# Chronic Pancreatitis Secondary to Chronic Alcoholism

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## Background

### Pancreas has 2 major functions:

- Produces digestive enzymes & bicarbonate. (Exocrine)
- Hormone production/glucose regulation. (Endocrine)



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# What is Pancreatitis?

- Inflammation of the pancreas causing pancreatic damage/autodigestion.
- Can be acute or chronic.
- The most common causes are alcoholism, cholelithiasis, and abdominal trauma.



http://digestive.niddk.nih.gov

## **Chronic Pancreatitis**

- □ Continuous or recurrent inflammation → progressive and irreversible tissue changes → permanent loss of function
- In Western countries, alcohol consumption is assumed to be the leading cause (70%–90%) of all cases.
- Alcohol is known to exert a number of toxic effects on acinar cells (active cells in pancreas).
- It is common for patients with chronic pancreatitis to have repeated episodes of acute pancreatitis.

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# Signs & Symptoms

- Abdominal pain
- □ Back pain
- □ Nausea
- □ Vomiting
- □ Fever
- Swelling of the abdomen
- Rapid pulse
- High/low blood pressure
- Shock
- Faintness
- Jaundice

- Elevated serum amylase & lipase
- Maldigestion/ malabsorption
- Diarrhea
- Thirst
- Appetite
- Urination
- Fatigue
- Weight loss

- Name: Elena Jordan
- □ Age: 30
- Sex: Female
- Height: 5'8
- Current Weight: 112 lbs.
- UBW: 140 lbs. (1 year ago)
- □ %UBW: 80%
- □ IBW Range: 126-154 lbs.
- □ %IBW: 80% (moderate weight loss)
- □ BMI: 17.0



### Chief Complaint

- "I'm tired of hurting so much. I've had this terrible pain in my stomach for the past 2 days. I took a client out to dinner the other night, but I couldn't eat much. This has been happening off and on for the past 9 months, but the pain has never gone around to my back before."
- Medical History
  - No family history of GI disease.

Biomedical Marker	Elena's values	Normal Values	Reason
Albumin	3.6	3.5-5 g/dL	Normal
Total Protein	6	6-8 g/dL	Normal
Prealbumin	20.5	16-35 mg/dL	Normal
Transferrin	155 (low)	250-380 mg/dL	Negative acute phase responder. Possibly unrelated
Glucose	130 (high)	70-100 mg/dL	Impaired insulin production/metabolic stress
Bilirubin	1.5 (high)	<0.3 mg/dL	RBC breakdown caused by leakage of pancreatic enzymes.
ALT	45 (high)	4-36 U/L	Biomarker for liver injury.
AST	50 (high)	0-35 U/L	Biomarker for liver injury.
Cholesterol	225 (high)	120-199 mg/dL	Poss. heredity/lifestyle/diet
HDL-C	40 (low)	>55 mg/dL	Poss. heredity/lifestyle
TG	250 (high)	35-135 mg/dL	EtOH

<b>Biomedical Marker</b>	Elena's Values	Normal Values	Reason
WBC	14.5 (high)	4.8-11.8 x 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	Infection
HGB	11.6 (low)	12-15 g/dL	Nutritional deficiency
нст	35.7 (low)	37-47 %	Nutritional deficiency
MCV	101.5 (high)	µm³	Macrocytic anemia due to b12 deficiency
% GRANS	84.2 (low)	34.6-79.2 %	Infection
Ferritin	19.5 (low)	20-120 mg/mL	Iron depletion

Psychosocial Factors

- Education: Bachelor's Degree
- Occupation: Pharmaceutical Sales Rep. (50+ hours/week)
- Household Members: Lives alone
- Other
  - Smoke: no
  - Drink: yes (2-3 drinks/day)
    - Patient stated that she started drinking in high school on the weekends when her friends had parties – only beer (1-2 cans per night)
    - During college drank on weekends often consuming 5 or more drinks per night
  - Meds: antacids & Ortho-Tri Cyclen-28 day cycle

