

CYSTIC FIBROSIS:

- Typically presents in childhood
- Most common lethal inherited disease
- Autosomal recessive
 - > Carrier frequency 4%
 - > Single gene disease (**CFTR gene**)
 - Protein located in glandular apical epithelium

GENETIC MUTATIONS IN CF:

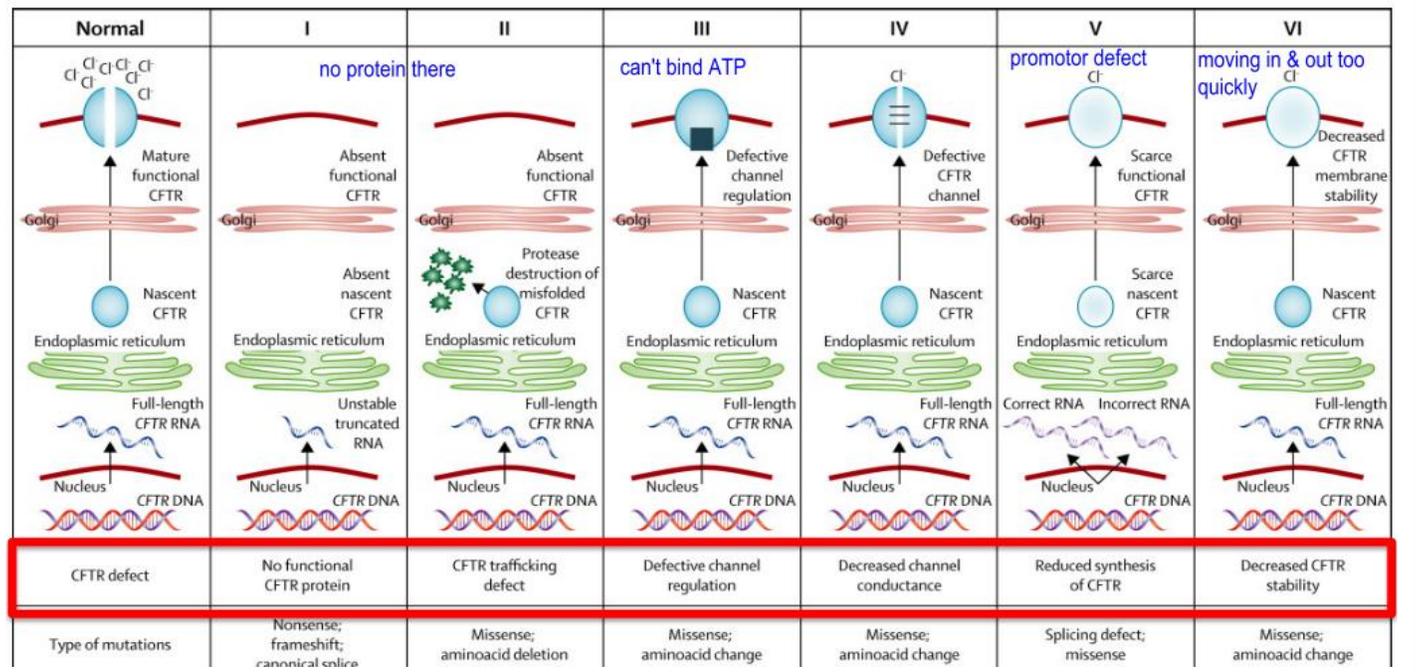
- Most common mutation (70%): 3 base pair deletion → absence of PHENYLALANINE at position 508 of the CFTR
- Large number (>1000) of relatively uncommon mutations (2%)

CLASSIFICATION OF CF:

Classic	Non-classic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic cough (may be productive) • Chronic bacterial infection of airways & sinuses • Poor growth/weight gain IN SPITE of good appetite • Meconium ileus (obstructed bowel) at birth • Fat maldigestion, due to pancreatic exocrine insufficiency = GREASY, BULKY, FLOATING STOOL • Infertility in males due to obstructive azoospermia • ELEVATED CONCENTRATIONS OF CHLORIDE IN SWEAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partial CFTR function • Respiratory dysfunction but no/minimal maldigestion

GENE MUTATIONS: can change the QUANTITY of CFTR protein or change the FUNCTION of CFTR protein

- ALL CLASSES: respiratory insufficiency
- CLASS 1-3: “severe” mutations = pancreatic insufficiency with decreased survival
- CLASS 4 – 5: “mild” mutations = pancreatic sufficiency



(NORMAL) FUNCTION OF CFTR IN EPITHELIUM

- CFTR protein: transmembrane (conductance) regulator
 - Only ABC that consumes ATP to function
 - Only ABC that is an ion channel (Cl⁻ = anion)
- Regulates general osmolarity (transport of Cl⁻ across membrane)
 - Pancreas/intestine: pumps Cl⁻ ions OUT of the cell, CFTR can regulate water secretion in some epithelial cells
 - Lung: pumps Cl⁻ ions INTO the cell, CFTR can regulate absorption of ions in excess of water, thereby creating hypotonic water outside the cell
- Epithelia containing CFTR protein exhibit array of normal functions:
 - Volume absorbing (airway, distal intestine)
 - Salt absorbing without volume (sweat ducts)
 - Volume secretory (proximal intestine, pancreas)

CFTR DYSFUNCTION: caused by mutations → different effects on patterns of electrolyte & water transport

