Pediatric Autoimmune Encephalitis: Updates and Current Treatment Approaches

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11:00am – 12:30pm
https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/92812036154
Meeting ID: 928 1203 6154
Password: 12345

Dr. Mooneyham has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose and DOES NOT INTEND to discuss off-label or investigational use of products or services.

Abstract:
Autoimmune encephalitis (AE) is an antibody mediated inflammatory brain disease that often presents with debilitating neuropsychiatric symptoms. However, patients with AE are frequently misdiagnosed as having a primary psychiatric illness and the underlying reason for their symptoms may go unrecognized. N-Methyl-D-Aspartate receptor (NMDAR) antibodies were the first example in which an underlying mechanism of AE was discovered. AE now describes a spectrum of illness characterized by inflammation of the central nervous system due to the production of anti-neuronal antibodies. There has been a dynamic discovery of new antibody subtypes over the past 15 years. When considering AE in the differential diagnosis, there are notable differences in the pediatric and adult populations. These include differences in clinical phenotypes, the etiology of autoantibody production, and the epidemiological frequencies of antibody subtypes. Audience members will have an opportunity to review the immunological underpinnings of this diagnosis and become familiar with updates in the literature regarding Autoimmune Encephalitis. Likewise, this talk will review common pitfalls in clinical decision making and interpretation of the diagnostic workup when considering autoimmune encephalitis in the differential. Finally, audience members will be introduced to next generation diagnostic testing that may influence the standard of care in years to come.

Learning Objectives:
1. Discuss key differences in the innate and adaptive immune responses.
2. Analyze common pitfalls in clinical decision making as it relates to the diagnosis of Autoimmune Encephalitis (AE).
3. Discuss diagnostic testing methods that may influence the next generation and their standard of care in years to come.

References: