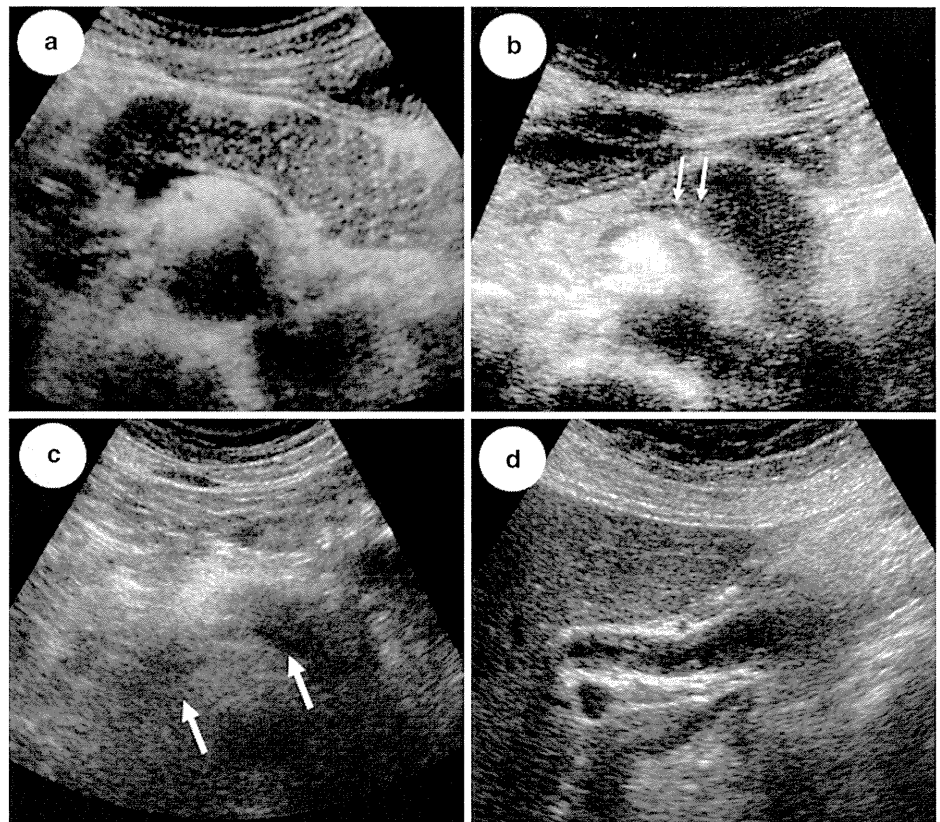


Fig. 1 Abdominal ultrasonography in AIP.
a Diffuse type: a diffusely enlarged pancreas appears as a low-echo area with high echogenic spots and has a so-called “sausage-like” appearance.
b Tumor forming type: The main duct (*arrows*) is found to penetrate through the mass (duct-penetrating sign) in the case of a locally enlarged pancreas with a clear margin.
c Multiple mass forming type: low echoic masses are observed in the pancreas head and body (*arrows*) and normal parenchyma is seen in the interstitial segment of these masses.
d IgG4-related sclerosing cholangitis: moderately homogenous low-echoic wall thickness is observed in the upper and middle bile duct



is seen in most cases. The enlarged area shows a low echo image, in some cases with scattered high echo spots [44, 45]. A segmentally/focally enlarged pancreas must be distinguished from pancreatic cancer or mass-forming pancreatitis through a differential diagnosis. Although dilatation of the main pancreatic duct is not seen in most cases, some patients may show minor dilation, which makes the differential diagnosis difficult. Conversely, if the main duct is found to penetrate through the mass (Fig. 1b), duct penetration may be a useful sign to rule out pancreatic cancer [46]. In some cases, there may be many low echo mass images in the pancreatic parenchyma (Fig. 1c), which makes it difficult to differentiate AIP from malignant lymphoma or metastatic pancreatic tumors.

