

Atypical Glandular Cells of Undetermined Significance (AGUS)

=Abstract=

Clinical Evaluation of Follow-Up Methods and Results of Atypical Glandular Cells of Undetermined Significance (AGUS) on Cervicovaginal Pap Smears

Tae Jin Kim, M.D., Kyung Taek Lim, M.D., Hwan Wook Chung, M.D.,
Ki Heon Lee, M.D., Seung Ho Lee, M.D., In Sou Park, M.D.,
Chong Taik Park, M.D., Jae Uk Shim, M.D.

*Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Samsung Cheil Hospital and Women's Healthcare Center,
College of Medicine, Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea*

Objective: To evaluate the efficacy of the follow up methods and results of AGUS detected on cervicovaginal Pap smears.

Methods: From May 1991 to December 1996, we have performed 407,451 cervicovaginal Pap smears, of which 326 patients were identified as AGUS. Out of them, 268 patients were followed by repeated Pap smears, colposcopy, cone biopsy or endometrial curettage.

Results: The incidence of AGUS on Pap smears is approximately 0.08%. The mean patient age was 43 years (range 22-79 years). The most common complaint was abnormal vaginal bleeding. The gross findings of the cervix were normal or mild erosion. The past histories of patients that could effect the AGUS results on Pap smears were as follows: 30 had cone biopsy, 21 had Pap smear on pregnancy or within 8 weeks after delivery, 3 had hormone replacement therapy, 2 had intrauterine device for contraception, and 5 were in the process of a follow up after a treatment of cervical cancer. The benign lesions detected during follow up periods were 6 microglandular hyperplasia of the cervix, 5 atypical squamous metaplasia of the cervix, 2 cervical endometriosis, 2 tubal metaplasia, 10 cervical myoma, 11 cervical polyp, 9 endometrial polyp, 3 uterine myoma, 1 pelvic endometriosis, 1 ovarian endometriosis, and 4 uterine adenomyosis. The premalignant or malignant lesions of the cervix were 4 low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion, 24 high grade squamous intraepithelial lesion, 8 glandular atypia/dysplasia, 5 adenocarcinoma in situ, 3 microinvasive adenocarcinoma, and 4 invasive adenocarcinoma. The neoplastic lesions of the uterus were 6 endometrial hyperplasia, 11 endometrial adenocarcinoma, 1 malignant mixed Müllerian tumor, and 1 metastatic endometrial adenocarcinoma. Sixty seven (25%) among 268 patients followed up were identified to have clinically significant lesions of the cervix or uterus. The detection rates of abnormal lesions were 3.1% with repeated Pap smears (3/98), 28.4% with colposcopy-directed biopsy (31/109), 63.6% with cone biopsy (35/55), and 29.7% with endometrial curettage (19/64).

Conclusion: AGUS on Pap smears showed various benign and malignant lesions of the cervix or uterus. The clinicians must communicate with the pathologists regarding the clinical informations of the patient as well as the origin of atypical glandular cells in Pap smears. We recommend that the patients with AGUS on Pap smear should undergo immediate intensive diagnostic studies, including colposcopy with endocervical curettage or cone biopsy in order to detect the lesion of the cervix and endometrial curettage in order to detect the endometrial lesions.

Keywords: AGUS, Clinical informations, Origin of AGUS, Colposcopy, Cone biopsy, Endometrial curettage

가 , AGUS 가
 , AGUS
 ,
 AGUS
 가 ,
 . 1991 5 1996 12
 5 8 ,
 (Pap smear) ,
 1941 Papanicolaou 407,451 AGUS 326
 ,1) 가 268 ,
 가 10 20% ,
 .23) Melamed 4) AGUS
 ,
 1988 The Bethesda System(TBS)
 .5) 1991 TBS 6)
 ASCUS(atypical squamous cells of unde-
 termined significance) AGUS , 1.
 ASCUS가 (squamous cell) 1991 5 1996 12
 , AGUS
 (endocervical canal) (endometrial) 407,451 AGUS
 (glandular epithelial cell) 326 가 268
 가 , 가 ,
 ,
 AGUS Cytobrush, Cervex-Brush, Ayre spatula
 (endocervical glandular atypia) ,
 (atypical endometrial cell) AGUS

407,451
 326 가 AGUS
 0.08%

x2 test

P 0.05

2. 22 79
 30 40
 가 68.1%
 43 (Fig. 3).

