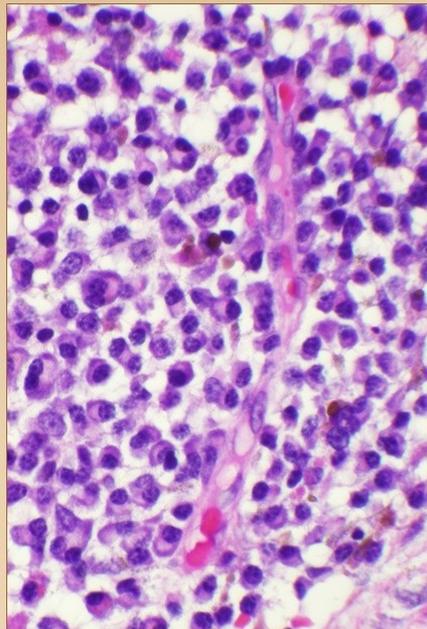
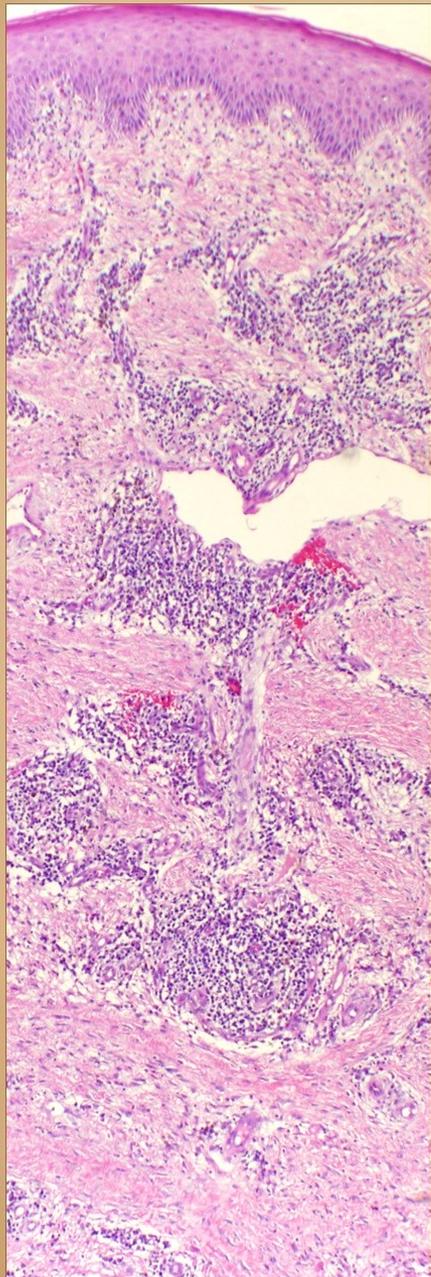
epithelial arrest

lupus: 53 f; chronic abdominal ulcer, with acute lytic progression

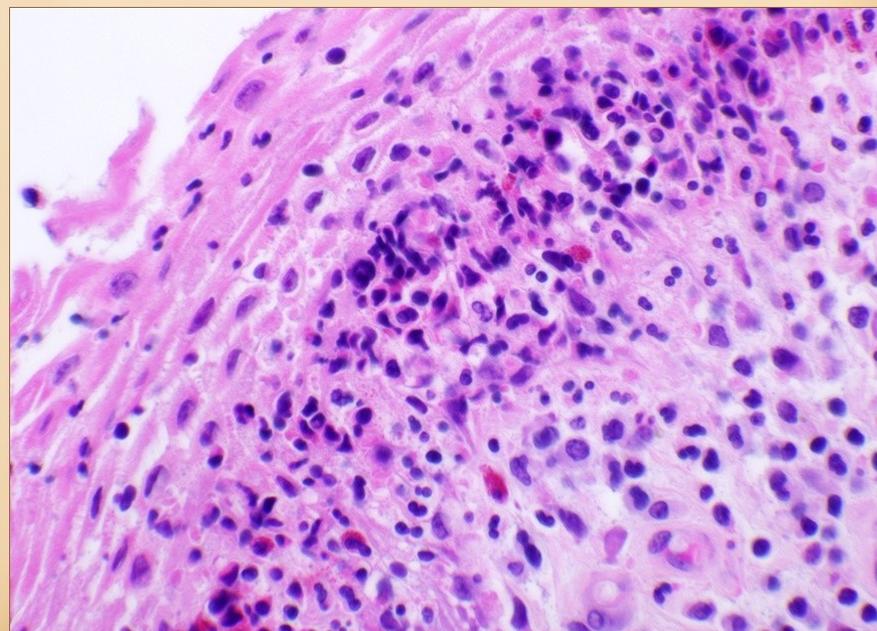
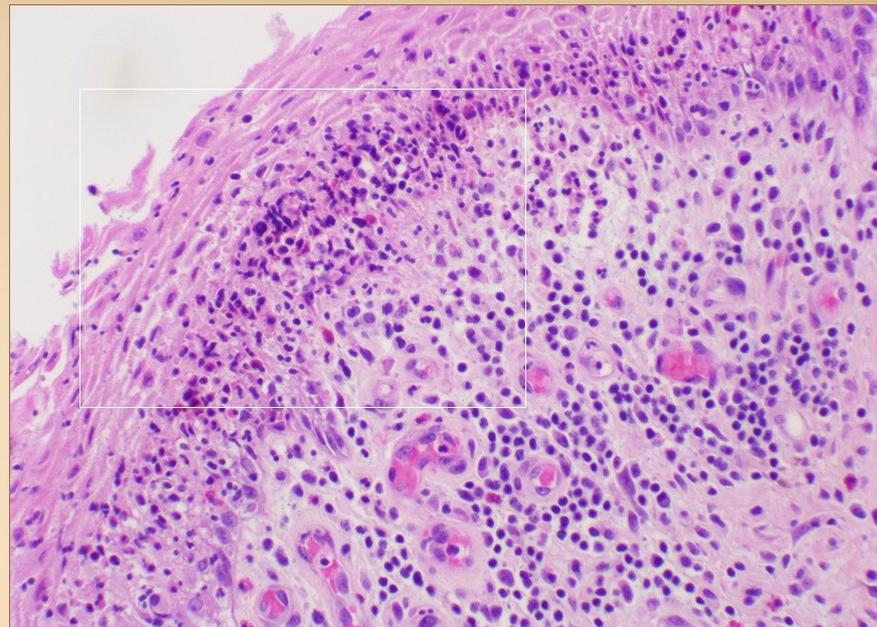
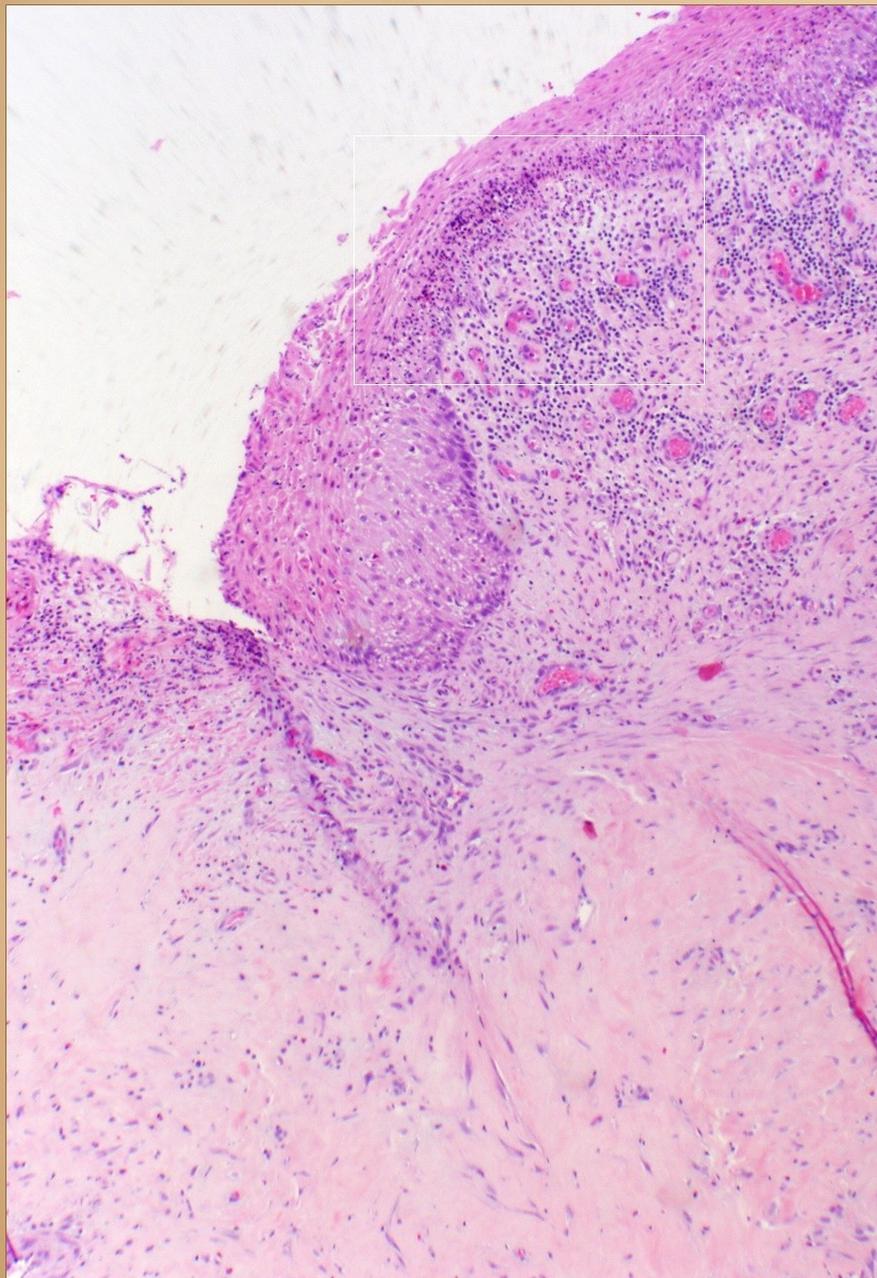


