

Signs & Symptoms

Activated mast cells release granules containing proinflammatory mediators and can result in:

- Maculopapular lesions with Darier's sign
- Recurrent or unexplained anaphylaxis often coupled with hypotension and syncope
- Recurring and unexplained gastrointestinal upset (i.e., recurring and unexplained nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea)
- Persistently elevated baseline serum tryptase levels; serum tryptase levels that increase by 20% above the baseline level plus an additional 2 ng/mL if measured within 4 hours after the onset of the acute event
- Unexplained osteoporosis (particularly in males)
- Unexplained hepatopathy with ascites
- Presence of adult onset cutaneous mastocytosis
- Chronic use of prescription medications for the treatment of unexplained allergies (e.g., corticosteroids, mast cell stabilizers)

Diagnosics & Testing

Proceed to a diagnostic workup if SM is suspected with symptoms consistent with mast cell disorder and no known cause:

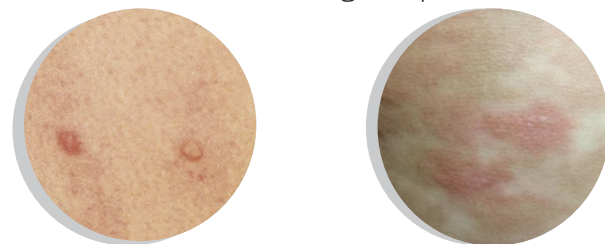
- A diagnostic workup consisting of a history and physical including metabolic panel, CBC with differential, and blood smear examination
- Test for serum tryptase levels
- **Molecular testing for KIT D816V: NCCN Guidelines recommends using a highly sensitive assay such as ASO-qPCR or digital droplet PCR on peripheral blood for initial screening; A thorough analysis of KIT mutational status should include bone marrow evaluation**
- Bone marrow aspirate and biopsy with flow cytometry (CD34, CD117, CD25, CD30, CD2), IHC (CD117, CD25, CD30, tryptase), cytogenetics
- FISH as needed for associated hematologic neoplasm (AHN)-related abnormalities
- Test for additional genomic mutations via NGS, especially in advanced SM
- Evaluation of B- and C- findings and organ involvement

Lesions

Small monomorphic lesions appear on the thighs or trunk of the body



Wheal-and-flare reaction is elicited by stroking lesion with a tongue spatula



Did You Know?

Systemic mastocytosis (SM) is a rare, clonal mast cell neoplasm most commonly driven by the KIT D816V mutation^{1,2}

Patients experience significant symptom burden with poor quality of life that can result in a reduced ability to work, higher rates of health care visits, polypharmacy, and severe pain³

Commercial Laboratories Offering NCCN Recommended High-Sensitivity KIT D816V Assays

Laboratory	Test Code/Name	Website	Phone
ARUP Laboratories ⁴	3002956	www.aruplab.com	1-800-522-2787
Mayo Clinic Laboratories ⁵	KITVS	www.mayocliniclabs.com	1-800-533-1710
Virant Diagnostics ⁶	High Sensitivity cKIT D816V Mutation Hotspot	www.virantdx.com	1-877-888-2973
Labcorp ⁷	485126	www.oncology.labcorp.com	1-877-442-3226
Blueprint-sponsored Biomarker Testing Program ⁸	485140	www.oncology.labcorp.com/blueprintsm KIT D816V testing available at no charge for patients who are being evaluated for systemic mastocytosis. Program eligibility criteria apply	

References:

1. Garcia-Montero AC, Jara-Acevedo M, Teodosio C, et al. KIT mutation in mast cells and other bone marrow hematopoietic cell lineages in systemic mast cell disorders: a prospective study of the Spanish Network on Mastocytosis (REMA) in a series of 113 patients. *Blood*. 2006;108(7):2366-2372.
2. Lee HJ. Recent advances in diagnosis and therapy in systemic mastocytosis. *Blood Res*. 2023; 58(Suppl 1):S96-S108
3. Mesa RA., Sullivan EM., Dubinski D., et al., Patient-reported outcomes among patients with systemic mastocytosis in routine clinical practice: Results of the TouchStone SM Patient Survey. *Cancer*. 2022 Oct;128(20):3691-3699.
4. KIT Molecular Testing. ARUP <https://ltd.aruplab.com/api/ltd/pdf/294>
5. Test definition: KITVS. Mayo Clinic Laboratories. Accessed <https://www.mayocliniclabs.com/api/sitecore/TestCatalog/DownloadTestCatalog?testId=607981>
6. Genetic testing for mast cell disorders. Virant Diagnostics. Accessed May 2023 <https://virantdx.com/testing-solutions/genetic-testing/mcd/>
7. KIT (D816V) digital PCR. Labcorp. Accessed May 2023. <https://www.labcorp.com/tests/485126/kit-d816v-digital-pcr>
8. Blueprint's biomarker testing program. Labcorp. Accessed May 2023. <https://oncology.labcorp.com/blueprintsm>

Diagnostics Criteria

Diagnosis of SM requires the major criterion alone (ICC)¹⁰ or with 1 minor criteria (WHO)¹² OR ≥3 minor criteria (ICC and WHO)^{10, 12, 13}:

Major Criterion:

