Pediatric Autoimmune Central Nervous System Demyelinating Disease Diagnostic Algorithm

Clinical presentation suspicious of central nervous system (CNS) demyelinating disease: Perform magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

MRI: Normal or reveals changes suggestive of acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM), bilateral or unilateral encephalitis, or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) reveals inflammation

MRI of head, spine: Abnormal, consistent with other CNS demyelination or CSF reveals inflammation

MRI of head, orbit: Abnormal, consistent with optic neuritis

Pediatric optic neuritis

Order CDS1 / CNS Demyelinating Disease Evaluation, Serum

Order both PCDEC / Pediatric Autoimmune Encephalopathy / CNS Disorder Evaluation, Spinal Fluid AND PCDES / Pediatric Autoimmune Encephalopathy / CNS Disorder Evaluation, Serum

Pediatric encephalitis including ADEM or unilateral encephalitis

Consider CDS1 evaluation
If coexisting encephalitis, seizures, ataxia, movement disorder or atypical demyelination exists, consider ordering both PCDEC and PCDES

Red flags for alternative diagnoses or MS?

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