2. AGUS 1991 TBS 가
 가 (Fig. 1),
 (Fig. 2).

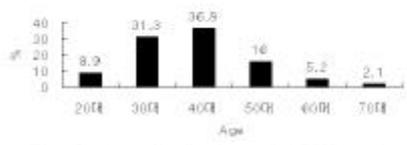


Fig. 3. Age distribution of AGUS patients.

3. 0 16

4.4 , 8 가 .
 0 9 2.5 , 1
 2 가 147 (45.1%), 3 4 가 87 (26.7%)
 , 27 (8.3%) .

4. 81
 (24.8%) 가 ,
 21 (6.4%) , 19 (5.8
 %), 18 (5.5%) .

11 (3.4%) ,
 8 (2.5%), 6 (1.8%),
 , , 11
 (3.4%) , 151
 (46.3%) (Table 1).

5. ,
 210 (64.4%), 37 (11.3%),
 41 (12.6%), 17 (5.2%),
 15 (4.6%), 4 (1.2%),
 가 2 (0.6%) (Table 2).

Fig. 1. AGUS, favor reactive ; small groupings of atypical endometrial cells showing slightly enlarged hyperchromatic round nuclei with micronucleoli, histologically verified as polyp in lower uterine segment (400x).

Fig. 2. AGUS, favor neoplastic (adenocarcinoma in situ); sheet and acini with nuclear overlapping and palisading of atypical endocervical cells having hyperchromatic elongated nuclei (400x).

Table 1. Main presenting symptoms

Symptoms	No. of cases(%)
Abnormal vaginal bleeding	81(24.8)
Low abdominal pain	21(6.4)
Infertility	19(5.8)
Uterine myoma	18(5.5)
Abnormal cytology at local clinics	11(3.4)
Leukorrhea	8(2.5)
Menopausal symptoms	6(1.8)
Others	11(3.4)
Non specific symptoms	151(46.3)
Total	326(100.0)

Table 2. Gross findings of the cervix

Gross findings	No. of cases(%)
Normal	210(64.4)
Mild Erosion	37(11.3)
Moderate Erosion	41(12.6)
Severe Erosion	17(5.2)
Polyp	15(4.6)
Myoma	4(1.2)
Cancer	2(0.6)
Total	326(100.0)

6.

30 , , 8 , 21 , 14 1 , 3 , 2 , 5 .

AGUS

14 , 33.8

2 ,

1 , 1 , 1 , (tubal

metaplasia) 1 가

1 6
AGUS가 1 , 5 25
5 ,
4 4 , 6 4 , 8 1 ,
14 1 AGUS가 .
4 6 3 가 AGUS
, 3 7
1 AGUS
AGUS
Arias-Stella 1
(endocervical polyp), 1
(microglandular hyperplasia), 1
(carcinoma in situ) .
3

2 .
3 3 , 11 ,
5 AGUS가
, .
1 1
9 AGUS가

AGUS가

7.
6 ,
(atypical squamous metaplasia) 5 ,
2 , 2 ,
3 , 11 , 9 ,
10 , 4 , 1 ,
1 (Table 3).

8.

67 25% .

9.

1)

(LSIL) 4 , (HSIL) 24 , / (glandular atypia/dysplasia) 8 , 5 , 3 , 4 (Table 4).