radiation: 81 f; chronic refractory ulcer, ankle

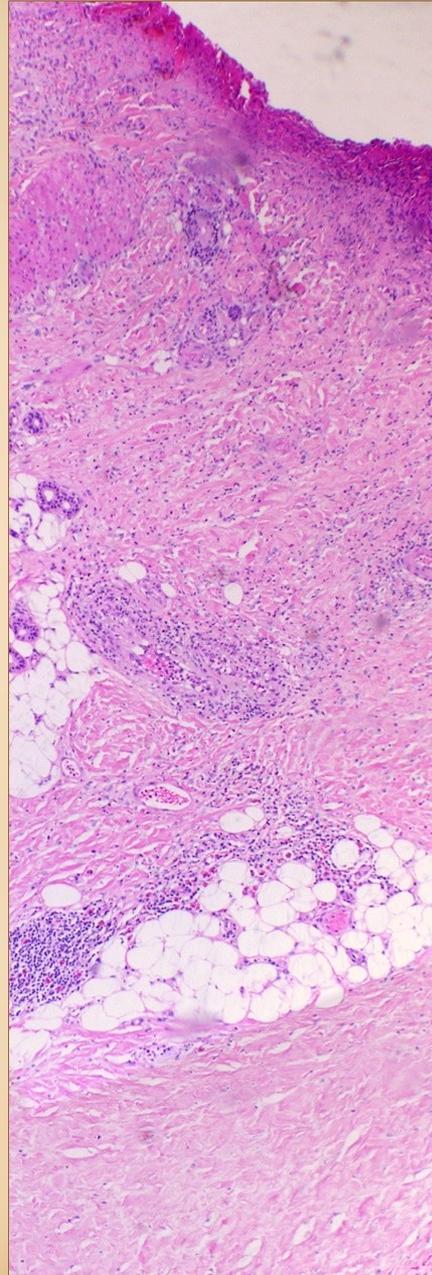
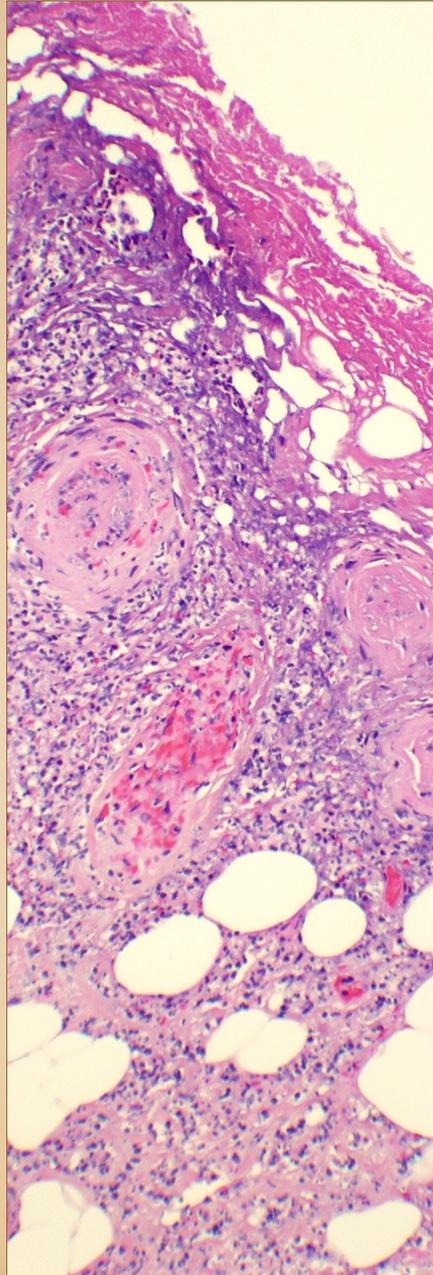
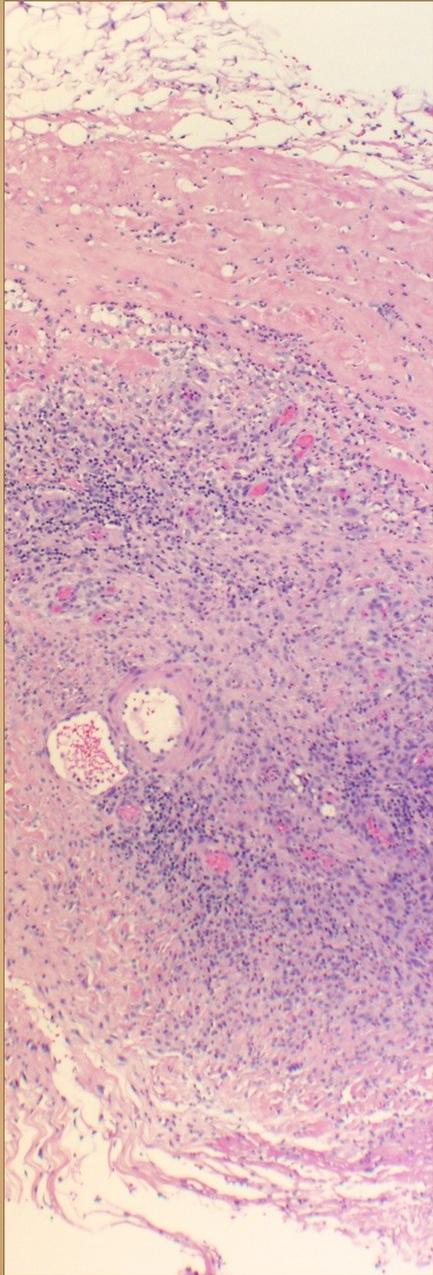
rheumatoid: 65 f; chronic refractory ulcer, ankle