MUCOSAL CHANGES:

1. Abnormal reabsorption of water
2. Thickened mucus
3. Inadequate mucociliary function/clearance

LUNGS	GI TRACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASL hydration & mucociliary clearance • Cough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microvillus & luminal hydration • Peristalsis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antimicrobials from submucosal glands 	

PANCREAS:

1. Absence of CFTR limits function of chloride-bicarbonate exchanger to secrete bicarbonate
2. Leads to retention of enzymes in the pancreas → destruction of pancreatic tissue

INTESTINE:

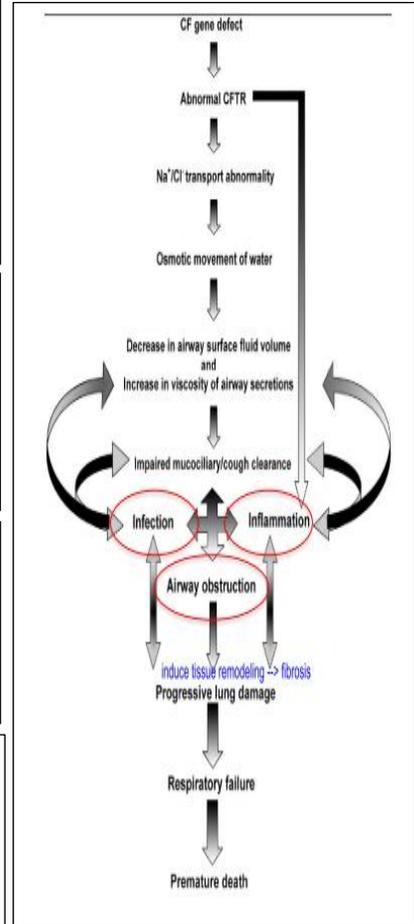
1. Decrease in water secretion → thickened mucus & desiccated intraluminal contents
2. Obstruction of small and large intestines

BILIARY TREE: don't memorize

1. Retention of biliary secretion
2. Focal biliary cirrhosis
3. Bile duct proliferation
4. Chronic cholecystitis, cholelithiasis

SWEAT:

1. Normal volume of sweat
2. Inability to reabsorb NaCl from sweat as it passes through sweat duct



LUNGS:

1. High rate of sodium absorption & low rate of chloride secretion → reduced salt and water content in mucus → depletes peri-ciliary liquid
2. Mucus adheres to airway surface → decreased mucus clearing
3. Predisposition to Staph and Pseudomonas infections

MANIFESTATIONS

CLINICAL PRESENTATION:

CF PANCREAS

- Chronic respiratory disease
- Failure to thrive
- Polyps
- Alkalosis, metabolic
- Neonatal intestinal obstruction
- Clubbing of fingers
- Rectal prolapse
- Electrolyte in sweat
- Aspermia/absent vas deferens
- Sputum contains *S. aureus*/
P. aeruginosa

COMMON PRESENTATIONS:

- Chronic cough
- Recurrent pulmonary infiltrates
- Failure to thrive
- Meconium ileus

RESPIRATORY TRACT:

- Chronic sinusitis: nasal obstruction, rhinorrhea, nasal polyps
- Chronic cough: persistent; viscous, purulent, green sputum
 - > Exacerbations require aggressive therapy: postural drainage, antibiotics
 - > Become more frequent age → progressive loss of lung fxn
- Infection
 - > Initially: *H. influenza* & *S. aureus*
 - > Subsequently: *P. aeruginosa*
 - > Occasionally: *Xanthomonas xylosoxidans*, *Burkholderia gladioli*, *Proteus*, *E. coli*, *Klebsiella*
- Lung function: small airway disease is first functional lung abnormality
 - > Progress to reversible, as well as irreversible changes in FEV1
 - > CXR: hyperinflation, mucus impaction, bronchial cuffing, bronchiectasis

GASTROINTESTINAL:

- Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency
 - > Protein, fat, and Vit A, D, E, K malabsorption
 - > Frequent bulky, foul-smelling stools
 - > Sparing of pancreatic beta cell but beta cell function decreases with age
- Increased incidence of GI malignancy

GENITOURINARY:

- Late onset puberty
- > 95% males azoospermia → obliteration of vas deferens
- 20% females infertile
- 90% completed pregnancies → viable infants

DIAGNOSIS:**DIAGNOSTIC TESTS:****SWEAT TEST:**

- Measures sodium or chloride in person's sweat
- Two samples to ensure false-positive does not occur
- Not reliable on newborns

GENETIC ANALYSIS:

- Newborn with signs and symptoms may confirm diagnosis with blood test
- Inherited disease → recommend checking family members and first cousins

DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA:

- One of the following:
 - Presence of typical clinical features
 - History of CF in a sibling
 - Positive newborn screening test
- Plus lab evidence for CFTR dysfunction
 - 2 elevated sweat chloride concentrations on 2 separate days
 - Identification of two CF mutations (allelic dosage)
 - Abnormal nasal potential difference measurement

DIAGNOSTIC DEFINITIONS:

- DNA analysis ambiguous if not seen before = **VARIANT OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANT (VUS)**
- Sweat chloride test > 70 mEq/L
- 1-2% of patients with clinical manifestations of CF have a normal sweat chloride test
 - > Nasal transepithelial potential difference