



UW TASP
tele-antimicrobial stewardship program



July 17, 2018

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Agenda

- John Lynch: *Osteomyelitis*
- Case Discussions

Osteomyelitis

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July 17, 2018

Healthy Bone

CROSS SECTION

Cortical bone

Bone marrow
(in medullary cavity)

Osteomyelitis

CROSS SECTION

Pus

New, brittle bone

Decreased medullary cavity

Dying bone marrow

X-ray



Radiograph: John L. Zeller, MD, PhD

Take Homes

- When to think osteo:
 - Recent orthopedic surgery
 - H/o open fracture
 - At risk for bacteremia (PWID) and bone/joint pain
 - Sick child with focal pain
 - Immunocompromised patient
- What to do:
 - Image
 - Microbiology
 - Treat

Types of Osteomyelitis

- **Acute vs chronic**
- **Adult vs pediatric**
- **Adults:**
 - SSI
 - Trauma
 - Contiguous (ex. DM foot) 
 - Hematogenous
- **Peds:** hematogenous





Bugs of Osteomyelitis

- Peds:
 - *S aureus*, GBS, GAS, GNRs
- Adults:
 - DM foot – GPCs and GNRs
 - SSI – *S aureus*, CoNS, *P acnes*
 - Hematogenous – *S aureus*, viridans strep spp, candida
 - Sick cell – add *Salmonella* spp

Signs and Symptoms of Osteomyelitis

- Vary with type of disease
- Can be gradual (more often with chronic osteo) or fairly acute
- Can be non-specific, especially with vertebral disease
- Wound drainage or sinuses may be present
- Systemic signs, such as fever and local inflammation are variable, but more common in children

Diagnosis of Osteomyelitis

- One of the following 4:
 - Suspicion of a bone infection
 - Fever >38 C/ 100.4 F
 - Joint swelling or decreased mobility
 - Pain
- And 1 of these 4:
 - Positive blood culture
 - Purulent joint fluid
 - Positive culture from bone
 - Imaging c/w osteomyelitis

Labs

- Nothing is specific for the dx of osteomyelitis
 - ESR and CRP at baseline
 - WBC
- Microbiology is the gold standard
 - Blood cultures
 - Deep surgical specimens if at all possible
 - Aspirations and biopsies useful
 - Off antibiotics for ~2 weeks
 - Avoid superficial swabs, including sinuses

Imaging of Osteomyelitis

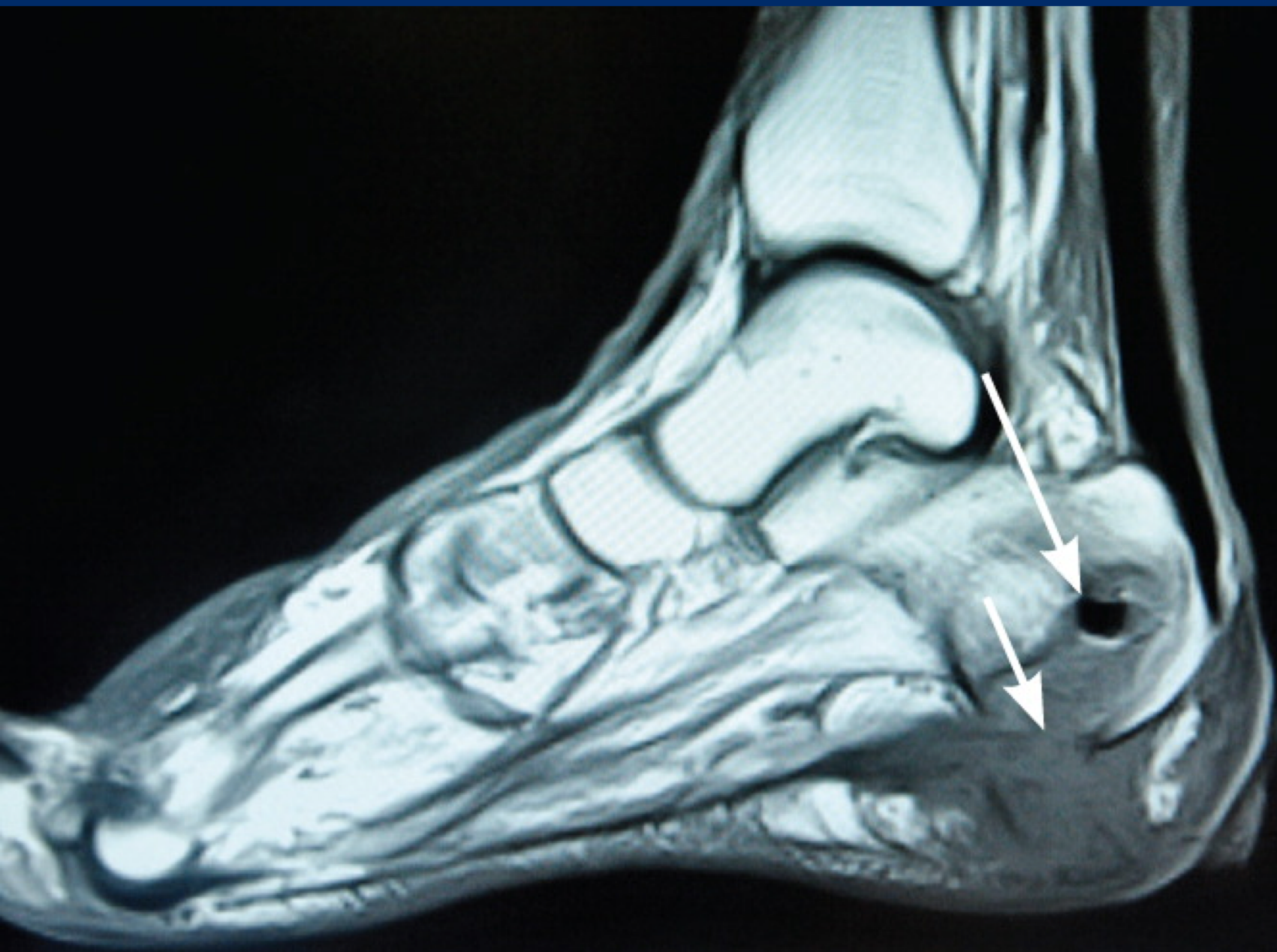
- Osteo often not seen on plain films for ~ 2 weeks after symptom onset
- If osteomyelitis seen on plain film, additional imaging is usually not needed
- If plain film is negative but still c/f osteo, MRI is the study of choice, but can overcall
- MRI can be difficult post-op due to hardware











LEFT

RIGHT

4 HOUR DELAYS
R LAT **L MED**

4 HOUR DELAYS
POSTERIOR

Differential Diagnoses

- Bone cancer (mets or osteosarcoma)
- Trauma
- Non-union
- Loosening of implants
- Soft tissue abscesses

Treatment: Acute Osteomyelitis

- Labs and imaging
- High dose IV antibiotics pending results
- Children can often transition to PO abx early (SCH model)
- Adults with source control, minimal involved bone (depth/extent), and good response to treatment can be transitioned to PO abx early
- Duration varies by practice: 2-6 weeks

Treatment: Chronic Osteomyelitis

- Varies wildly
 - Extent of disease
 - Bacteria involved
 - +/- Hardware
 - Surgical response
- Debridement is critical for both microbiology and impact of antimicrobial therapy
- Abx course: ~12 weeks