chronic ulceration: 55 f; acute lytic re-ulceration in old healed epithelium



lupus: 65 f; scleroderma, chronic leg ulcer with progression erosion



EFFECTS OF IMMUNE AND INFLAMMATORY STATES ON THE HEALING OF CHRONIC WOUNDS



FOR H&E / TRICHROME

Common Histologic Features

EVEN MORE WITH IMMUNOS

ACTIVE DISEASE AND INJURY

- Thrombosis
- Vascular necrosis
- Vascular hyalinization
- Necrosis & wound infarcts
- Neutrophilic epidermolysis

ACUTE INFLAMMATION

- Acute neutrophilic inflammation
- Deep strata acute inflammation
- AI adjacent to CI infiltrates
- Leukocytoclastic vasculitis
- Coagulative lysis

CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

- Lymphocyte infiltrates
- Plasma cell infiltrates
- Eosinophil infiltrates
- Mixed CI (lymph-plasma-eos)
- Chronic vasculitis & perivascular
- Chronic inflammation - diffuse

ADMIXTURE

- Complex inflammation profiles
- Acute-chronic population admixture
- Monocyte-lymphocyte admixture
- Neutrophil-fibroblast admixture

DISORDERED PROLIFERATION

- Bizarre cell kinetics
- Cell disorganization
- Vascular disorganization
- Fibrous disorganization

FAILED ORGANIZATION

- Strata intermixing
- Failed / missing wound strata
- Missing aminoglycan layer
- Missing vertical migration zone
- Missing proliferative zones
- Variations in anatomical depth
- Variations in physical depth
- Epithelial arrest

UNDERSTANDING HOW IMMUNOPATHIES AFFECT WOUND HEALING



PREDICATES

All mesenchymal stroma is composed of 2 cell types (& their derivative structures):

fibroblasts, angiocytes

Wound healing, the mesenchymal wound module, depends on 2 cell types:

fibroblasts, angiocytes

The target of mesenchymal autoimmune attack is the collagen-vascular stroma, i.e.

fibroblasts, angiocytes



1

CVD - CTD AS THE DISEASES OF WOUND HEALING

Basic syllogism :

A

Diseases that affect collagen-vascular connective stroma ipso facto affect the mesenchymal wound module.

B

The autoimmune CVD-CTD diseases are diseases that affect the collagen-vascular connective stroma.

Therefore, the CVD-CTD are diseases of wound healing.

2

INTRINSIC WOUND CHRONICITY AS A CVD - CTD

Basic syllogism :

A

Autoimmune diseases that affect the collagen-vascular stroma are the CVD-CTD.

B

Intrinsic lymphoid wound chronicity is an autoimmune disorder that affects the collagen-vascular connective stroma.

Therefore, intrinsic wound chronicity is a CVD-CTD.

1 - UNDERSTANDING HOW AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY AFFECTS WOUND HEALING - 1



Not all chronic and pathological (CAP) wounds are in a state of intrinsic chronicity and self-sustaining auto-immunization. Many have identifiable active primary pathologies that can be treated and the wounds healed easily enough.

But many chronic wounds are difficult to heal because they have transitioned into a state of *lymphoid autoimmune intrinsic chronicity* (LAIC).

This state exists when auto-immunization occurs against mesenchymal stromal cells and their constructs (angiocytes & fibroblasts, vascular & connective structures).

The normal response to incidental injury is the sequence : thrombosis --> acute inflammation --> repair (wound module). For incidental injury in healthy subjects, these events are sequential one-shots without feedback, retrigger, or other sustentation.

These sequential events define the wound in time. The physical anatomy of the wound (strata) defines the wound in space. Acute inflammation normally operates early in upper strata. Repair cells normally operate later in deeper strata.

This separation in time and space ensure that there is little admixture between acute inflammatory cells and stromal repair cells. Without sustained acute inflammation & population admixture, sensitization (and then chronic lymphoid inflammation) cannot occur.

Under various conditions of persistent primary disease or injury, acute inflammation can become sustained.

Causative primary pathologies include chronic injury, thrombosis, allergy, infection, or anything that triggers sustained inflammation.

Sustained acute inflammation (1) creates matrix degradation debris and increases the load of normally sequestered endocellular elements.

These exposed chemicals are potential auto-antigens that the immune system is naive to but would ordinarily never see.

Sustained inflammation (2) disorganizes timewise & spatial wound structure, causing an intermix of cells & strata, inflammatory & repair.