It has been reported that around 60 % of patients with AIP show a thickened bile duct wall [45] (Fig. 1d). A thickened bile duct wall is characterized by layered or parenchymal low echo wall thickening [47, 48]. There have been some cases where the thick wall centered around the extrahepatic bile duct extends over to the intrahepatic bile duct or gallbladder [47]. The wall thickening has been studied in detail with intraductal ultrasonography (IDUS) [45, 48]. Although wall thickening of narrowed areas is not clearly visible in US, since areas other than the narrowed area show thickening of the internal low-echo layer while

maintaining the high-echo image for the outer area, it is assumed that the thickening is happening on the bile duct wall itself [49].

Some recent reports have discussed the usefulness of contrast-enhanced ultrasonography in the diagnosis to differentiate AIP from pancreatic cancer [50–52]. Reports have shown that while in the case of pancreatic cancer, only the rim of the mass was stained with the presence of tumor vessels; in the case of AIP, the entire mass was stained without presence of tumor vessels. However, reports have also shown that for AIP, findings varied depending on the stage of the disease. The areas of stronger inflammation and immature fibrosis were stained strongly, whereas the areas of weaker inflammation and older fibrosis were stained weakly [52].

CQ-I-7. What are the characteristic findings of abdominal computed tomography (CT)?

- Abdominal CT images of patients with AIP show a diffusely or locally enlarged pancreas. The dynamic CT shows a distinctive delayed enhancement pattern with various images depending on the activity or stage of the disease. (Level of recommendation: A).
- If a capsule-like rim is observed, the patient is highly suspected of having AIP. (Level of recommendation: A).

Description Typical AIP exhibits a diffusely enlarged pancreas [3]. The pancreatic parenchyma is replaced by fibrosis, which causes a reduced enhancement effect during the “pancreatic parenchymal phase” and shows less absorption compared to a normal pancreas. Due to the delayed enhancement in the area of fibrosis, a certain level of enhancement is seen in the “portal phase” and the enhancement continues into the “delayed phase” where the enhancement becomes stronger than in a normal pancreas. Consequently, the dynamic CT enhancement pattern of AIP shows a slow and delayed enhancement pattern. However, because weak fibrosis shows an enhancement pattern similar to normal pancreas, even in the absence of delayed enhancement, the possibility of AIP cannot be ruled out [44].

A “capsule-like rim” is a relatively distinctive CT feature of AIP (Fig. 2a, b) [44, 53]. It is a band-like structure that appears to surround all or part of the lesions; it shows lower absorption than pancreatic parenchyma of the lesion during the pancreatic parenchymal phase, and a

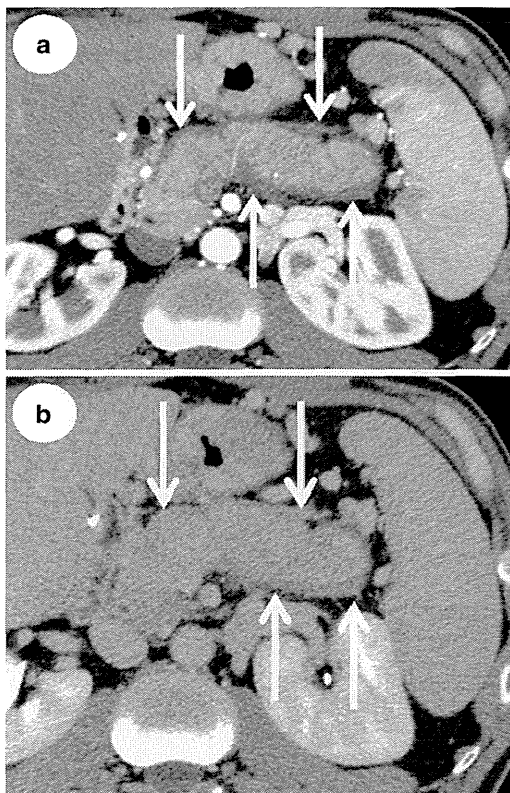


Fig. 2 Abdominal CT in AIP. **a** Parenchymal phase: The pancreatic parenchyma shows irregularly reduced enhancement. The marginal zone of the pancreas shows capsule-like rim with more reduced enhancement (arrows). **b** Delayed phase: the enhancement in the parenchyma and capsule-like rim become stronger in the delayed phase (arrows)

delayed enhancement pattern with dynamic CT [44, 53]. While these findings may indicate fibrosis of the rim of the lesion, the frequency of such findings varies depending on the report [53, 54]. This finding, however, is specific to AIP and is not seen in any other diseases. If a capsule-like rim is observed, the chance of the patient having AIP is high. A locally enlarged pancreas is an especially useful sign to distinguish AIP from pancreatic cancer [44, 53]. (Refer to CQ-III-3) Although an actual positive rate of capsule-like rim in AIP on CT images remains unclear because of few reports, a recent single study suggested 48 % [55].

AIP exhibits many different CT images. Many AIP patients are elderly. Because their pancreases are atrophied to begin with, a pancreas enlarged from AIP is not clearly seen. In some cases, the pancreatic enlargement is verified only after steroid treatment by comparing the size before and after the treatment. There are cases where no abnormality other than a minor diffusely enlarged pancreas is found, partial dilatation of the main duct is pronounced, cystic lesions that appear to be pseudocysts are involved, or the pancreatic parenchyma shows obvious calcification. It must be realized that the absence of typical CT images cannot be the reason to exclude AIP from consideration [44, 53]. A recent study reported that pancreatic volumetric perfusion was attenuated in AIP patients, and improved after the steroid treatment. This suggested that the perfusion CT may be useful in evaluating therapeutic effects [56].

CQ-I-8. Can magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) evaluate narrowing of the main pancreatic duct in AIP?

- MRI images of AIP show a diffusely enlarged pancreas with distinctive characteristics, such as a low signal on T1-weighted images and a delayed enhancement pattern on dynamic MRI images. (Level of recommendation: A).
- A “capsule-like rim” reflects strong fibrosis of the peripancreatic lesion, which is highly specific for AIP. (Level of recommendation: A).
- At this moment, MRCP is not recommended for the accurate evaluation of the narrowing of the main pancreatic duct. (Level of recommendation: B).

Description Like other image examinations, MR images show a diffusely or locally enlarged pancreas in cases of AIP [3]. The basic MR images used to examine AIP are T1-weighted images, T2-weighted images, and dynamic MRI; AIP lesions show a low signal on T1-weighted images. A normal pancreas shows a higher signal than the liver on T1-weighted images; therefore, a pancreas showing a lower signal than the liver is judged to be abnormal. However, since a low signal is also seen in pancreatic

cancer or normal chronic pancreatitis, it is not a characteristic finding of AIP [44, 53]. The T2-weighted images may show a slightly lower signal in strong fibrosis and a slightly stronger signal in weak fibrosis [44, 53]. Meanwhile, the dynamic MR image shows a delayed enhancement pattern, as seen in the dynamic CT [44, 53]. (Refer to CQ-I-7).

Because a capsule-like rim is observed in MRI in about 36 % of patients with AIP [57], its presence can be used as a supplementary diagnostic tool for the disease. The capsule-like rim is extracted as a low signal on T2-weighted images reflecting strong fibrosis. Dynamic MR images show a delayed enhancement pattern [53, 54].

Although MRCP is useful in evaluating the narrowing of the main pancreatic duct in cases of multiple stenosis (skipped lesions), unremarkably dilated upper stream, or steroidal improvement, it is currently difficult to use MRCP images for the diagnosis of AIP [3]. However, recent significant progress in MRI technology has made it possible to extract images of the normal main pancreatic duct by 3-D MRCP without fail. Therefore, if the main pancreatic duct is not extracted by 3-D MRCP, it may be an indication of prominent stenosis. Since further image quality improvement can be expected for MRCP with the introduction of 3-Stela MRI technology, it is possible that MRCP will be used to evaluate the therapeutic effect or

