

# Interstitial Lung Disease – An uncommon variant

Dr Sakshi Dubey  
Department of Respiratory Medicine

36y/M, blacksmith by profession , no  
comorbidities

**Onset of symptoms –  
March 2019**

**1. Breathlessnes  
s**



MMRC grade 1,  
wheeze +

**2. Cough**



dry, on and  
off

No history of chest pain, palpitations, PND,  
orthopnea , hemoptysis, weight Loss, fever ,  
loss of appetite

# Clinical course

In August 2019, he was worked up at a private hospital for the above symptoms..

Hematology - within normal limits

Biochemistry - within normal limits

Chest Radiograph – **Diffuse bilateral reticulonodular pattern**

ECG - normal      2D ECHO - normal

# Spirometry

GRANT MEDICAL  
RUBY HOSPITAL  
40, SASSOON ROAD, PUNE-411001.

Last Name: [REDACTED]  
Identification: [REDACTED]  
Age: 35 Years  
Height: 168 cm  
Ref. Physician: DR. R.K. CHOPRA  
Physician: DR. R.K. CHOPRA  
Pred. Module: Standard EU  
Patient History: BREATHLESS

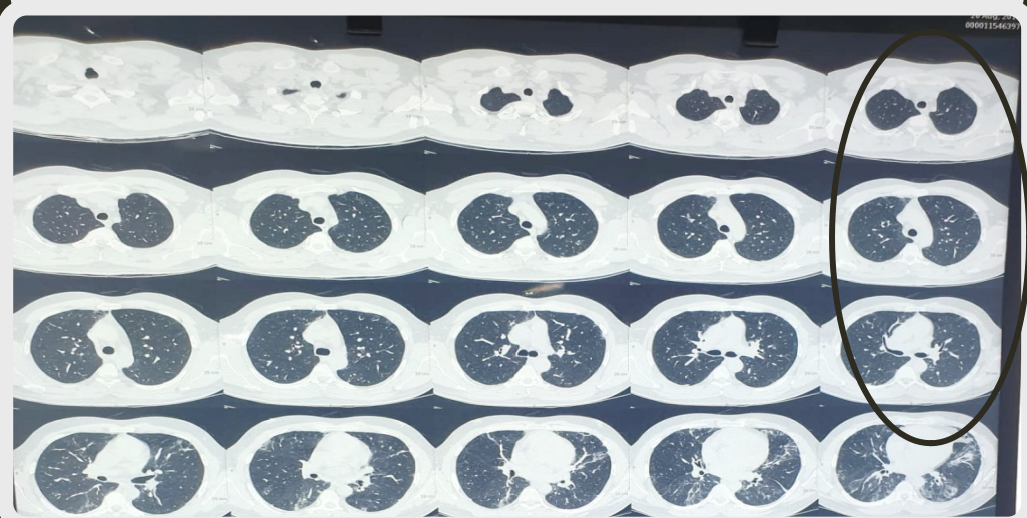
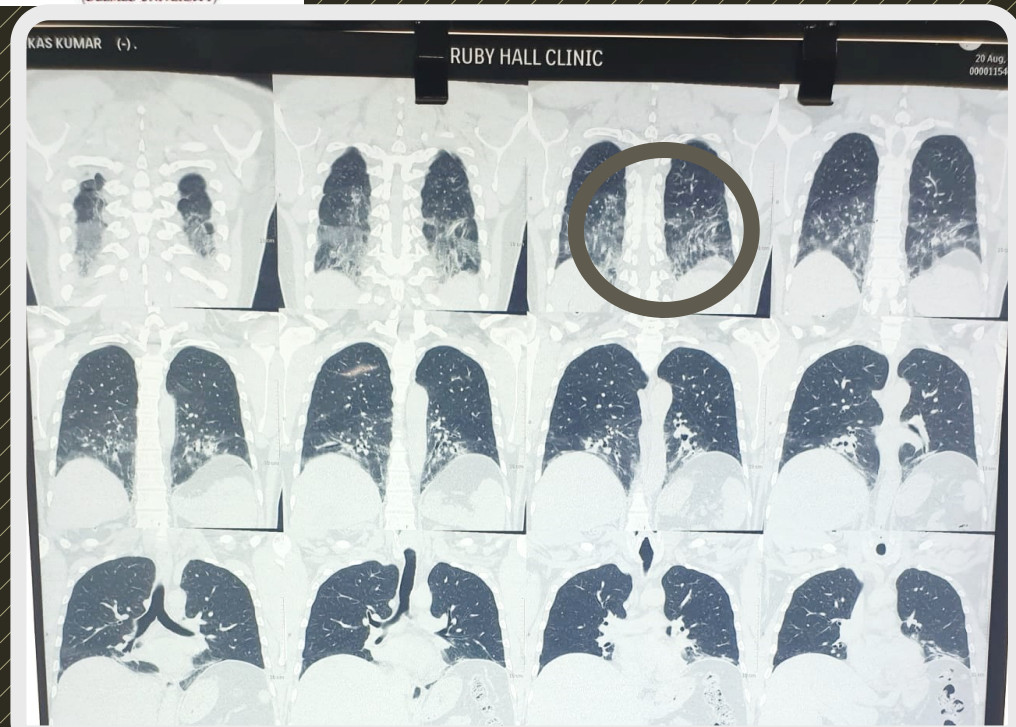
Gender: male  
Weight: 75.0 kg  
Operator: Gkm  
Ward: Opd  
Patient History: BREATHLESS  
BMI: 27

## PFT REPORT (SPIROMETRY)

		Pred	Pre	%(Pre/Pred)	Post	%(Post%Pred)	D%(Act2/Act1)
VT	L		0.33	154.5	0.98	183.0	28.5
BF	1/min	20.00	11.17	55.9	12.21	61.1	5.2
MV	L/min	10.71	9.25	86.3	11.97	111.7	25.4
ERV	L	1.42	0.95	67.2	1.19	83.9	16.7
VC MAX	L	4.62	2.10	45.4	2.47	53.6	8.1
FVC	L	4.43	2.10	47.4	2.47	55.9	8.5
FEV 1	L	3.72	1.81	48.7	2.14	57.5	8.8
FEV1%F	%	80.91	86.33	106.7	86.40	106.8	0.1
FEF 25	L/s	7.69	5.10	66.4	6.37	82.9	16.5
FEF 50	L/s	4.93	2.24	45.5	2.42	49.1	3.6
FEF 75	L/s	2.13	1.19	55.9	1.07	50.1	-5.8
MFEF 75/25	L/s	4.45	2.17	48.6	2.24	50.3	1.7
FEF 50 % FIF 50	%		47.58		42.83		
PEF	L/s	8.96	5.16	57.6	6.98	77.9	20.3
MIF	L/s		0.23		0.24		
FET	sec		2.85		3.03		
MVV	L/min	133.84	71.02	53.1	62.64	46.8	-6.3

- FEV<sub>1</sub>- 1.81 (48.7%).
- FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC- 86.3.
- FVC-2.10 L(47.4%).
- ↓
- Moderate restriction.