Potential antigens from ongoing degradation now include those from repair elements - angiocytes, fibroblasts, and their structures.

2 - UNDERSTANDING HOW AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY AFFECTS WOUND HEALING - 2



As acute inflammation is sustained, there is increased antigen processing by macrophages and then the appearance of lymphocytes. Eventually there is antigenic recognition of items normally hidden from immune cells by time, space, sequestration, & wound anatomy.

Autoimmunity occurs when lymphoid cells in the wound eventually "see" endocellular or other antigens that they should never have seen.

(Auto-immunization against mesenchymal stroma could not have occurred absent sustained acute inflammation and population admixture.)

This pathological state is marked by appearance of a 3rd population - chronic inflammation - lymphocytes, plasmacytes, & eosinophils.

Auto-sensitization includes angiocytes & fibroblasts, vascular & connective stromal elements, because their antigens were in the melee. Presence & persistence of lymphoid cells in the vascular locus attest to the significance of angioid elements as targets of auto-immunity.



Once the stroma is auto-sensitized, the 3rd population (chronic lymphoid cells) has three pairs of pathological effects.

(1a) Chronic inflammation effects to perpetuate acute inflammation. (1b) Autoimmune predation or inhibition against stromal elements.

Chronic inflammation effects: (2a) Afferent effects to create or sustain injury & ulceration. (2b) Efferent effects to impair healing.

Autoimmune effects: (3a) Local effects against the reparative stroma. (3b) Systemic effects against stroma in general.

Chronic inflammation can retrigger or sustain the wound as much as primary injury or disease does.

Afferent effects: Triggering and sustaining acute inflammation & thrombosis is what causes necrosis, lysis, ulceration.

Efferent effects: Disorganizing the cell mix, strata, & interactive biology of the repair process is what impairs healing.

Auto-immunization against stroma causes many pathological & clinical sequelae (based on specific antibodies, origins, circumstances).

Local effects: Limited effects presenting as localized vasculitis, panniculitis, etc., or as impairments of wounds & wound healing.

Systemic effects: Global morbidity recognized clinically as nosological entities, e.g. rheumatoid, lupus, scleroderma, etc.



Intrinsic wound chronicity and impaired healing are the local effects of auto-immunity directed against fibro-vascular stroma.

The CVD-CTD's are the systemic effects of auto-immunity directed against fibro-vascular stroma.

3 - UNDERSTANDING HOW AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY AFFECTS WOUND HEALING - 3



Because their auto-immunopathy is against stromal cells,
... the CVD-CTD's have high incidence of ulceration & impaired wound healing.
... wounds with lymphoid autoimmune intrinsic chronicity have a high incidence of CVD-CTD disease or symptoms.

Diseases that affect collagen-vascular connective stroma ipso facto affect the wound module (stroma in a repair phase after injury).
The autoimmune CVD-CTD's are diseases directed against stroma. *Therefore, the CVD-CTD's are diseases of wound healing.*

Autoimmune diseases that affect the collagen-vascular stroma are the CVD-CTD.
Intrinsic lymphoid wound chronicity is autoimmunity directed against stroma. *Therefore, intrinsic wound chronicity is a CVD-CTD.*

Wound healing is just a connective tissue event, stroma in a repair phase after injury.
Its impairment is just another manifestation of connective tissue pathology.

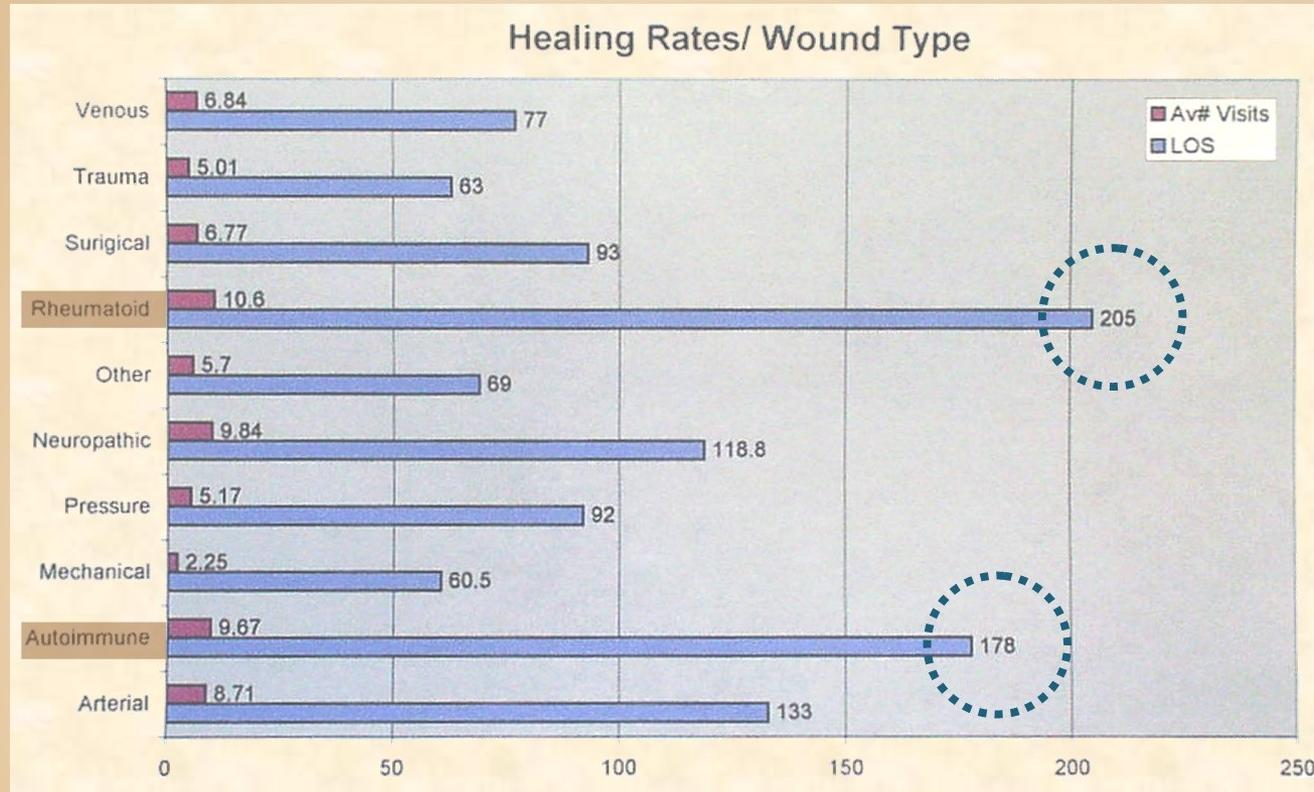
The two pathologies, *classic connective tissue disorders* and *intrinsic wound chronicity* are essentially the same disease.
They are autoimmunopathy directed against fibro-vascular stroma, both induced by the same underlying instigating disorders.