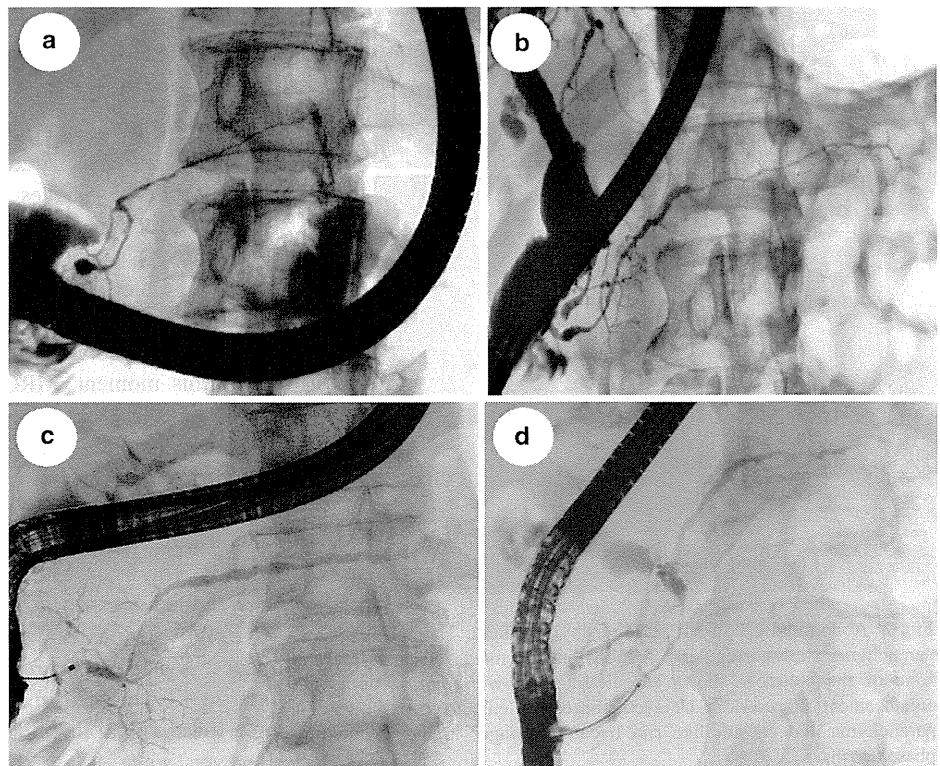
monitor the progress of AIP in the future [44, 53]. Recently, diffusion-weighted MRI (DWI) has been reported to be useful for detecting AIP by distinguishing it from pancreatic cancer, and for evaluating the effect of steroid therapy [58–60].

CQ-I-9. What are the characteristic findings of positron emission tomography (PET) and gallium-scintigram in AIP?

- Patients with AIP show accumulation of gallium citrate (Ga-67) and fluorine-18 fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) in pancreatic and extra-pancreatic lesions, which disappears shortly after steroid treatment. The characteristic accumulation pattern and kinetics following the steroid treatment can be used for the diagnosis of the disease. (Level of recommendation: B).

Description Gallium scintigraphy shows accumulation of Ga-67 in localized pancreatic lesions in patients with AIP. Previously, some such cases were diagnosed as pancreatic malignant lymphoma [61]. The accumulation of Ga-67 is found not only in pancreatic lesions but also in extra-pancreatic lesions such as in the hilar lymph nodes, lacrimal gland, or salivary gland. The accumulation is found in about 70 % of pancreatic lesions and hilar lymph nodes, and about 20 % of lacrimal/salivary glands. The

Fig. 3 Pancreatogram in AIP. **a** Diffuse type: diffusely irregular narrowing of the main pancreatic duct is seen from the pancreas head to tail. **b** Segmental type: irregular narrowing of the main pancreatic duct is seen from the pancreas body to tail. **c** Focal type: irregular narrowing of the main pancreatic duct is seen in the pancreas head without dilation of upperstream. **d** Multiple narrowing type: discontinuous and multiple narrowing of the main pancreatic duct (skip lesions) are seen in the pancreatic head and body



accumulation reflects high disease activity and disappears quickly after steroid treatment [62]. Therefore, the distribution of Ga-67 accumulation and the kinetics after steroid treatment can be used for the diagnosis of AIP.