## HRCT (thorax) suggestive of-

1. Subpleural areas of ground glass opacities in anterior segments of bilateral upper lobe, bilateral lower lobe, lingular lobe.
2. Fibrotic changes in lingular lobe
3. No evidence of honey combing, interlobular and intralobular interstitial thickening or traction bronchiectasis .

Diagnosed as ILD ? NSIP (Non Specific Interstitial Pneumonia)



**Started on Pirfenidone 200 mg TDS !!!!**

Prednisolone 20 mg OD, nebulisation with budesonide and salbutamol.



Continued treatment for 4 months but  
showed  
no significant improvement

Reported to our hospital in Nov 2019  
with complaints of



Persistent Breathlessness and Cough

No history of chest pain, palpitation, PND, orthopnea ,  
hemoptysis, weight Loss, fever , loss of appetite

# ***Clinical Examination***

## General Examination - NAD

### **Vitals**

- ☐ PR - 90bpm
- ☐ BP - 130/80  
mmhg
- ☐ RR - 20/min
- ☐ SPO<sub>2</sub> - 98% on room  
air

**Respiratory System – Fine Late Inspiratory  
crackles in bilateral infrascapular area**

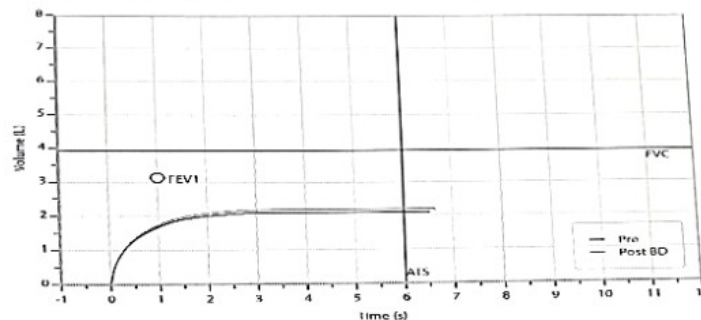
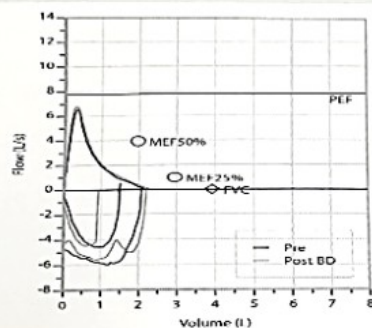


# ***Investigations***

- **Haematology** Hb-15.70, TLC: 7,200,  
Platelets: 2.33 lakhs
- **Biochemistry** (LFT's/RFT's) within normal limits
- **RA factor** Negative
- **ANA** Negative
- **ECC** Sinus rhythm
- **SpO2** (percent) Showed 5% of Desaturation (98 to 93 percent)

# Spirometry

Name: **VIKAS SHARMA** ID: **101**  
Company: **D.O.B.** **25-Nov-83** **102** **159540** BMI (kg/m<sup>2</sup>): **27.6** Smoke: **---** Smoking years: **---** Cig/day: **---**  
Operator: **Ashutosh H Indalkar** Physician: **---**  
Ethnic: **Indian** Room: **---** Set: **Chhabra (India) (Spirometry)**



Interpretation:

		PRE				POST BD (Salbutamol: 400 mcg)			
		Meas.	Pred	% Pred	z score	Meas.	Change	% Change	% Pred
FVC	L	2.15	3.93	55	-3.72	2.29	0.15	7	58
FEV1	L	1.72	3.14	55	-3.52	1.82	0.10	6	58
FEV1/FVC%	%	80.1	78.1	102	0.33	79.2	-0.9	-1	101
PEF	L/s	6.56	7.78	84	-7.75	6.77	0.22	3	87
FEF25-75%	L/s	1.52	2.99	51	-5.42	1.58	0.07	4	53
MEF25%	L/s	0.74	0.97	76	-0.65	0.76	0.02	3	79
MEF50%	L/s	1.72	3.92	44	-8.42	1.75	0.03	2	45
MEF75%	L/s	3.97	-	-	-	4.29	0.32	8	-
FEV6	L	0.00	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	-	-
FEV1/FEV6%	%	0.0	-	-	-	0.0	0.0	-	-
FEV1/Cmax%	%	80.1	78.1	102	0.33	79.2	-0.9	-1	101
FET100%	s	3.0	-	-	-	3.3	0.3	10	-

**IMP- RESTRICTIVE LUNG DISEASE**  
**?ILD**

**DR. SAKSHI DUBEY**  
RESIDENT  
DEPT. OF PULMONARY MEDICINE  
DR. D.Y. PATIL MEDICAL COLLEGE, PUNE

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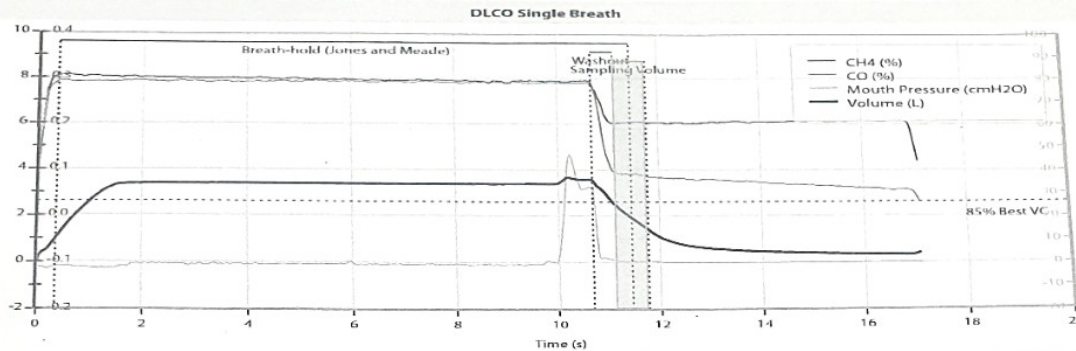
- **FEV<sub>1</sub>-1.72(55%).**
- **FEV<sub>1</sub>/ FVC-78.1.**
- **FVC-2.15 (55%).**