Multifocal dense infiltrates of MCs (≥15 mast cells in aggregates) detected in sections of bone marrow and/or sections of other extracutaneous organ(s) such as the GI tract

Minor Criterion:

- **More than 25% of MCs** in bone marrow (biopsy section or aspirate smears) or other extracutaneous organ(s) show **abnormal morphology** (i.e., atypical MC type 1 or are spindle-shaped MCs) in multifocal lesions in histologic examination
- **KIT D816V mutation** or other activating KIT mutation in extracutaneous organ(s) (in most cases bone marrow) or peripheral blood
- KIT+ MCs in bone marrow show **abnormal expression of CD2, CD25, and/or CD30**

for ≥10% of the peripheral blood white blood cells, but the aleukemic variant (in which mast cells account for <10%) is more common; Skin lesions are usually absent; Mast cell variants include:

- Acute MCL [≥1 C-finding(s)] vs. chronic MCL (no C-findings)
- MCL with an AHN vs. MCL without an AHN
- Primary (de novo) vs. secondary MCL (arising from another SM variant)

NCCN Guidelines ¹³ : Systemic Mastocytosis Treatment Recommendations			
Indolent & smoldering SM	Aggressive SM	SM with an associated hematologic neoplasm	Mast Cell Leukemia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral to specialized centers • Patient education • Avoiding triggers • Use of epinephrine to manage anaphylaxis • Anti-mediator drug therapy • Clinical trial • Avapritinib for ISM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISM and SSM treatment options • Clinical trial • Avapritinib (if platelets ≥50 x 10⁹/L) or midostaurin • Cladribine or peginterferon alfa-2a ± prednisone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISM and SSM treatment options • Avapritinib (if platelets ≥50 x 10⁹/L) or midostaurin • Other recommended regimens: cladribine or peginterferon alfa-2a ± prednisone • Immediate treatment requirement or on progression: AHN-directed therapy including consideration of allogeneic HCT with concurrent management of SM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISM and SSM treatment options • Avapritinib or midostaurin • Other recommended regimens: cladribine • AHN-directed therapy (including multiagent chemotherapy) • Consider evaluation for allogeneic HCT

Did You Know?

The majority of cases are non-advanced (indolent or smoldering SM) occurring in ~90% of patients; advanced cases (aggressive, SM with an associated hematologic neoplasm, or mast cell leukemia) are associated with decreased overall survival⁹ Patients experience significant symptom burden with poor quality of life that can result in a reduced ability to work, higher rates of health care visits, polypharmacy, and severe pain³

Identification of SM Subtype

If SM is confirmed, proceed to identification of SM subtype^{11,12}:

Indolent SM (non-advanced):

Meets the general criteria for systemic mastocytosis; <2 B-findings*; No C-findings‡; Low mast cell burden; No evidence of an associated hematologic neoplasm; Skin lesions are frequently present

Smoldering SM (non-advanced):

Meets the general criteria for systemic mastocytosis; ≥2 B-findings; No C-findings; No evidence of an associated hematologic neoplasm; Does not meet the criteria for mast cell leukemia

Aggressive SM (advanced):

Meets the general criteria for systemic mastocytosis; ≥1 C-finding; Does not meet the criteria for mast cell leukemia; Skin lesions are usually absent

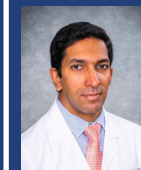
SM with an associated hematologic neoplasm (advanced):

Meets the general criteria for systemic mastocytosis; Meets the criteria for an associated neoplasm

Mast Cell Leukemia (advanced):

Bone marrow aspirate smears show ≥20% mast cells; In classic cases, mast cells account

*B-Findings: Indicate a high burden of MCs and expansion of the neoplastic process into multiple hematopoietic lineages, without evidence of organ damage
‡C-Findings: Are indicative of organ damage produced by MC infiltration (should be confirmed by biopsy if possible)



ASK THE EXPERT

Dr. Pankit Vachhani | Asst. Prof of Medicine
University of Alabama at Birmingham
For more information contact:
pvachhani@uabmc.edu

ABOUT CORNERSTONE

Founded in 2016, Cornerstone Specialty Network's mission is to provide value to Community Oncology practices in order to help maximize the quality of patient care. To learn more or to register for one of its programs, visit cornerstoneoncology.com

References:

9. El Hussein S, Chifotides HT, Khoury JD, et al. Systemic mastocytosis and other entities involving mast cells: A practical review and update. *Cancers (Basel)* 2022;14:3474.
10. Arber DA, Orazi A, Hasserjian RP, et al. International Consensus Classification of myeloid neoplasms and acute leukemias: Integrating morphologic, clinical, and genomic data. *Blood* 2022;140:1200-1228.
11. Swerdlow SH, Campo E, Harris NL, et al. World Health Organization Classification of Tumours of Haematopoietic and Lymphoid Tissues, revised 4th edition. IARC, Lyon, 2017.
12. Khoury JD, Solary E, Abla O, et al. The 5th edition of the World Health Organization classification of haematolymphoid tumours: Myeloid and histiocytic/dendritic neoplasms. *Leukemia* 2022;36:1703-1719.
13. NCCN Guidelines: https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/mastocytosis.pdf