Pilot project Case 1

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LymeRICK – lots of info on TBI: http://lymerick.net
Project website (Danish): http://kroun.ulmarweb.dk
ILADS Website: http://www.ilads.org
Case 1 – a Middle Aged Female MD

- **August 1996** debut of hand size reddish atypical rash on **right buttock**, stood 3 weeks. No photos, but looking like pictures 1 & 2 [DermIS]
- **September 1996** extremely painful **right leg radiculitis** => treatment for “probable disc prolapse” for a couple of month => worsening!
- **December 1996** amoxicillin (3 wk.) for asc. UTI cleared all symptoms!
- **January 1997** relapse of same symptoms
- **February 1997** penicillin treatment 1 month for suspected persistent Borreliosis, but relapsed a few weeks after, gradually developing symptoms from multiple organ systems: heart, joints, headaches, neurocognitive disturbances, extreme fatigue ~ CFS like illness
- **Noticed a cyclical monthly Borrelia pattern**; read Burrascano guide!

Further information about all pilot project cases...

Searching for help ....
– with confirmation of suspected infection(s) and treatment

- **May 1998** 1 month treatment with IV ceftriaxone 2g/d followed by clarithromycin for 11 weeks => nearly fully restored health
- **August 1998** relapsing again => asked the professor for further tests for Borrelia and co-infections & treatment, but was denied both with reference to the budget in the hospital department !!!
- **February 1999** found an understanding and supportive ID doc, who read the literature she brought him and agreed with her 😊
- Kept herself going on self-prescribed antibiotic treatment
- **August 1999** had to go on sick retirement because of severe CFS like illness!
- Get new tick bites every year; also had new EM like rashes in 1999 and 2000 – re-infection or re-activation ?
March 2001 Bowen RTI: RIBb positive and peripheral blood smear suggesting co-infections with Babesia and Ehrlichia. Confronted with the pictures from Bowen RTI the local ID-professor demanded that the by Bowen RTI suggested microscopy diagnoses should be verified by a Danish microbiologist before he would offer her any treatment, but he did not arrange any test!

She contacted 2 Danish microbiologists (local and national reference lab, SSI.dk) asking for diagnostic help and suggesting control microscopy which should be possible, BUT neither microbiologist bothered to answer her – not even when asked again by her practising ID colleague!

Only ‘offer’ was “perhaps we can do a culture for Borrelia IF she relapses after treatment” – no word about tests for the other two!

IGNORANCE & ARROGANCE!
SELF confirmation by microscopy and SELF treatment

- Took multiple serial smears after Bowen result, originally intended for the microbiologist, but when he wouldn’t take a look at them, she got the smears stained with May-Grünewald-Giemsa at the pathological department where she had worked 10 years ago and did microscopy herself (at 1000 X magnification) and found changes in more of the smears similar to the pictures from Bowen RTI.

- The smear findings were latter confirmed by DVM Walter Tarello also ! – NOTE: smears evaluated by Tarello were marked so pt. ID wasn’t obvious and mixed with other peoples, both pos. and neg. !

- Took Malarone plus Azithromycin for 10 days (very expensive, couldn’t afford more) for ring forms, then Doxycycline for Borrelia and sugg. Ehrlichia with very good effect – BUT symptoms came back gradually, she also got 4 new tick bites during July 2001 !

- Sep. 2001 Hull, UK, met Ritchie Shoemaker. FACT suggested neurotoxin pattern
Continued search …  
– continued struggle …. 

- Oct. 2001 a few ring forms were found in fresh smear by Tarello & Marie Kroun (no pictures) BUT NO ‘GCS’ visible after 4 months doxy!
- Took (imported) Atovaquone suspension plus Azithromycin in recommended doses for 3 weeks, but unfortunately NO improvement in symptoms, nor in FACT results during treatment!
- Treatment with cholestyramine (plus pioglitazone for the first month), after Ritchie Shoemaker’s advice, lead to improvement in FACT result during the first 3 weeks, while symptoms improved more gradually
- Dec. 2001 post treatment, MK: A few ‘GCS’ plus ring forms were found again => Bowen RTI suggested questionable Babesia trophozoites
- Febr. 2002, MK: still a few ring forms, plus now many ‘GCS’ => improved on doxycycline plus cholestyramine  
=> pause, relapsed / re-infected (?) again in 2003; some improvement on doxycycline, very good effect of metronidazole plus azithromycine;  
=> since ultimo July 2003 – now …. antibiotic free period 😊
Other co-factors possibly reducing immune function? – a never ending story?

- **High hair mercury level** (alternative detoxification treatment helped some)
- **Reactivated CMV-infection** – had known primary CMV infection in 1994; IgM was positive again in March 2001
- **Present situation:** Increasing flares since 31/12-2003, but haven’t checked blood status, try to avoid antibiotic ALAP!
- **June 2004 two new tickbites, see pictures =>**