- **Moderate restriction**

1. MANOEUVER PERFORMED CORRECTLY.
2. FLOW/VOLUME LOOP AND VOLUME/TIME CURVE - ACCEPTABLE
3. FVC - Reduced (2.15)
4. MODERATE RESTRICTIVE

Company	VIKAS SHARMA	ID1	339973	Gender	Male	Age	36	Weight (kg)	76.90	Height (cm)	167.0
Occupation	Operator	01-May-83	ID2	BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	27.6	Smoke	—	Smoking Years	—	Cig/Day	—
Ethnic	Indian	Room	—	Physician	Ashutosh H Indalkar	Set	—	ECGS extended (DLCO)	—	—	—



	Meas.	Normal Range	Pred	% Pred	z score
DLCO	mL/min/mmHg	20.88	23.36 - 37.24	30.30	69
DLCO corr	mL/min/mmHg	20.12	23.36 - 37.24	30.30	66
DLCO/VA	mL/min/mmHg/L	4.52	3.57 - 6.34	4.96	91
VA	L	4.46	4.96 - 7.26	6.11	73
TLC(DLCO)	L	4.63	5.11 - 7.41	6.26	74
VC	L	3.08	3.55 - 5.06	4.31	72
RV/TLC(DLCO)	%	33.3	19.0 - 37.0	28.0	119
RV(DLCO)	L	1.54	1.08 - 2.42	1.75	88
Hb	g/dL	16.0	—	—	—

**DLCO Trials Results**

(*) Best Trial		Trial 1 11:19 AM (*)
DLCO	mL/min/mmHg	20.88
DLCO corr	mL/min/mmHg	20.12
DLCO/VA	mL/min/mmHg/L	4.52
VA	L	4.46
TLC(DLCO)	L	4.63
IV(DLCO)	L	3.35
DLCO 3eq	mL/min/mmHg	25.27
FICO	%	0.296
FiCH4	%	0.306
FIO2	%	21.00
FaCO	%	0.091
FaCH4	%	0.204
Sample Vol	mL	1053
Washout Vol	mL	1067
Breath Hold Time	s	11.08
Hb	g/dL	16.0

1. MANOEUVRE PERFORMED CORRECTLY
2. REDUCED DLCO
3. RESTRICTIVE LUNG DISEASE  
ILD

Imp -

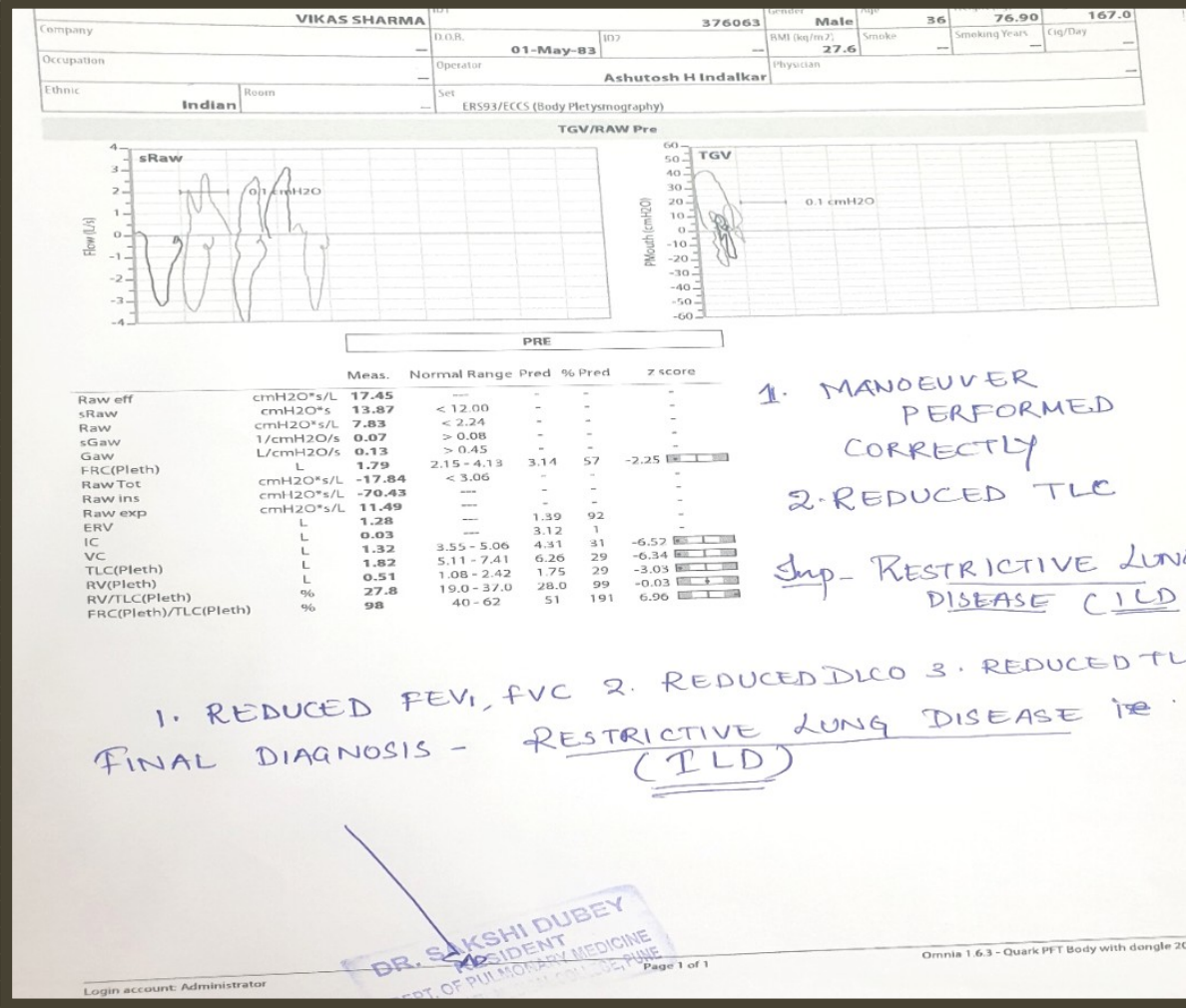
DR. SAKSHI DUBEY  
RESIDENT  
DEPT. OF PULMONARY MEDICINE  
DR. D.Y. PATIL MEDICAL COLLEGE, PUNE