They are different manifestations, different syndromic avatars of the same process,
... *one acting locally*, causing stromal inflammation & ulceration, then inhibiting stromal repair by damage, inhibition or disorganization.
... *the other acting systemically*, causing arthritis, synovitis, serositis, vasculitis, panniculitis, myofasciitis, etc.

In autoimmune wounds, impaired wound healing and chronic inflammation are conjoined,
intermixed with acute inflammation and variable expression or competence of the reparative wound module and its elements.

The connective tissue disorders and lymphoid wound chronicity are true intrinsic diseases of wound healing.
Inflammation & immunity are targeted against stroma, meaning ipso facto they are targeted against the wound healing machinery.

SIGNIFICANCE OF IMMUNOPATHIC ULCERATION & IMPAIRED WOUND HEALING



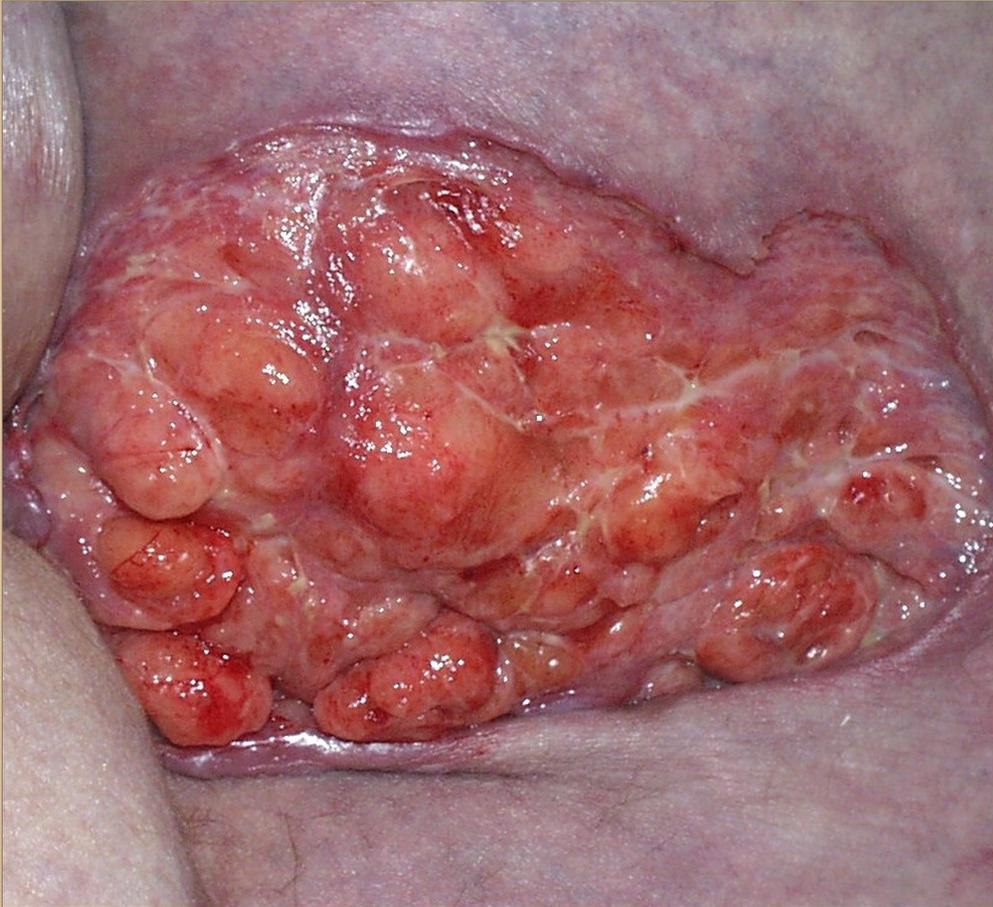
Autoimmune & immunopathic diseases cause wounds and they also impair wound healing. As diseases of fibroblasts & angiocytes, they impair the intrinsic ability of the wound module to function.

Immunopathic ulcers are a challenge to treat because wound healing is “broken”, but comprehensive management of wound and underlying disease will prevail.

ARRESTED WOUND MODULE



ARRESTED WOUND MODULE



WOUNDS NOT HEALING: Rheumatoid, injury 6 months prior (buttock)



WOUNDS NOT HEALING: Polymyositis, injury 4 months prior (leg)

RX WITH STEROIDS



RX WITH STEROIDS



10 days



21 days



3 months



healed

RX WITH STEROIDS



RX WITH ANTI-IMMUNE



RX WITH ANTI-IMMUNE



5 months: *steroids & misc*

7 months: *azathioprine*

8 - 15 months: *azathioprine*

AUTO-IMMUNOPATHY & WOUND HEALING - COROLLARIES



Defining wound chronicity as a distinctive entity.

Acute versus chronic wounds:
(Biochemistry & genomics.)

Basic anatomy, histology, pathophysiology, and cell biophysics.

Defining wound chronicity as a CVD-CTD.

Need to identify serologies & clinical profiles.

Need to study therapeutic effects and strategies with anti-immune drugs.

Need to match specific profiles to specific anti-immune drugs for best results healing those wounds.

Defining CVD-CTD as an intrinsic disease of wound healing.

Breaking the anachronism and parochialism of: (1) wound misdiagnosis,
(2) impaired wound education, (3) inadequate physician-level science, clinicals, & therapeutics.

The interconnections between hypercoagulability & auto-immunity.

The connection is real.

The connection is causative.

Hypercoagulability causes autoimmune disorders (rheumatoid, lupus, etc).
So too other chronic disorders (injury, inflammation, allergy, infection, thrombosis).

Auto-immune intrinsic chronicity and the physics of wound failure.

Simply put, intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity is a dynamical disorder of complex populations caused by auto-immunopathic disruption of the wound module.

