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Bone Marrow Transplant For Macrophage Activation Syndrome In Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

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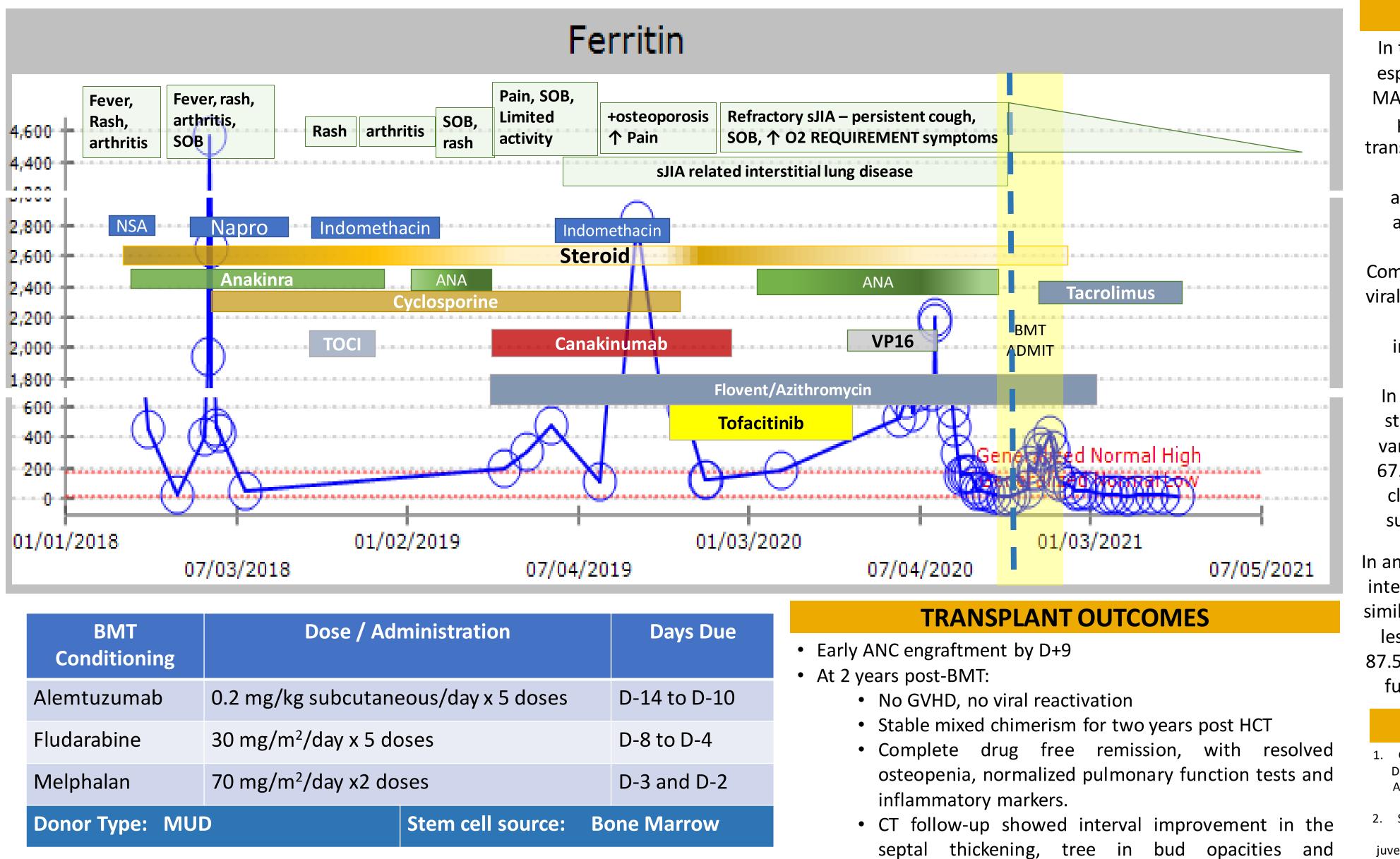
INTRODUCTION

Recognition of macrophageactivation-syndrome (MAS) in a patient with systemicjuvenile-idiopathic-arthritis (sJIA) is difficult given overlapping clinical manifestations, especially with vital organ involvement

CASE REPORT

This is a 7 yo with prolonged fever, skin rash and increased inflammatory markers leading to the diagnosis of sJIA. She showed evidence of multiple flares of symptoms with notable elevation of markers for MAS including fibrinogen, ESR, CRP and ferritin. Patient developed sJIA associated interstitial lung disease with minimal control despite escalated immuno-suppressive therapy.

Genetic testing: - HLA haplotype associated with hypersensitivity reaction to medications - Genetic variable of unknown significance in the PLCG2 gene



centrilobular pulmonary nodules.

BMT Conditioning	Dose / Ad	ministration
Alemtuzumab	0.2 mg/kg subcutaneous/day x 5 doses	
Fludarabine	30 mg/m²/day x 5 doses	
Melphalan	70 mg/m²/day x2 doses	
Donor Type: MUD		Stem cell source



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DISCUSSION

In the setting of refractory sJIA, especially with development of MAS not responsive to mono- or polytherapy, bone marrow transplant (BMT) has proven to be curative by replacing the autoreactive cells leading to autoimmune dysregulation.

Complications occur secondary to viral infections given further T-cell depletion in an already immunocompromised host.

In a multi-center retrospective study of BMT in patients with various autoimmune disorders, 67.2% demonstrated long-term clinical response with overall survival (OS) at 5-years 76%.¹

In another retrospective study, low intensity conditioning produced a similar engraftment response with less comorbidity with an OS of 87.5%, with earlier transplant as a future key in further success.²

REFERENCES

1. Greco et al. Allogeneic HSCT for Autoimmune Diseases: A Retrospective Study From the EBMT ADWP, IEWP, and PDWP Working Parties. Front Immunol. 2019 Jul 4;10:1570. 2. Silva et al. Allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for severe, refractory juvenile idiopathic arthritis. Blood Adv. 2018 Apr 10;2(7):777-786.