

NIH Summer Research Program 2007

POSTER TITLE: Identification and Analysis of Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies

MENTOR: Jim DeLeo, Chief, Scientific Computing Section, DCRI, NIHCC

NIH AFFILIATION: Scientific Computing Section, DCRI, NIHCC (2007 Summer Intern)

NON-NIH AFFILIATION: Gaithersburg High School

THE IDEA IN BRIEF:

This poster presents an investigation of the different symptoms and conditions of Idiopathic inflammatory Myopathies and the importance of laboratory tests in determining these diseases. Furthermore, this investigation shows the importance of recognizing and classifying this heterogeneous group of muscular disorders in order to provide good treatment.

ABSTRACT:

Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies (IIM) are a heterogeneous group of muscular disorders that share similar characteristics of chronic muscle inflammation. These inflammatory myopathies usually known as myositis syndromes are a group of rare autoimmune diseases. The causes of IIM are still unknown; however studies indicate environmental and genetic factors could influence the development of these disorders. The most common forms of myositis are Dermatomyositis (DM), Polymyositis (PM) and Inclusion Body Myositis (IBM). However, there are also different manifestations of myositis such as Cancer-Associated Myositis, Juvenile Myositis and Connective-Tissue Myositis. Because the symptoms of these myositis are similar, it is difficult to differentiate them and to determine their causes. Therefore, a method of classification and analysis of these diseases is important in order to predict the type of myositis the patient will develop. Characteristics that help in recognizing and analyzing IIMs are explored here.

PURPOSE:

To investigate the different symptoms and conditions of Idiopathic inflammatory Myopathies. To demonstrate the importance of recognizing and organizing this heterogeneous group of muscular disorders. To analyze the different diseases classes by constructing statistical modules based on the data for data mining purposes.