PART 3

THE PHYSICS AND PATHOLOGY OF WOUNDS



1

The Wound as a System and a Controlled Machine

*The wound module, the wound control loop,
wound pathology, and the basic dynamics
of healthy and impaired wounds.*



2

Auto-Immunopathy and the Intrinsic Disease of Wound Healing

*The cellular and histopathological basis of intrinsic
wound failure & wound chronicity: chronic inflammation,
wound autoimmunopathy, and the 3-population wound.*



3

Chronicity and the Physics of Wound Failure

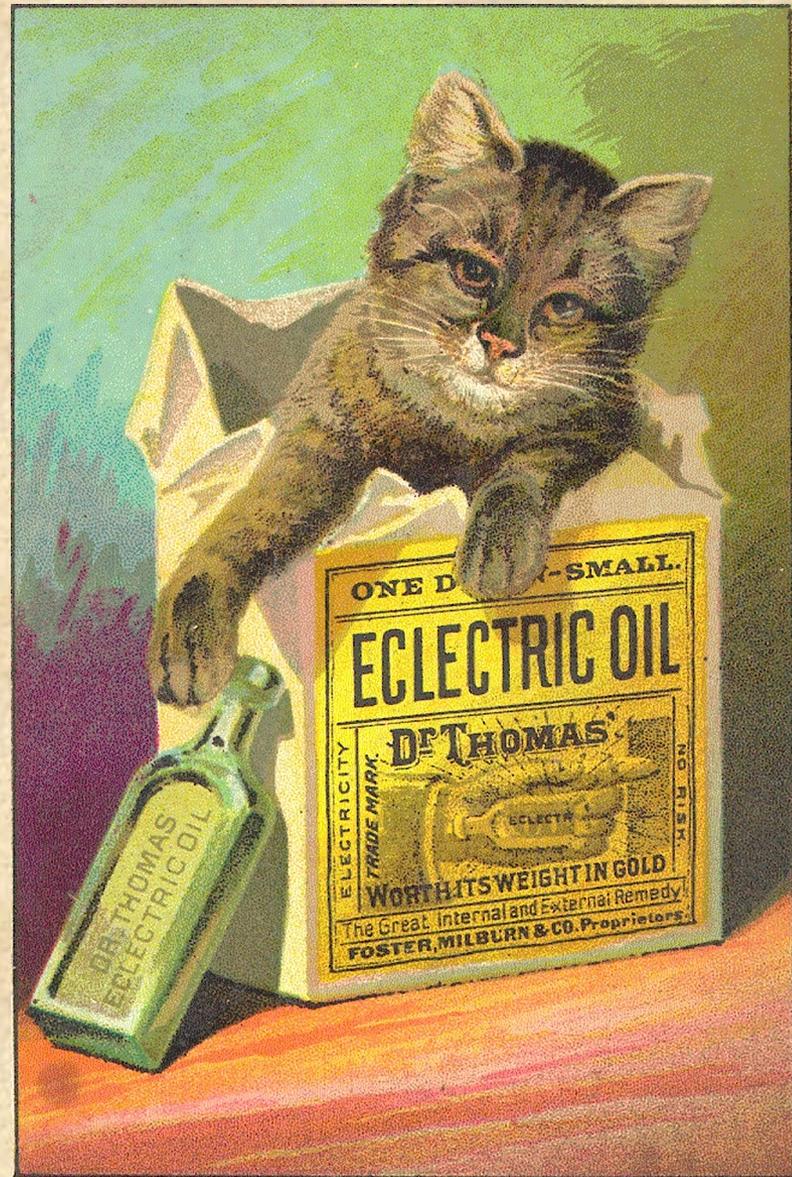
*The physics of wound failure and chronicity:
N-body dynamics and chaos, population logistics,
cellular automata and self-organization.*



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AUTOIMMUNOPATHY & WOUND CHRONICITY

—○○—

"CVD-CTD" & PATHOLOGICAL WOUND CHRONICITY ARE THE TRUE INTRINSIC DISEASES OF WOUND HEALING

—○○—

These are the disorders which target stromal cells & structures - fibroblasts & angiocytes, vessels & connective tissues - which are also the principal agents of wound healing.

This pathology arises when sustained primary injury or disease causes sustained acute inflammation, which leads to wound disorganization and sensitization against auto-antigens.

Lymphocytic wound chronicity (plus primary disease & sustained acute inflammation) causes ulceration & disrupts healing. This is a major category of chronic wounds & wound pathology.

Inasmuch as these disorders affect the primary agents of wound healing, wound healing is more impaired than for other causes of chronic wounds which are extrinsic to the primary process.

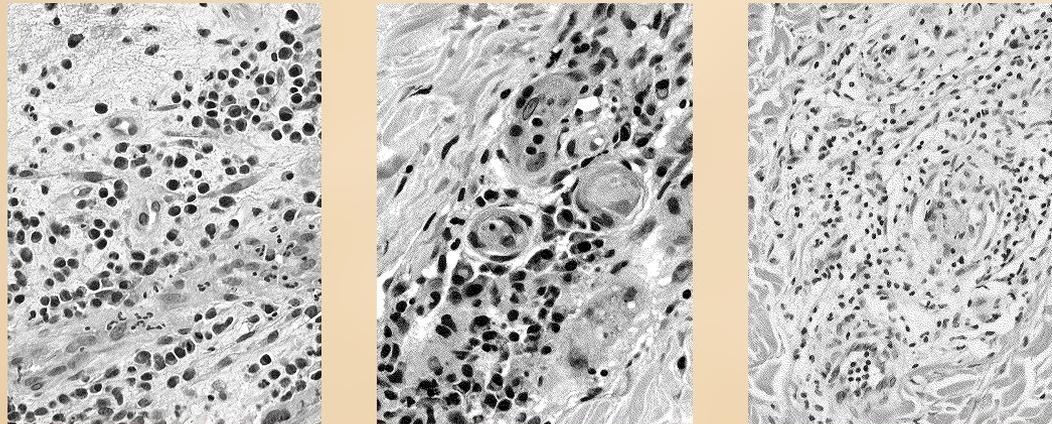
ספר הנחמה

The Physics and Pathology of Wounds. Part 2.

Auto-Immunopathy and the Intrinsic Disease of Wound Healing.

Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS Phoenix, AZ

Many chronic wounds result from disorders extrinsic to the healing process, e.g. pressure or arterial disease. What then are the intrinsic diseases of wound healing? Compare the wound to other organs. The quintessence of heart failure is that it is an inadequate pump, for lung failure it cannot exchange gases. But the wound is neither pump and pipes, nor bellows and diffusion membrane, nor is it like any organ with macro-anatomical structure. It is a transient collection of mutually interacting self-organizing cells. Stromal angiocytes and fibroblasts (wound cells) have remarkably few inherent metabolic or genetic faults. Dysfunction of the aggregate population is almost always the result of deprivation or predation. Adverse states can be caused by (1) non-targeted exogenous conditions such as arterial ischemia or repetitive trauma, and (2) targeted damage directed against these cells and their structures. As will be presented here, predation against the wound module is due to a state of auto-immunopathy in which lymphoid cells are sensitized to wound components. Not only does this occur with classic connective tissue disorders and other well-recognized auto-immunopathies, but it happens when a wound becomes intrinsically chronic and pathological. Hypercoagulability and other conditions of persistent thrombosis and acute inflammation are the underlying states that induce the auto-immunization. Simply put, intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity is a dynamical disorder of complex populations caused by auto-immunopathic disruption of the wound module.



