

INTERSTITIAL PNEUMONITIS

Clinical presentation:

- Develops 1 to 51 months after initiation of sirolimus therapy.⁽¹⁾
- Appears as bilateral patchy or diffuse alveolo-interstitial infiltrates with a predilection for the lower lobes.⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
- Infection, parasites, autoimmune diseases and other pulmonary diseases should be ruled out. Infection biomarkers such as procalcitonin can help discriminate between infectious and noninfectious diseases.⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾

Management:

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Asymptomatic	Symptoms not interfering with daily activities, oxygen support not required.	Symptoms interfere with daily activities and/or oxygen support required.
Close monitoring with radiographic and pulmonary function assessment every 4-8 weeks. ⁽⁶⁾	→ Sirolimus dose reduction → Corticosteroids (e.g. Prednisone 1 mg/kg) → Antibiotics → Discontinuation may be considered. ⁽³⁾⁽⁶⁾⁽⁷⁾	

- Clinical improvement is often rapid after sirolimus discontinuation; complete radiographic resolution is frequently observed within 2 to 4 months.⁽⁴⁾
- Conversion of sirolimus to everolimus was found to resolve the problem in some cases.⁽⁸⁾⁽⁹⁾⁽¹⁰⁾

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