Table 3. Benign lesions of AGUS patients

Benign lesions	No. of cases(%)
Microglandular hyperplasia of the cervix	6(2.2)
Atypical squamous metaplasia of the cervix	5(1.9)
Tubal metaplasia of the cervix	2(0.7)
Cervical endometriosis	2(0.7)
Cervical myoma	3(1.1)
Cervical polyp	11(4.1)
Endometrial polyp	9(3.4)
Uterine myoma	10(3.7)
Adenomyosis of the uterus	4(1.5)
Ovarian endometrioma	1(0.4)
Pelvic endometriosis	1(0.4)
Total	54/268(20.1)

Table 4. Abnormal findings of the cervix of AGUS patients

Abnormal findings of the cervix	No. of cases(%)
LSIL	4(1.5)
HSIL	24(9.0)
Glandular atypia/dysplasia	8(3.0)
Adenocarcinoma in situ	5(1.9)
Microinvasive Adenocarcinoma	3(1.1)
Invasive adenocarcinoma	4(1.5)
Total	48/268(17.9)

2)

6 , 11 , Malignant Mixed Mullerian Tumor 1 , 1 (Table 5).

Table 5. Abnormal findings of the endometrium of AGUS patients

Abnormal findings of the endometrium	No. of cases(%)
Endometrial hyperplasia	6(2.2)
Endometrial adenocarcinoma	11(4.1)
MMMT*	1(0.4)
Metastatic adenocarcinoma	1(0.4)

*MMMT: Malignant Mixed Mullerian Tumor

10. 3.1%(3/98), 28.4%(31/109), 63.6% (35/55), 29.7% (19/64) .

Table 6. Difference of the results of repeated pap smear and tissue biopsy in AGUS patients

Repeated Pap	Tissue Biopsy
Normal	HSIL(colposcopic directed biopsy)
Normal	Microinvasive adenocarcinoma(cone biopsy)
Normal	Hyperplasia(D&C)
ASCUS	Adenocarcinoma(D&C)
ASCUS	HSIL(colposcopic directed biopsy)
ASCUS	HSIL(cone biopsy)
AGUS	Adenocarcinoma(D&C)
AGUS	LSIL(colposcopic directed biopsy)

	AGUS
Normal	3
ASCUS	3
1	2
AGUS	2
1	1

(Table 6).

3.1% , 28.4%, 63.6% 가 2 test P=0.00 가 P=0.00

Atypical Glandular Cells of Undetermined Significance (AGUS)

가 11
 (3.4%), 8 (2.5%), 6 (1.8%),
 가 ,
 11 (3.4%) 가 151
 (46.3%)
 AGUS
 TBS
 가 가
 .14)
 가 (75.7%)
 Lee 15)
 9 (atypical
 1991 TBS glandular cells)
 ASCUS AGUS
 가 CIN
 CIN
 AGUS ASCUS ,
 712) 0.18 0.74% AGUS가 ,
 0.08% 가 가 AGUS
 가 30 가
 가 AGUS 1
 85 , 44 ,713) 33.8 2 ,
 1 5 , 13) 24.3% 1 , 1 ,
 15 Hormone 1 , 2 ,
 .10 1 가 . 3 (10%)
 22 79 가
 43 . 30 40 Lee
 68.1% . 0 가 AGUS가
 16 4.4 . 0 AGUS
 9 2.5 ,
 71.8%
 Ferris 14) Arias-Stella16) Schneider17)
 AGUS 1
 ,
 (Arias-Stella reaction)가 ,
 81 (24.8%) Rhatigan 18) Arias-Stella
 가 , 가
 가 21 (6.4%) , 19 (5.8%), (Microglandular hy-
 18 (5.5%) . perplasia, Tubal metaplasia, Hyperplastic mesonephric

rests, reactive glandular atypia, glandular dysplasia, AIS, Adenoma Malignum, clear cell adenocarcinoma)

3 3 , 11 AGUS가

AGUS 8
 1 Arias-Stella Ueki 19
 laser conization tissue 11 AGUS가
 repair(TR) 가 , 8 AGUS가
 TR AGUS가
 8 가 가
 Kennedy 10) AGUS
 AGUS가 4 3 Arias-Stella
 ,3,16,18,20,25)