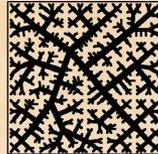
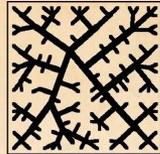
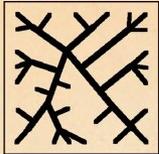
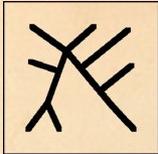
*In these chronic non-healing wound samples, the vascular locus is infiltrated with immune cells (**left**, plasma cells; **middle**, plasma cells and eosinophils; **right**, lymphocytes.) On the left, plasma cells are mixed with the migratory angiocytes (spindles) that are trying to assemble the wound. At middle and right, chronic thrombosis due to a primary hypercoagulable disorder is not only present, it is the root cause of this entire state.*

Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS

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The Physics and Pathology of Wounds. Part 2. Auto-Immunopathy and the Intrinsic Disease of Wound Healing.

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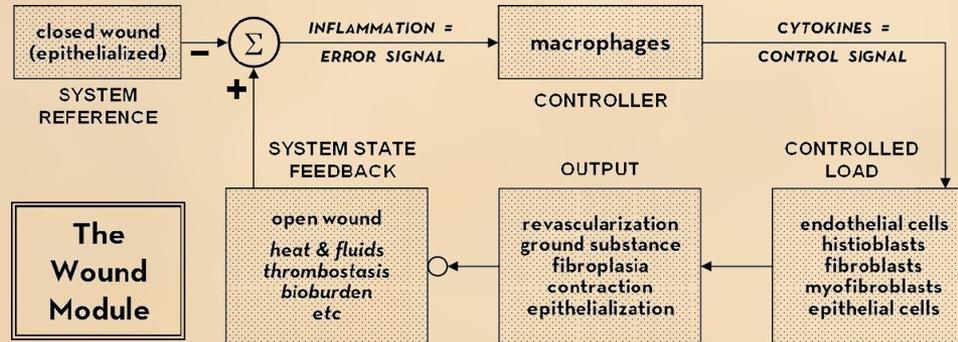
The Physics and Pathology of Wounds. Part 1.

The Wound as a System and a Controlled Machine.

Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS Phoenix, AZ

The wound is a transient organ of inter-operating cells, triggered into being by injury and inflammation, then extinguishing as it completes its repair of injured stroma. It is a system. Conventional bioscience tends to characterize properties and interactions of individual or one-versus-another elements within a system, but physics is required to understand the integrated timewise behavior of whole systems. Intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity, and wound failure and therapeutics are easily explained when wounds are seen as a **non-linear System** (rather than as a collection of dual-element linear interactions). For normal wound physiology and for the pathophysiology of altered and failing wounds, the governing principles are the physics of complex systems: non-linear N-element dynamics, control science, population logistics, and self-organizing automata.

Understanding wound physics begins by characterizing normal wound physiology. The wound is a closed-loop reference-driven non-linear multicontrol system. Sick and altered wounds have layers of added complexity, but the quintessential intrinsic machinery of wound healing – the **Wound Module** of post-inflammatory wound repair – functions as just a single control loop. When tissues are injured, the **Main Control Loop** of physiological wound repair will drive cells to reorganize back to a repaired stroma.



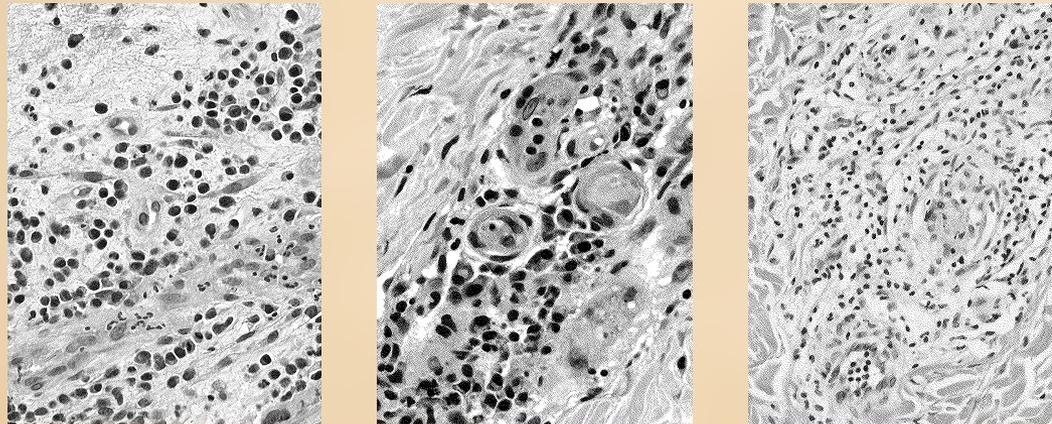
The wound control system is composed of these elements: The **system state** is the open wound and its conditions. It is compared (Σ) to a **reference**, normal epithelialized tissue. Variances generate an **error signal** in the form of inflammation. This activates macrophages which are the **system controller**. They in turn generate a **control signal** in the form of cytokines. The **controlled load** is the group of local responder cells. Their **output** are the elements of histogenesis, which modify the state of the system, which then feeds back to the loop at the summing point. Any discussion or research of the collective behavior of a wound must acknowledge this basic control system.

The Physics and Pathology of Wounds. Part 2.

Auto-Immunopathy and the Intrinsic Disease of Wound Healing.

Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS Phoenix, AZ

Many chronic wounds result from disorders extrinsic to the healing process, e.g. pressure or arterial disease. What then are the intrinsic diseases of wound healing? Compare the wound to other organs. The quintessence of heart failure is that it is an inadequate pump, for lung failure it cannot exchange gases. But the wound is neither pump and pipes, nor bellows and diffusion membrane, nor is it like any organ with macro-anatomical structure. It is a transient collection of mutually interacting self-organizing cells. Stromal angiocytes and fibroblasts (wound cells) have remarkably few inherent metabolic or genetic faults. Dysfunction of the aggregate population is almost always the result of deprivation or predation. Adverse states can be caused by (1) non-targeted exogenous conditions such as arterial ischemia or repetitive trauma, and (2) targeted damage directed against these cells and their structures. As will be presented here, predation against the wound module is due to a state of auto-immunopathy in which lymphoid cells are sensitized to wound components. Not only does this occur with classic connective tissue disorders and other well-recognized auto-immunopathies, but it happens when a wound becomes intrinsically chronic and pathological. Hypercoagulability and other conditions of persistent thrombosis and acute inflammation are the underlying states that induce the auto-immunization. Simply put, intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity is a dynamical disorder of complex populations caused by auto-immunopathic disruption of the wound module.