**DLCO -20.12 (66 %)**





# Lung volume

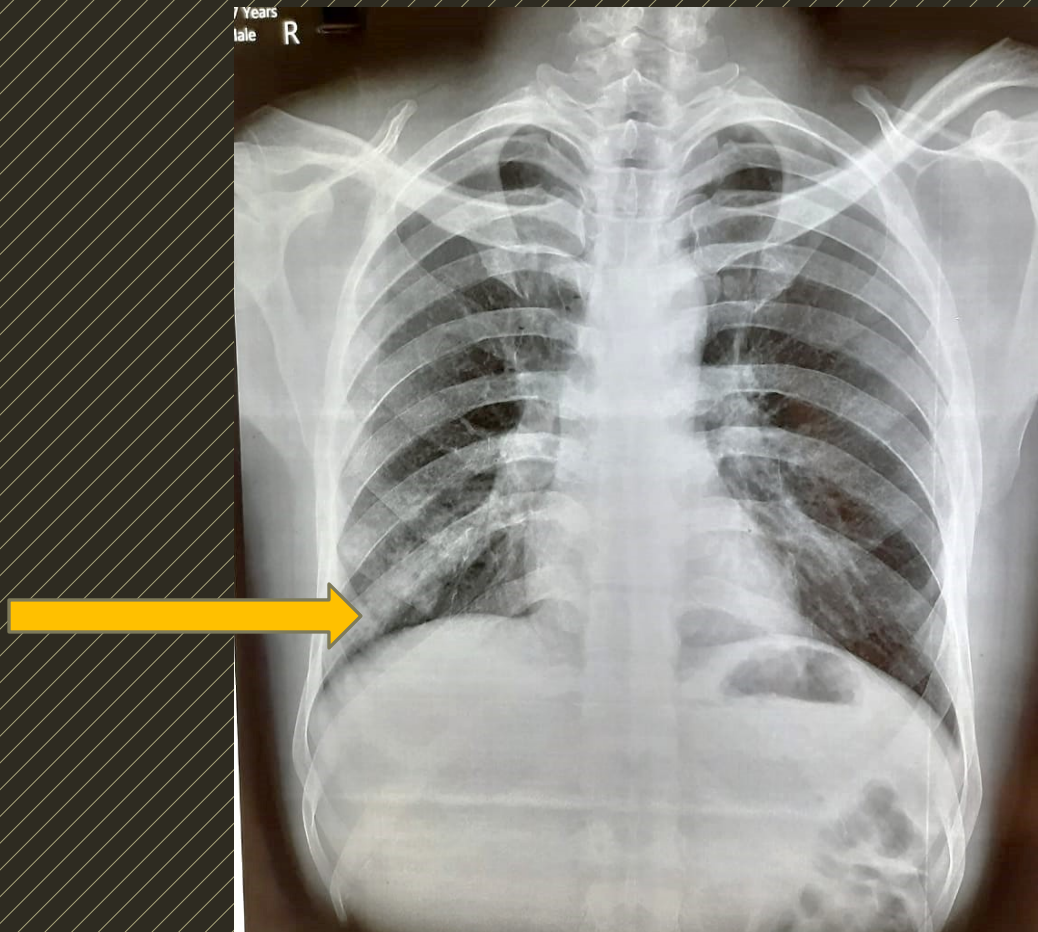


**TLC - 1.82**

1.Reduced FVC 2. Reduced DLCO 3. Reduced TLC.

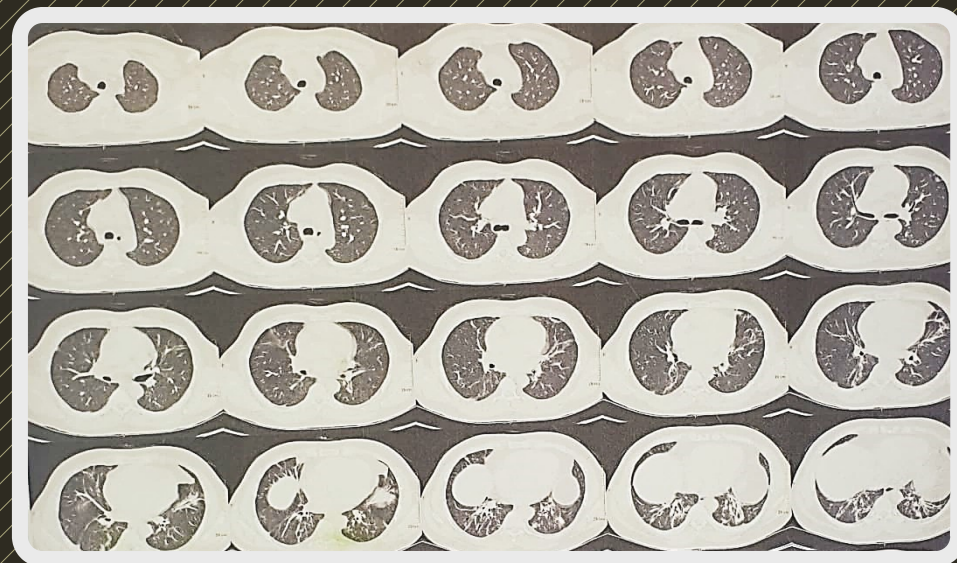
FINAL DIAGNOSIS ON PFT- RESTRICTIVE LUNG DISEASE (ILD).