FDG-PET (fluorine-18 fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography) is useful for the diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. However, high accumulation of FDG (90 % or higher) is also observed in patients with AIP. In these cases, the accumulation corresponds to the prominent inflammatory cell infiltration areas [63–66]. FDG also accumulates in extra-pancreatic lesions such as in the salivary gland, a wide range of lymph node lesions, retroperitoneal fibrosis, and the prostate gland [67–69]. Accumulated FDG in pancreatic or extra-pancreatic areas disappears quickly after steroid treatment [66]. The following two criteria are useful in distinguishing AIP from pancreatic cancer: extensive or multiple

accumulations of FDG in the pancreas, or distinctive accumulation in extra-pancreatic lesions in the salivary gland, retroperitoneal fibrosis, or prostate gland [66, 67]. Although the disappearance of FDG following steroid treatment is reported to be used as a criterion to distinguish AIP from pancreatic cancer [70], a facile steroid trial should be carefully performed after a negative work-up of malignancy, because a follow-up study of FDG-PET is not supported by Japanese medical insurance.

CQ-I-10. What are the characteristic findings of endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) in AIP?

- ERCP shows narrowing of the main pancreatic duct characteristic of AIP. (Level of recommendation: A).
- AIP may be associated with stenosis of the bile duct. (Level of recommendation: A).

Fig. 4 Histopathological and Immunohistochemical findings in AIP (LPSP:

Lymphoplasmacytic sclerosing pancreatitis): **a** fibrosis, prominent infiltration of lymphocytes and plasmacytes (LPSP) are seen. **b**. Numerous IgG4-positive cells in LPSP are seen. **c** Storiform fibrosis. An irregularly whorled pattern of fibrosis (storiform fibrosis) with various degrees of infiltration of inflammatory cells, small fusiform cells and fibrotic changes is observed. **d** Obliterative phlebitis. Stenosis or obstruction of vessels with infiltration of lymphocytes and plasmacytes, and fibrosis is seen. **e** Circumferential inflammation of LPSP around duct epithelium with stenotic lumen

