

Name of Illness script: Acute monoarticular arthritis

| Working hypotheses | Pathophysiological insult (Describe key features) | Clinical consequences (Discriminating features) (Findings on Hx, PE, or dx tests) | Predisposing conditions | Defining features (Qualifiers) |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Infectious arthritis | Acute infectious process | Acute onset Warm, red joint Effusion present Febrile & ill Single episode | Seeding of joint from puncture wound may be evident | Acute, monoarticular, painful, single episode |
| Problem representation for infectious arthritis: Acute onset of monoarticular arthritis associated with fever and prostration. | | | | |
| Gout | Acute, recurrent inflammatory process caused by monosodium urate crystal deposition in a joint | Acute onset Episodic Warm violaceous joint Effusion present Exquisitely painful Male > female Monosodium urate crystals found on aspirate | Acute ETOH ingestion in susceptible individuals Diet? Trauma, surgery | Acute, monoarticular |
| Problem representation for acute gouty arthritis: Acute onset of a recurrent, exquisitely painful, monoarticular process | | | | |
| Calcium pyrophosphate deposition disease (CPPD) Pseudogout | Acute, recurrent inflammatory process caused by calcium pyrophosphate crystal deposition in a joint | Acute onset Warm, red joint Effusion CPPD crystals found on aspirate | Trauma, surgery | Acute, may begin as monoarticular, but will involve multiple joints eventually |
| Problem representation for Pseudogout: Acute onset of monoarticular joint pain | | | | |
| OA | Non-inflammatory process of cartilage destruction caused by wear and tear | Chronic process although acute pain can occur Bony proliferation without heat, redness; small effusions can occur | Trauma (acute or chronic) | Chronic, decline in functioning; often polyarticular |
| Problem representation for OA: Monoarticular onset without signs of inflammation | | | | |