**Chest radiograph - Bilateral ,lower zone reticulo-nodular opacities present.**

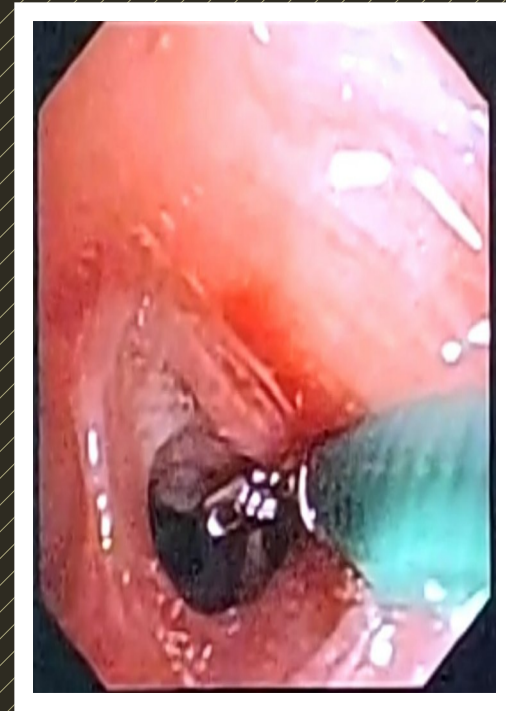
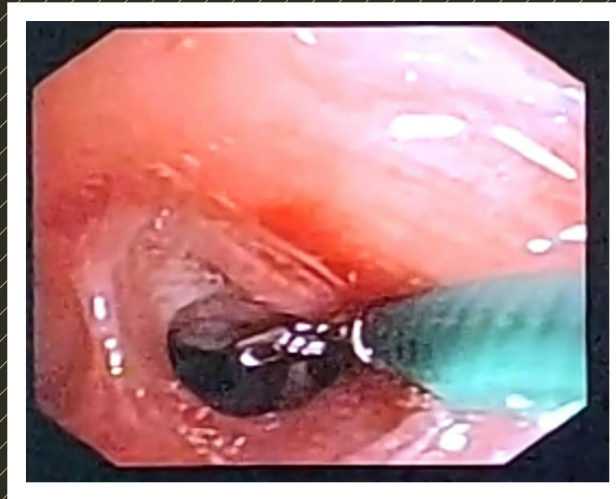
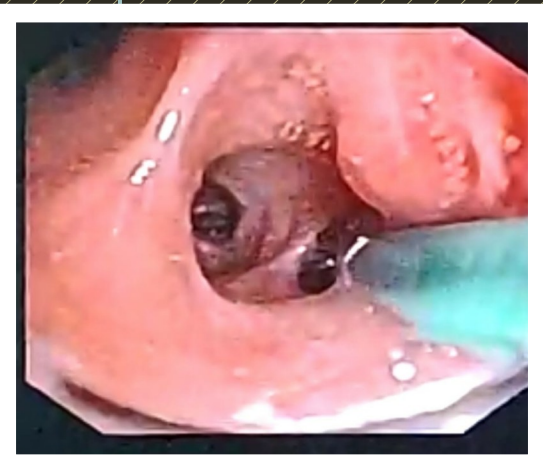




## HRCT in Oct 2019

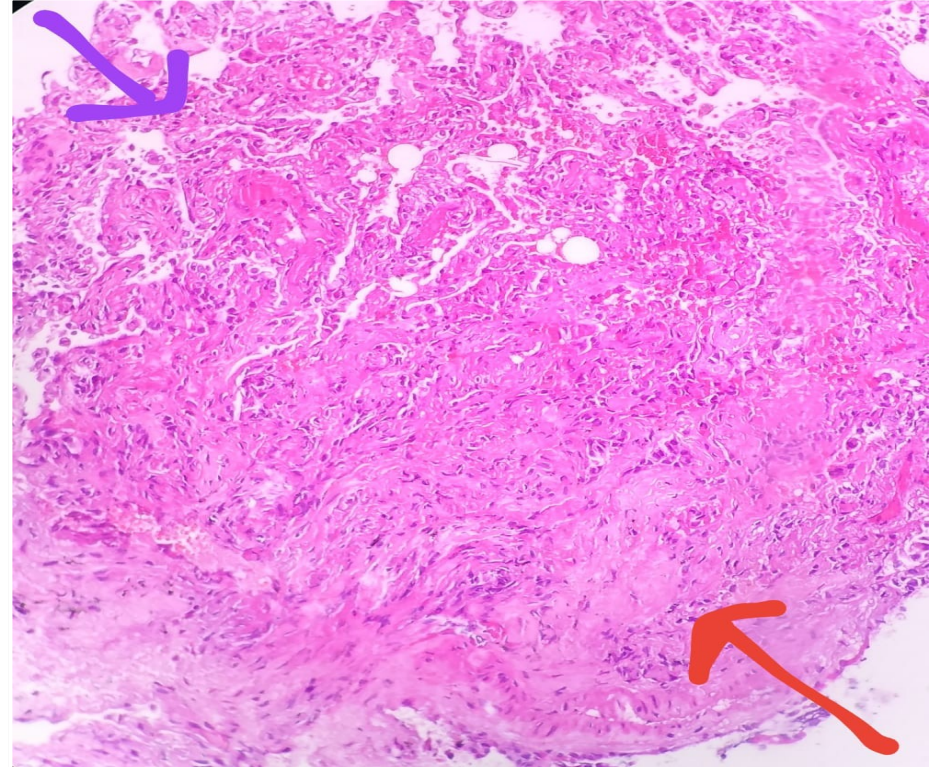
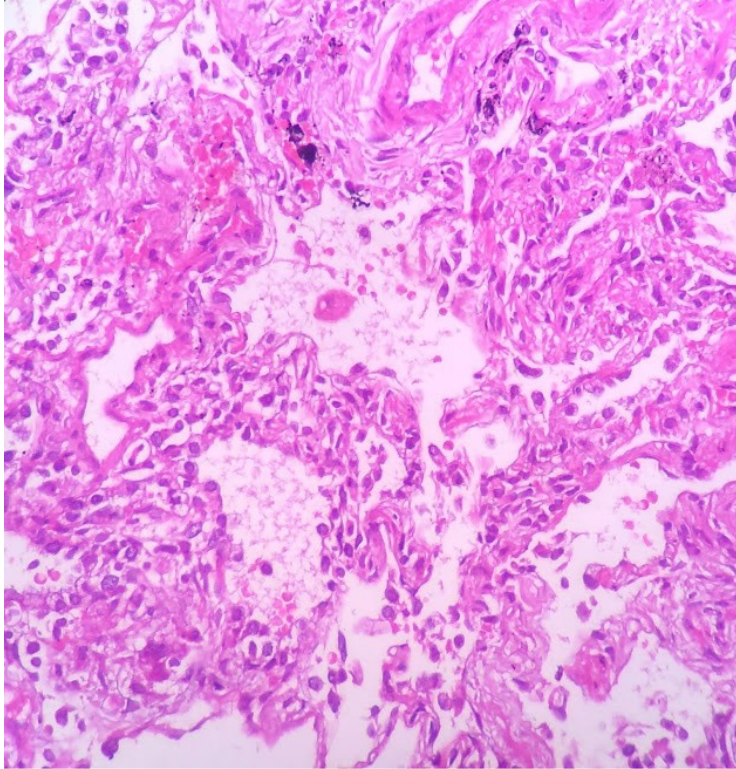