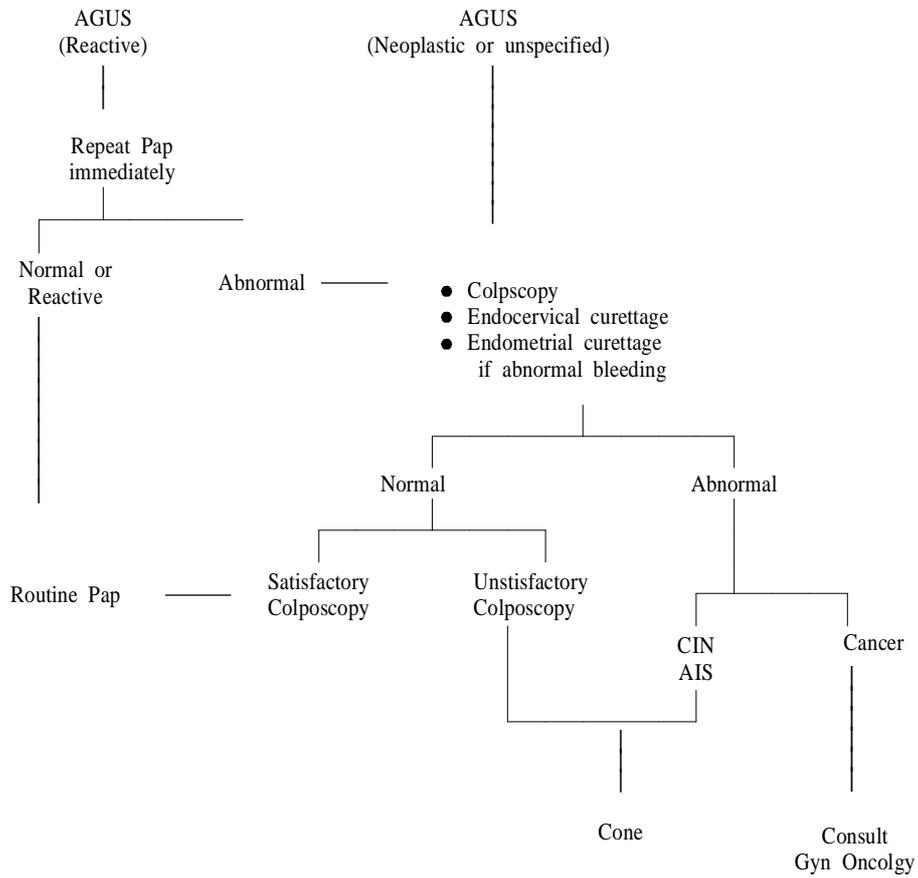


Fig. 4. Algorithm For Management of AGUS.

Luesley 39
 ndular dysplasia 1/3
 Kennedy 10) AGUS

2022) 6 ,
 2 , 5 , 4 2
 2 , 3 , 11 AIS, 1 , 1
 , 9 , 10 , 4
 4 , 1 , AGUS
 1 가
 AGUS ASCUS 3.1%,
 28.4%, 63.6% 가
 가 , 7,137-33) AGUS , 29.7%
 20 98.4% , 2test
 LSIL, HSIL, ,
 AGUS P=0.000
 12 46% 가
 AGUS 가
 AGUS 40 P=0.000
 68% HSIL 가
 AGUS
 LSIL 4 , HSIL 24 , AGUS가
 / 8 , 5 ,
 3 , 4 가
 6 , 11 , 가
 Malignant Mixed Mullerian Tumor 1 , 가
 1 가 Adenocarcinoma in situ
 AGUS 268
 67 25%
 Ferris 14) AGUS
 가
 AGUS
 가 6 가 2
 가 AGUS
 AIS
 AGUS 50% CIN

unsatisfactory
satisfactory 가
6
CIN AIS
plastic unspecified AGUS

unsatisfactory
satisfactory 가 6
, CIN AIS

AGUS

AGUS

가

AGUS

가

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