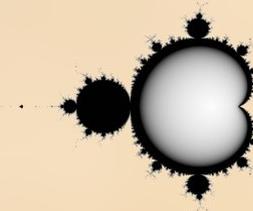
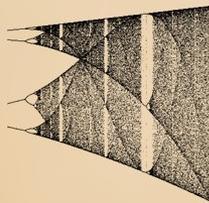
*In these chronic non-healing wound samples, the vascular locus is infiltrated with immune cells (**left**, plasma cells; **middle**, plasma cells and eosinophils; **right**, lymphocytes.) On the left, plasma cells are mixed with the migratory angiocytes (spindles) that are trying to assemble the wound. At middle and right, chronic thrombosis due to a primary hypercoagulable disorder is not only present, it is the root cause of this entire state.*

The Physics and Pathology of Wounds. Part 3. Chronicity and the Physics of Wound Failure.

Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS Phoenix, AZ

The wound module is a transient set of interacting cells which collectively restore in-jured tissue to normality, a fibrous stroma of angiocytes and fibroblasts. Its healthy aggregate behavior is a well behaved machine, governed by the physics of control systems. A sick system can result from various extrinsic perturbations, but the core mechanism of self-sustaining persistent dysfunction, the true intrinsic disease of wound healing is chronicity itself, the paramount cause being wound module autoimmunization. This state is disruptive but not fully toxic or lethal, thus immunopathic wounds have complex behaviors, at times better-worse-stable-variable, often looking healthy, but always frustrating as they refuse to cross the finish line. How does one explain such variable behavior and the differences between normal and chronic-and-pathological (cap) wounds?

Simply stated, intrinsic wound pathology and chronicity is a dynamical disorder of complex populations. The physics governing complex behaviors in complex systems is **non-linear dynamics** (nld). In addition to **control**, three aspects of NLD are especially important to wound pathology. (1) **Population logistics**. Healthy healing is a sequence of one-shot self-completing linear events: primary injury & thrombosis –*then*– acute inflammation –*then*– wound module. Pathology creates abnormal population dependencies (nutrition, starvation, predation, cultivation) and a new population, chronic inflammation. Non-linear perpetual complexity arises in the logistics of injury & thrombosis –*vs*– acute inflammation –*vs*– wound module –*vs*– chronic inflammation –*vs*– injury & thrombosis. (2) **Cellular automata & self-organization**. The “cellular” agents of the wound module (real biological cells in this case) have a small set of deterministic rules of interaction with each other. When allowed to function properly, stromal rebuilding is automatic and correct. Under pathological conditions, self-organization, i.e. wound healing is disrupted. (3) **Chaos & N-body dynamics**. The net effect is that the wound, a set of several interacting cell populations, has 3 attractors (basins, dynamically stable states or behaviors): convergence (healing), divergence (ulcerating), and self-sustained chaotic orbits (chronicity).



*Basic methods to demonstrate non-linear dynamics: **left**, the logistical map of competing populations; **middle**, diffusion-limited-aggregation, an example of self-organizing automata; **right**, attractors and chaos in the Mandelbrot set of complex-plane iteration. While seemingly abstract, these structures are directly correlated with wound events.*







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Associations with underlying diseases.

Chronic inflammation & effects.



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Pathology & effects.

Therapy & response.

ACUTE, SUSTAINED ACUTE, & CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

CAUSES

What induces auto-sensitization & chronic lymphocytic inflammation directed against native cells and tissues?

Autoimmunity occurs when the immune system “sees” sequestered auto-antigens that it should never have seen.

1

Endo-cellular and nuclear debris and other occult & sequestered antigens are exposed by inflammation.

Debris-antigen load is less with one-shot injury & acute inflammation, increasing with sustained inflammation.

2

Autoimmunity occurs when these novel antigens are processed by macrophages and presented to lymphocytes.

Macrophage-lymphocyte interactions are limited in one-shot injury & acute inflammation, but sustained & chronic inflammation increase admixture & chance sensitizations.

This process can occur with any condition which causes sustained or chronic injury, sustained or chronic inflammation, and high-load exposure or opsonization of normally safe or sequestered antigens.

Once auto-immunized, protean clinical sequelae ensue.

“Chronic Inflammation” (*vernacular*)

has been there a long time
sustained or persistent acute inflammation

- versus -

Chronic Inflammation (*pathological*)

3rd population
lymphocytes - plasma cells - eosinophils

What conditions cause sustained injury, sustained inflammation, and high-load exposure or opsonization of normally safe or sequestered antigens ?

**SUSTAINED & CHRONIC
INFLAMMATION (REACTIVE & INDUCED)**

INFECTION & IMMUNITY

TRAUMA & INJURY

ALLERGY - ATOPY

THROMBOSIS

ACUTE INFECTIONS (RHEUMATIC HEART, REITER'S)

GENETICS (E.G. HLA-B27, HLA-B51, MEFV)

ACUTE, SUSTAINED ACUTE, & CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

CONSEQUENCES

WHAT TYPES OF CELL & TISSUE SPECIFIC DEBRIS DOES THE BODY GET AUTO-SENSITIZED AGAINST ?

Injury & inflammation trigger repair. Acute inflammation & wound module are the 2 normal populations after injury.

If injury & acute inflammation are sustained, a 3rd population can appear, chronic inflammation directed against antigens exposed & processed during acute phases.

In one-shot injury & acute inflammation, macrophages have little time or opportunity to see stromal repair cells, i.e. angiocytes and fibroblasts, i.e. wound module.

With sustained inflammation, admixture of macrophages, lymphocytes, & regenerative stromal elements increases.

With sustained inflammation and cell admixture, the immune system eventually “sees” repair elements, i.e. angiocytes, fibroblasts, & related structures and debris.

This causes sensitization to the connective & vascular cells and structures which constitute the stroma of all tissues.

Once sensitized, the body has auto-immunity directed against connective or collagen-vascular structures.

Connective-tissue & collagen-vascular diseases then ensue.

MECHANISMS OF AUTOIMMUNITY

Auto-Sensitization

depends on recognition, processing, & presentation of antigens to lymphocytes

Exposure of Occult & Sequestered Antigens

endocellular debris (acute inflammation)

intra-cytoplasmic antibodies

endonuclear debris (acute inflammation)

anti-nuclear antibodies

cell and tissue specific debris

e.g. hidradenitis, uveitis

antigen cross-reactivity

e.g. latex & spina bifida

Opsonization - Haptenization of Open Antigens

opsonization / inverse haptenization

e.g. rheumatic carditis & parf, reiter's syndrome

Antigen Processing & Presentation

neutrophil & acute inflammatory debris

local & specific cell debris

macrophages, histiocytes, & antigen

lymphocytes & plasma cells

sustained acute inflammation

chronic inflammation

Wound cell-specific debris & sensitization:

angiocytes & fibrocytes,

vessels & connective tissue, stroma