# Fiberoptic Bronchoscopy with Trans Bronchial Lung Biopsy done (TBLB).





# ***Histopathological Examination***



1. Edematous, thickened alveolar septa prominently and uniformly infiltrated by chronic inflammatory cells and areas of interstitial fibrosis.
2. The alveolar space contain occasional macrophage.
3. No granuloma or atypical cells are seen.

# Trans Bronchial Lung Biopsy from Right lower lobe

**Dr. S. Shrividya**  
MD (Pathology)  
American Board Certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology  
Fellowship in Hematopathology, (USA)  
Email: [shivisrividya@gmail.com](mailto:shivisrividya@gmail.com)

**SURGICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT**

Patient's Name : VIKAS SHARMA	RECEIVED ON : 19/11/2019
AGE/SEX : 34 yrs/ male	REPORTED ON : 27/11/2019
REFERRING CONSULTANT/HOSPITAL : DY PATIL HOSPITAL	

Path No: S-287K/19

**FINAL DIAGNOSIS:**  
**Transbronchial lung biopsy:**  
• Moderate interstitial fibrosis with mild interstitial inflammation  
• Granulomas or neoplastic cells are not seen

**Comment:**  
a. Fibrotic-NSIP pattern is favored.  
b. Potential etiologies of the fibrotic-NSIP pattern are chronic hypersensitivity pneumonitis, connective tissue disease, infections, drugs and smoking related fibrosis.  
c. Advised correlation with imaging findings and open biopsy, if indicated

**Clinical History:**  
ILD - NSIP  
HRCT: Previously seen Subpleural ground glass opacities in the anterior segments of bilateral upper lobes, bilateral lower lobes and lingular lobes have regressed. Scarring with fibrosis seen in the lower lobes. Atelectatic changes in the right middle lobe and lingula

**Specimen:**  
Transbronchial lung biopsy

**Gross Description:**  
Specimen labeled Transbronchial lung biopsy and submitted in formalin consists of multiple fragments gray brown tissue measuring 0.4 x 0.4 x 0.3 cm. Entirely submitted.

**Microscopic Description:**  
Sections show fragments of lung parenchyma with diffuse moderate interstitial fibrosis. Few fragments show lesser degrees of fibrosis and a mild interstitial chronic inflammatory infiltrate. The bronchioles are unremarkable. Airway centered inflammation, metaplasia or peribronchiolar fibrosis is not seen. Granulomas, honey-combing, giant cells, necrosis or vasculitis - not seen

Dr. S. Shrividya, MD  
Consultancy: Opal histopathology center, 1st Floor, Unity-Commercial Building, near KFC, Baner Road, Pune 411005. Phone no: 7757071688, 9823125688

1 practice block deposited with report. Please store in a cool place

# ***Diagnosis***

## **NON SPECIFIC INTERSTITIAL PNEUMONIA (FIBROTIC)**



# ***Management***

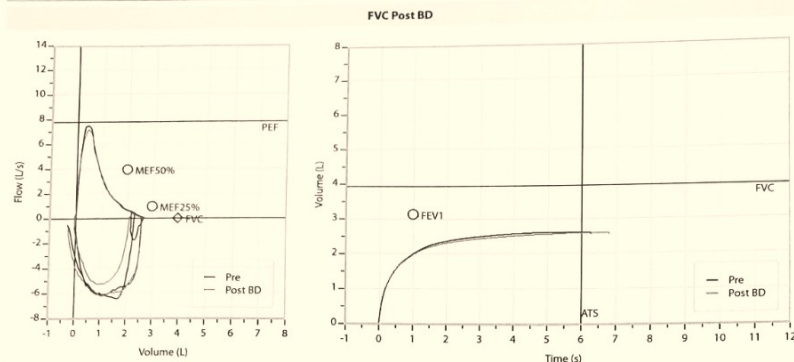
Pirfenidone was stopped !!!

Started on Prednisolone 40 mg OD.

Reviewed after 8 weeks.

# Follow up...2 months

Name	VIKAS SHARMA	ID1	339973	Gender	Male	Age	36	Weight (kg)	78.40	Height (cm)	167.0
Company	D.D.B.	ID2	193720	BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	28.1	Smoke	--	Smoking Years	--	Cig/Day	--
Occupation	Operator	Physician									
Ethnicity	Indian	Room	PFT Room No -01	Set	Chhabra (India) (Spirometry)						



PRE						POST BD (Salbutamol: 400 mcg)					
	Meas.	Normal Range	Pred	% Pred	z score	Meas.	Change	% Change	% Pred	z score	
FVC	L	2.68	3.15 - 4.72	3.94	68	-2.64	2.67	0.00	0	68	
FEV1	L	2.06	2.47 - 3.80	3.14	66	-2.69	2.05	-0.01	0	65	
FEV1/FVC%	%	76.9	68.5 - 87.6	80.0	99	-0.20	76.5	-0.3	0	98	
FEF <sub>25-75</sub>	L/s	7.48	6.00 - 10.04	7.78	96	-1.91	7.16	-0.31	-4	92	
MEF25%	L/s	1.66	1.91 - 4.66	2.99	56	-4.84	1.65	-0.02	-1	55	
MEF50%	L/s	0.68	0.54 - 1.70	0.96	71	-0.79	0.66	-0.02	-2	69	
MEF75%	L/s	1.89	2.55 - 6.04	3.92	48	-7.76	1.99	0.10	2	51	
FEV6	L	0.00	---	---	---	---	5.45	0.04	---	---	
FEV1/FEV6%	%	0.0	---	---	---	---	0.00	0.00	---	---	
FEV1/VCmax%	%	76.9	68.5 - 87.6	78.0	99	-0.20	76.5	-0.3	0	98	
FET100%	s	4.6	---	---	---	---	5.5	1.0	---	---	

