Two serious complications of propylthiouracil treatment in the same patient – case report

centro hospitalar do Porto

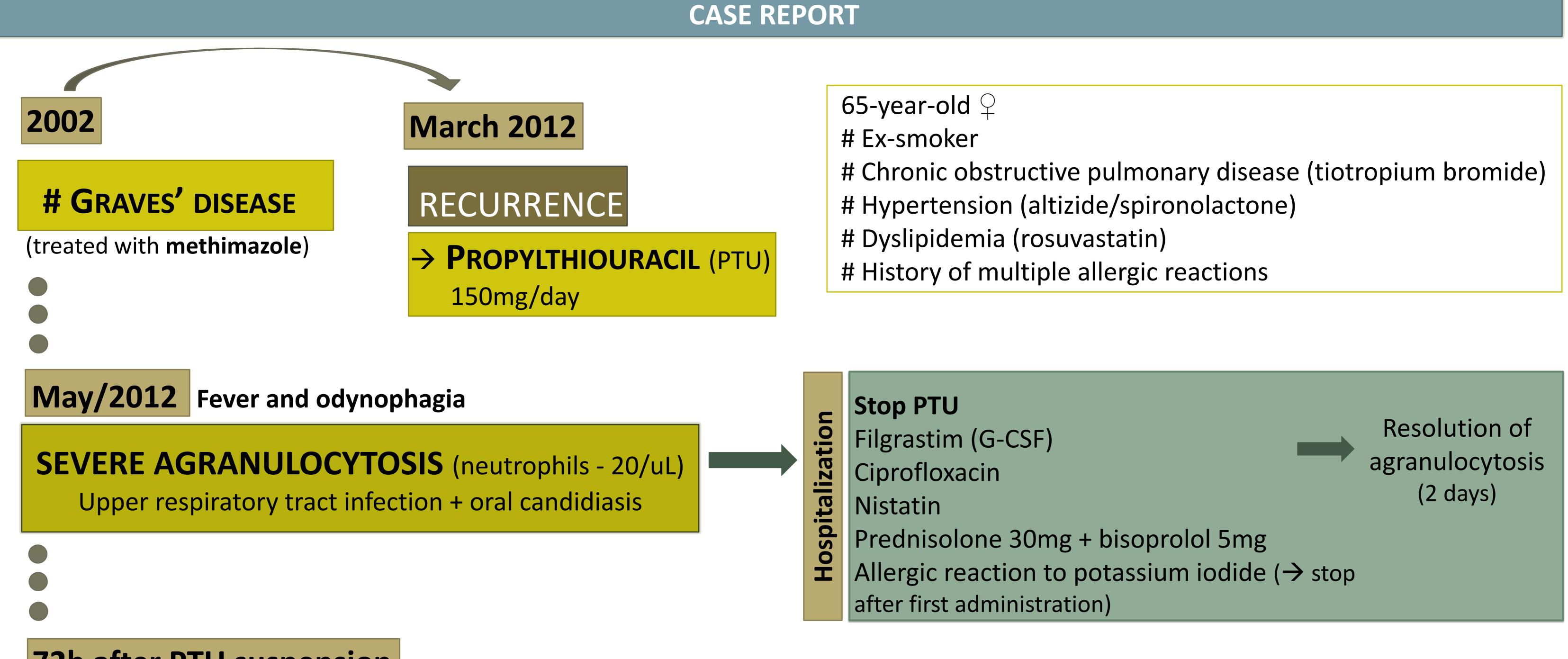
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INTRODUCTION

Thionamides are important drugs in the treatment of hyperthyroidism. Despite that, they can be associated with rare but serious complications, which require drug discontinuation.



72h after PTU suspension

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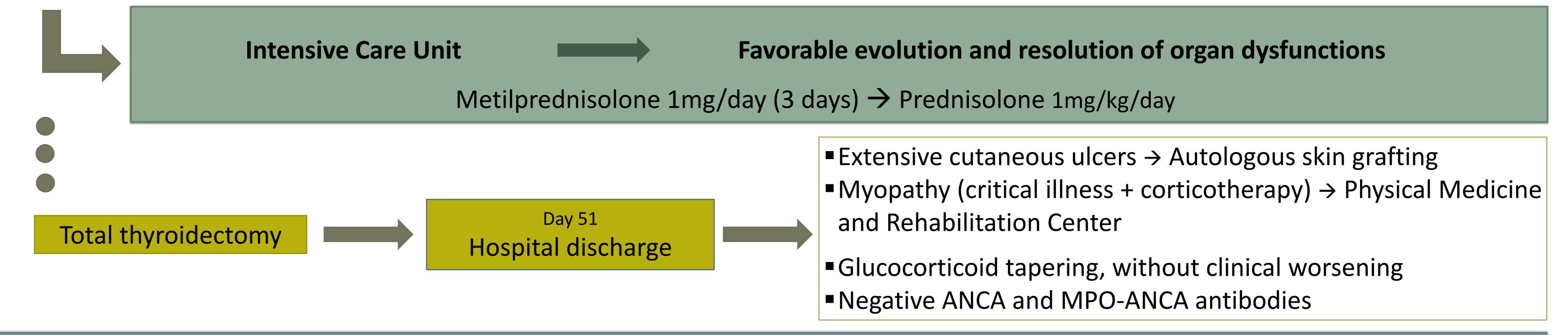
DAN

- Inflammatory signs of the submandibular glands → Bilateral sialoadenitis
- Severe epigastric abdominal pain, elevation of pancreatic enzymes → Acute pancreatitis (lipase 600 UI, amylase 624UI)
- Rash, palpable purpura, cutaneous ulcerations; cutaneous biopsy leukocytoclastic vasculitis
- Dyspnea, bronchoconstriction, type 2 respiratory failure → CT scan **nonspecific interstitial pneumonia**
- Pancytopenia (neut 134/uL, Hb 6.3 g/dl, plat 126000/uL)
- Splenic infarct (asymptomatic, documented by CT scan)





Positive pANCA and MPO-ANCA antibodies



CONCLUSION

This case report illustrates two serious complications of thionamide treatment, that requires a high index of suspicion and an adequate monitoring. These diagnoses require thionamide discontinuation and establishment of a definitive treatment.