Chemokine and chemokine receptor expression in immune-mediated polyradiculoneuropathies: Future specific therapeutic targets?

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Objectives: At the end of this lecture, participants should be able to:

- Understand the basic biology of chemokine ligands and receptors, including their roles on hematogenous leukocyte migration into tissues.
- Recognize the importance of inflammatory leukocyte migration in the pathogenesis of immune-mediated polyradiculoneuropathies.
- Comprehend that certain chemokine ligands and receptors are selectively expressed in immune-mediated polyradiculopathies based on human and animal data.
- Possess some basic knowledge on experimental models used to study the determinants of chemokine-dependent leukocyte migration across neural microvascular barriers in vitro and in vivo.
- Appreciate that chemokine receptors, being G-protein coupled receptors, are particularly amenable to specific pharmacologic blockade.
- Be aware of other potential pro-inflammatory molecules that may contribute to the pathogenesis of immune-mediated polyradiculopathies.

Target Audience, Needs, Educational Methods, Activity Evaluation:
Physicians, residents, fellows, and other healthcare professionals need to be updated about new advances in the clinical and research areas for the diagnosis, treatment, and management of patients with neurological disorders. Educational methods will include lectures, case presentations, audio/video presentations, and questions & answer sessions. Participants will be asked to complete an activity evaluation.

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