

Guideline of Diagnosis Classification for Vasculitis: March 2002

The Research Committee on Intractable Vasculitides, the Ministry of Health and Welfare of Japan

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Proposed diagnostic criteria for polyarteritis nodosa (PN)

(Research Committee on Intractable Vasculitis and Research Committee on Epidemiology of Intractable Diseases, The Ministry of Health and Welfare of Japan, 1998)

1. Clinical manifestations

- 1) Fever $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ for more than 2 weeks, Weight loss $>6\text{kg}$ within 6 months
- 2) Hypertension
- 3) Renal failure with rapid progression and/or renal infarction
- 4) Cerebral hemorrhage
- 5) Ischemic heart disease, pericarditis, and/or heart failure
- 6) Pleuritis
- 7) GI bleeding, and/or infarction of colon and/or intestines
- 8) Mononeuritis multiplex
- 9) Cutaneous nodule, ulceration, gangrene or purpura
- 10) Polyarthralgia (polyarthritis), myalgia (myositis), decreased muscle strength

2. Histological findings

Necrotizing vasculitis with fibrinoid necrosis in the small or medium-sized artery

3. Angiographic findings

Multiple aneurysms; stenosis and obstruction of the branch of abdominal arteries, especially the intrarenal small and medium-sized arteries

4. Diagnosis

- 1) Definite
At least 2 clinical findings with either angiographic or histological findings
- 2) Probable
Clinical findings of more than 6 items including item 1.

5. Laboratory data as reference

- 1) WBC $>10,000/\text{mm}^3$
- 2) Platelets $>400,000/\mu\text{L}$
- 3) Elevated level of ESR

6. Exclusion criteria

- 1) Wegener's granulomatosis
 - 2) Allergic granulomatous angiitis
 - 3) Microscopic polyangiitis
 - 4) Kawasaki's arteritis
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