Understanding Medications

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Impact of Cortisone on Myositis

- Changed the mortality form over 50% to less than 10%
- Steroid therapy may prove curative to 50%
- Corticosteroids are the first agents used to treat the IIMs.
Controlled Trials

- Azathioprine + Prednisone
  - Bunch, 1981, 20 patients
- Plasma and leukophoresis
  - Miller, 1992, 39 (26) patients
- IV immune globulin
  - Dalakas, 1993, 15 patients
- Methotrexate/azathioprine – IV methotrexate
  - Villalba, 1997, 30 patients
- Infliximab, 2008, 16 patients
  - Miller
Other agents used to treat IIM

- Methotrexate
- Azathioprine
- Cyclophosphamide
- Chlorambucil
- Etanercept
- Infliximab
- Intravenous immune globulin

- Mycophenolate
- Plasmapheresis
- Retuximab
- Tacrolimus
- Cyclosporine