Alphabet Soup: ALVAL, ALTR, OMG!

Thomas P. Schmalzried, M.D.

Joint Replacement Institute at St. Vincent Medical Center Los Angeles, CA Harbor-UCLA Orthopaedics

Royalties received (DePuy & Stryker)

"Metallosis"

- Historical Metallosis gross tissue staining with metal
- Current use "issues" associated with CoCr alloys
- ALVAL <u>A</u>septic <u>L</u>ymphcytic <u>V</u>asculitis-<u>A</u>ssociated <u>L</u>esions; <u>histological</u> findings
- ALTR adverse local tissue reaction; generic term

High wear, metallosis; no pseudotumor



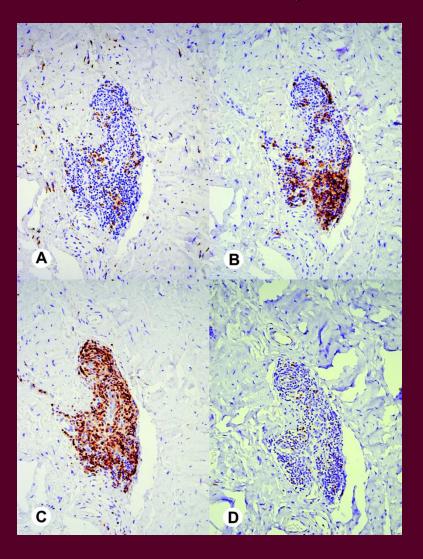


Alphabet Soup

ALVAL

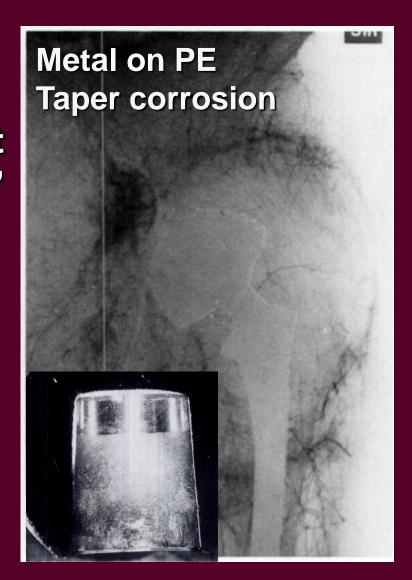
- Aseptic Lymphocyte-dominated Vasculitis-Associated Lesion
- Diffuse and perivascular infiltrates of T and B lymphocytes and plasma cells, high endothelial venules, massive fibrin exudation, accumulation of macrophages with droplike inclusions, and infiltrates of eosinophilic granulocytes and necrosis
- Few metal particles
- Associated with CoCr

Willert et al. 2001, 2005



"Pseudotumor"

- Svensson et al. JBJS A 1988
- "Formation of a fulminant soft-tissue pseudotumor"
- Metal-PE bearing
- Extensive necrosis
- Neuropathy
- Histology c/w ALVAL (Willert 2005)
- CoCr-CoCr taper corrosion



ALTR = Adverse Local Tissue Reaction

Generic Term

- CoCr alloys
- Understanding in evolution
- Various stimuli
- Variable concentrations
- Variable tissue reactions

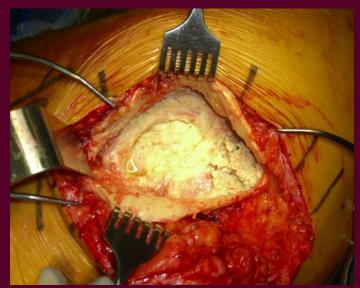
Low wear; pseudotumor (pseudocyst)

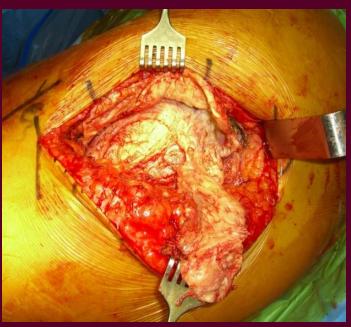




ALTR = Adverse Local Tissue Reactions

- Two distinct pathologies
 - 1. High wear and ions; foreign body response but no pseudotumor
 - 2. Lower wear with pseudotumor
- Potential stimuli
 - Wear particles
 - Metal ions (haptens)
 - Corrosion products
- Tissue reaction dependent on concentration of various stimuli
- Pseudotumor not simply wear
 - Svensson et al. pseudotumor; corrosion > wear
- Pseudocyst more accurate term for most cases





ALVAL et al.

Metallosis

Gross tissue staining from metal wear

Pseudotumor

- Cystic, solid, or mixed reactive tissue associated with CoCr
- Pseudocyst most common

ALVAL

- Histological diagnosis
- More than lymphocytes

ALTR

- Generic term for CoCr related pathologies
- ARMD (Langton)
- MRP (AOA NJR)