Interpretation:

Typ - Diagnosed Case of  
NSIP  
Showing Improvement

MANOEUVER PERFORMED  
① CORRECTLY  
② FEV1, Volume Time curve acceptable  
③ FVC - 2.68 (68%)  
(Improved)  
④ FEV1 - 2.06 (66%)  
Improved  
⑤ FEV1/FVC - 76.9

- Symptomatic Improvement
- Marginal Improvement in FVC

- FEV<sub>1</sub>-2.06(66%)
- FEV<sub>1</sub>/FVC-76.9
- FVC-2.68 (68%)

## ***Discussion***

The term ILD refers to a heterogeneous collection of more than one hundred disorders that tend to be grouped together because they share clinical, radiological, and pathological features.

These disorders are sometimes called DPLD, as interstitium is not the only the compartment involved.

# *Classification*

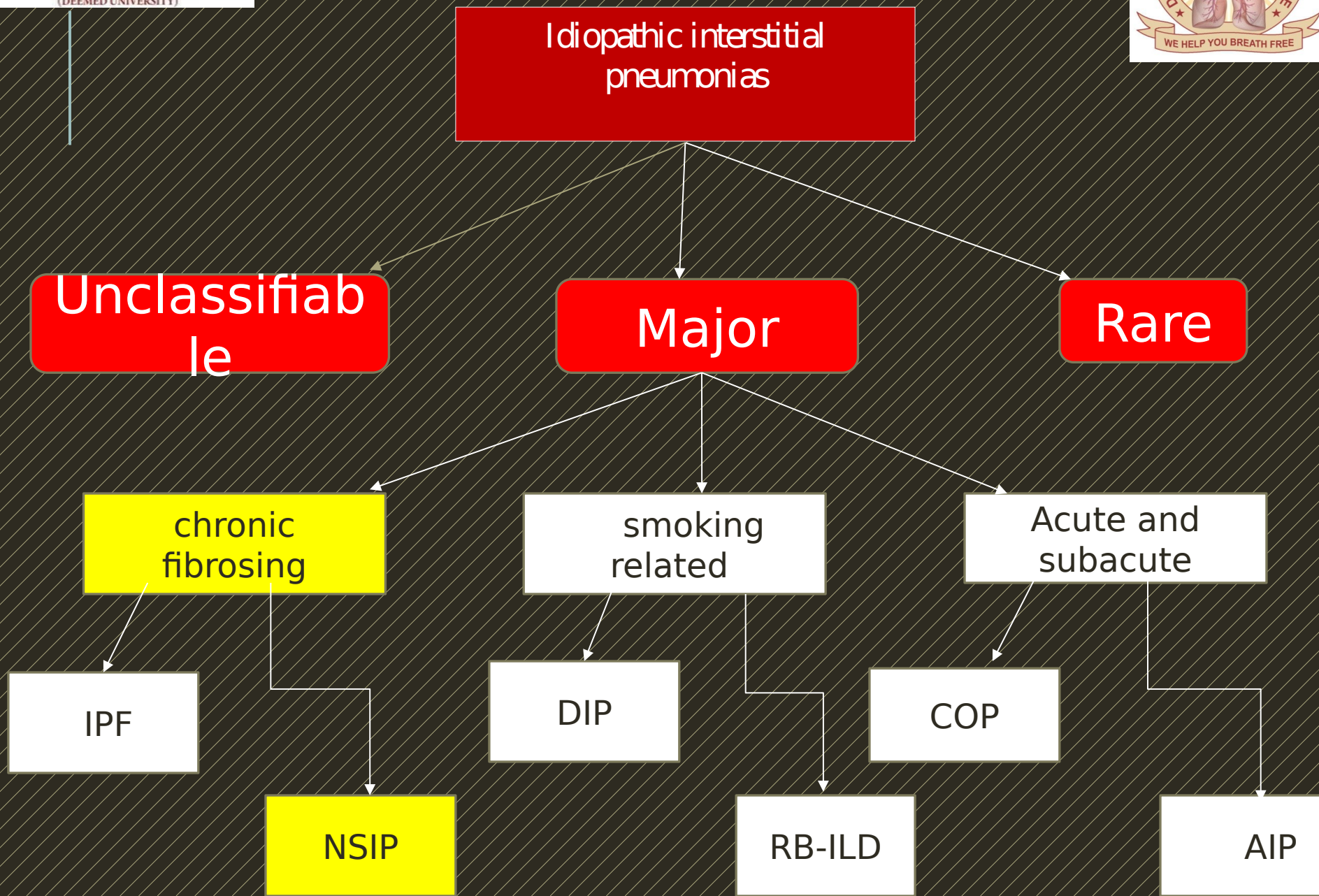
## **Interstitial Lung Diseases**

Known cause or  
association (CTD,  
Occupation)

Idiopathic  
Interstitial  
Pneumonias

Granulomatous  
(Sarcoidosis, HP)

other forms  
lymphangioleio-  
myomatosis,  
Histiocytosis





# *Clinical features*

- ☐ Middle aged adults (20-40 years)
- ☐ Affects non smokers.
- ☐ Subacute onset of dyspnea and cough.
- ☐ Commonly associated with CTD except RA.
- ☐ Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis may also present with NSIP.

# Investigations

## PULMONARY FUNCTION TESTING

Restrictive ventilatory  
Defect characterised

by

✓ Preserved  
FEV1/FVC

✓ Depressed

## CHEST IMAGING

Peripheral, subpleural, basal symmetric, ground glass opacities / reticular markings .

- Traction bronchiectasis.
- Very rare - microcystic honeycombing ( fibrotic)

# Pathological types

<b>TYPES</b>	<b>PATHOLOGY</b>
CELLULAR	DOMINATED BY ACTIVE INFLAMMATION
FIBROTIC	DOMINATED BY ESTABLISHED FIBROSIS
MIXED	COMBINATION OF INFLAMMATION AND FIBROSIS BOTH.