Usual Dietary Intake

- Breakfast
  - Dry bagel, 1 cup black coffee
- Lunch
  - Diet coke,
  - Lean Cuisine-usually Swedish meatballs (with noodles)
- Dinner
  - □ 5 oz white wine while preparing dinner
  - baked potato-medium sized, with butter, sour cream, and chives
  - 2 stalks steamed broccoli with cheese sauce (made from Cheez Whiz)
  - 2 glasses (5 oz) white wine
- Total calories: 1316
- Protein: 54 grams



#### Intake on the Road

- Breakfast
  - □ <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub> cup dry cereal with 1<sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>2</sub> cups 2% milk
  - 1 cup orange juice
  - □ 1 cup black coffee

Lunch

- Often doesn't eat lunch but when she does...
- McDonald's fruit and yogurt parfait
- Medium Diet Coke

Dinner

- Usually some type of appetizer-most likely fried mushrooms
- spinach salad with hot bacon dressing
- □ fettuccine Alfredo or small (6 oz) filet mignon with garlic mashed potatoes
- 2-3 glasses of wine (6 oz glasses)
- After-dinner drink
  - Usually sherry (3 oz)
- □ Total calories: 1879
- Protein: 48 grams



#### Kcal Needs

- 655 + (9.6 x 50.9) + (1.8 x 172.7) (4.7 x 30)=BEE
- 1313.5 x 1.3 x 1.2 = 2049 kcals/day
- 40 kcal/50.9 kg = 2040 kcals/day

#### Protein Needs

50.9 kg x 1.3g/kg = 66 g protein/day

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### Diagnoses

- Excessive alcohol intake (NI-4.3) related to pressure from job and lifestyle factors as evidenced by 24 hour recall and usual diet recall.
- Involuntary weight loss (NC-3.2) related to nausea, vomiting, poor appetite, and diarrhea as evidenced by 20% weight loss over 1 year.

#### Treatment Plan

- Pregnancy Test
- CBC

П

- Chemistry with liver and pancreatic enzymes
- Urinanalysis
- Upper GI with small bowel follow-through
- CT scan of abdomen and pelvis
- 72 hour stool collection for fecal fat

- 1 liter NS bolus, then D5NS @ 150 cc/h
- Demerol 25 mg IM q 4-6 h
- NPO
- Chlordiazepoxide 25 mg IV q 6h x 3d
- Thiamine 100 mg IV daily x 3d
- Folic acid 1 mg IV daily x 3d
- Multivitamins 1 amp in first liter of IV fluids



### Initiate Parenteral Nutrition (ND-2)

- Patient cannot tolerate an enteral feeding which might stimulate the pancreas
- Delay PN until after peak inflammatory response has occurred → approximately 5-7 days
- NG suction



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- Kcal needs: 2049 kcals
- Kcal needs with fever: 2365 kcals
- 66 g protein per day
- Pro: 66g(4kcal/g)= 264/2365= 12%
  Fat: 25%(2365)= 592/9kcal/g= 66g
  CHO: 63%(2365)= 1490/4kcal/g= 373g
  TPN Recommendation: (g/day)

### Comprehensive Nutrition Education (E-2)

- To educate patient on her new diagnoses and modification of alcohol consumption.
  - Moderate to low-fat diet.
  - Pancreatic enzymes with each meal and snack
  - Avoid GI stimulants (alcohol, coffee, tea, spices and condiments)
  - MCT oil
  - □ B12 and folate supplementation
  - Antacids, H2 receptor antagonists, proton pump inhibitors

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### Outcome goals

- Short Term
  - $\Box$  Progression from NPO  $\rightarrow$  PN  $\rightarrow$  oral diet.
  - Cessation of alcohol consumption to prevent further destruction of patient's pancreas.
  - Patient understanding of how alcohol is damaging her body.
- Long Term
  - Weight gain to UBW
  - Normalize lab values (glucose, hgb/hct, mcv)



\*Initiate parenteral nutrition (ND-2)

\*Comprehensive nutrition education (E-2)

# Monitor & Evaluate

Follow-up in 3 weeks

- Monitor patient's labs:
  - □ Glucose (diabetes)
  - Amylase and lipase
  - □ B12 and folate (anemia)
- Monitor patient's adherence to abstaining from alcohol
- Monitor patient's weight
- Refer to social work for EtOH services

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