# Treatment

## monotherapy Corticosteroids

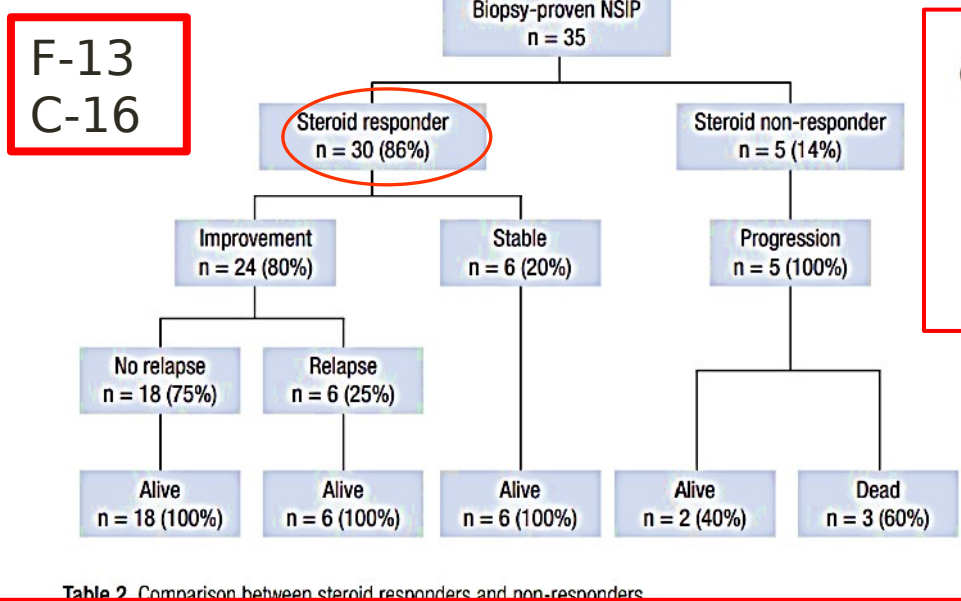
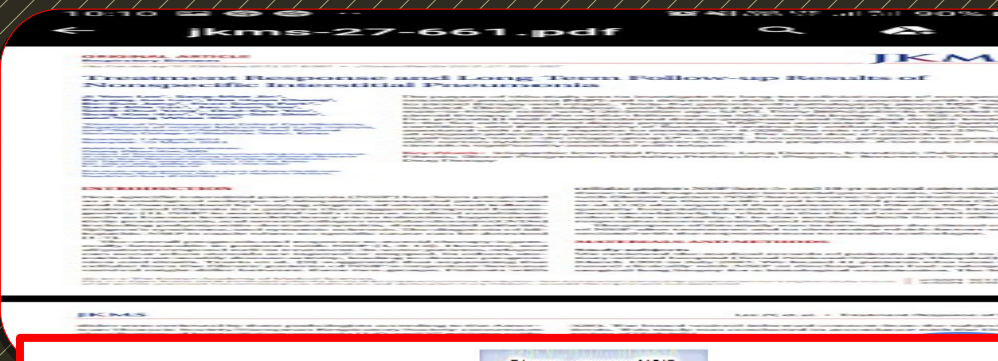


Table 2. Comparison between steroid responders and non-responders

- Among a total of 47 patients from a number of smaller series (both idiopathic and secondary NSIP), treatment with glucocorticoids alone resulted in improvement in 35, stabilization in 6, and deterioration or death in 6 [5,8,10,11,14]. Despite an initial response, some patients subsequently experienced progressive worsening of lung function [11].

## Recommended dose

To begin with, a dose of 0.5 to 1 mg/kg ideal body weight with maximum dose of 60mg/day for one month, followed by a tapering dose of 30 to 40 mg /day for 2 months.

If patient stabilizes with treatment, the dose is gradually tapered and discontinued after 6 to 9 months

Patient not responding to corticosteroid, consider starting immunosuppressive agents.

Format Abstract ▾

Respirology. 2016 Feb;21(2):259-68. doi: 10.1111/resp.12674. Epub 2015 Nov 13.

**Idiopathic non-specific interstitial pneumonia.**

Belloji EA<sup>1</sup>, Beckford R<sup>1</sup>, Hadley R<sup>1</sup>, Flaherty KR<sup>1</sup>.

Author information

Abstract

Format Abstract ▾

Send to ▾

Eur Respir J. 2009 Jan;33(1):68-76. doi: 10.1183/09031936.00158507. Epub 2008 Oct 1.

**Clinical course and lung function change of idiopathic nonspecific interstitial pneumonia.**

Park IN<sup>1</sup>, Jegal Y, Kim DS, Do KH, Yoo B, Shim TS, Lim CM, Lee SD, Koh Y, Kim WS, Kim WD, Jang SJ, Kitaichi M, Nicholson AG, Colby TV

Author information



## Other Modalities

### AZATHIOPRINE

**Fibrotic NSIP , not responding to steroids and NSIP associated with CTD shown better improvement with azathioprine when used along with steroids.**

**Dose-25 to 50 mg/day.**

### CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE

**Best therapeutic evidence of cyclophosphamide was seen in ssc- ild .**

**Dose- Montly intravenous dose**

### MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL

**Used in ILD associated with scleroderma .**

**Dose- 1.5 to 3 gm daily in 2 divided dose.**

# Lung Transplant

Patient with severe NSIP that is progressive and disabling despite immunosuppressive therapy may be considered for lung transplant



- ✓ Honey combing on HRCT.
- ✓ DLCO less than 35 % of predicted.
- ✓ 10 % or greater decrease in FVC or 15 % decrease in DLCO during 6 month follow up.

# ROLE OF TBLB IN DIAGNOSIS OF ILD

TBLB is the procedure of choice when ILD is suspected, has a centrilobular distribution.



Sarcoidosis , Hypersensitivity pneumonitis ,  
Lymphangitis Carcinomatosis , Eosinophilic  
pneumonitis , Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis

- The highest yield is in Sarcoidosis- around 71%

Studies suggest that in NSIP, TBLB is used when the radiological features are inconsistent with UIP/NSIP/Non responder.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF  
PATHOLOGY.  
DEPARTMENT OF  
RADIOLOGY.

# Thank