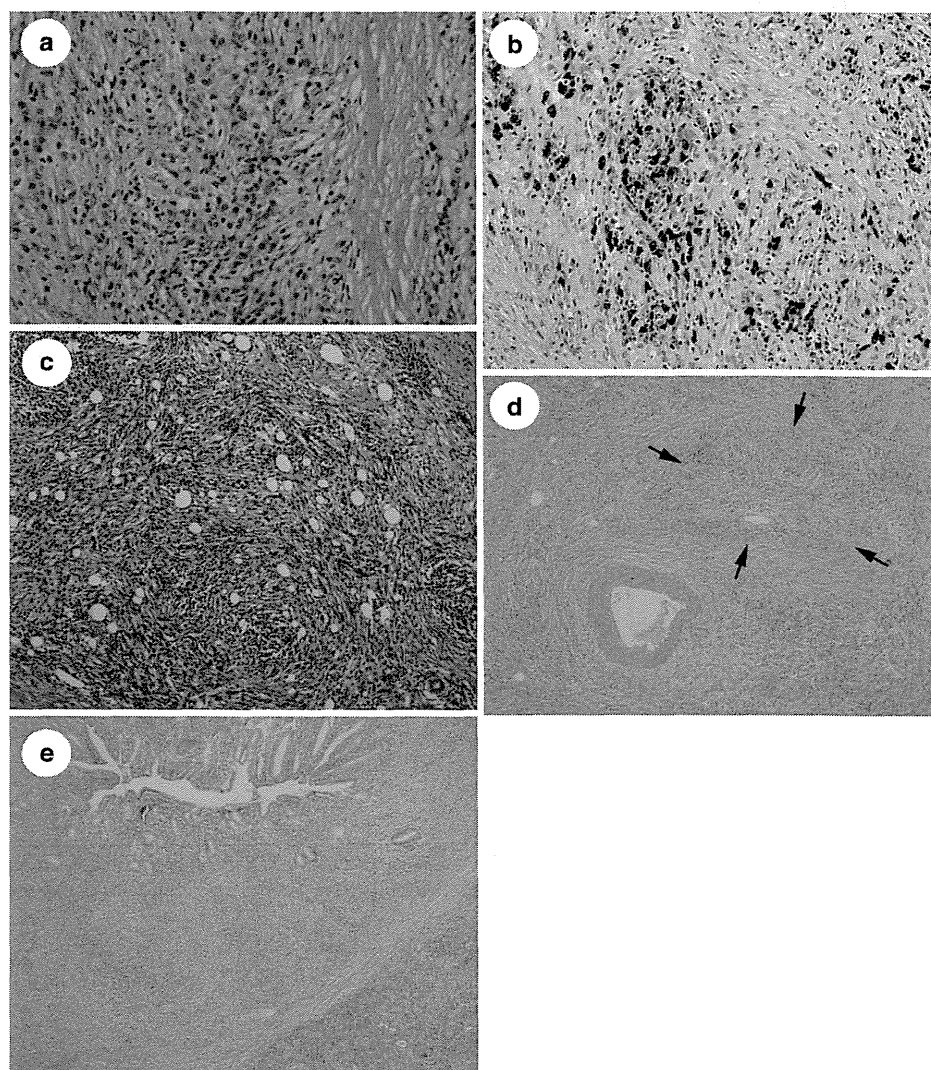


Table 3 Clinical diagnostic criteria for autoimmune pancreatitis 2011

A. Diagnostic criterion	
I. Enlargement of the pancreas:	
a. Diffuse enlargement	
b. Segmental/focal enlargement	
II. ERP (endoscopic retrograde pancreatography) shows irregular narrowing of the main pancreatic duct	
III. Serological findings	
Elevated levels of serum IgG4 (≥ 135 mg/dl)	
IV. Pathological findings: among i)–iv) listed below,	
a. Three or more are observed	
b. Two are observed	
i) Prominent infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes and plasmacytes	
ii) Ten or more diffuse IgG4-positive plasmacytes per high-power microscope field	
iii) Storiform fibrosis	
iv) Obliterative phlebitis	
V. Other organ involvement (OOI): sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis, retroperitoneal fibrosis	
a. Clinical lesions	
Extra-pancreatic sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis (Mikulicz disease), or retroperitoneal fibrosis can be diagnosed with clinical and image findings	
b. Pathological lesions	
Pathological examination shows characteristic features of sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis, or retroperitoneal fibrosis	
<Option> Effectiveness of steroid therapy	
A specialized facility may include in its diagnosis the effectiveness of steroid therapy, once pancreatic or bile duct cancers have been ruled out. When it is difficult to differentiate from malignant conditions, it is desirable to perform cytological examination using an endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration (EUS-FNA). Facile therapeutic diagnosis by steroids should be avoided unless the possibility of malignant tumor has been ruled out by pathological diagnosis	
B. Diagnosis	
I. Definite diagnosis	
① Diffuse type	I a + <III/IVb/V(a/b)>
② Segmental/focal type	I b + II + two or more of < III/IV b/V (a/b) > I b + II + < III/IV b/V (a/b) > + Option
③ Definite diagnosis by histopathological study	IV a
II. Probable diagnosis	
Segmental/focal type:	I b+ II + < III/IV b/V (a/b) >
III. Possible diagnosis*	
Diffuse type:	I a + II + Option
Segmental/focal type:	I b + II + Option

When a patient with a focal/segmental image of AIP on CT/MRI without ERCP findings fulfill more than one of III, IVb and V(a/b) criteria, he/she can be diagnosed as possible AIP only after the negative workup for malignancy by EUS-FNA, and confirmed as probable one by an optional steroid response

Possible diagnosis*: A case may be possibly type 2, although it is extremely rare in Japan

“+” refers to “and”, and “/” refers to “or”

Table 4 Diagnosis of definitive and probable type 1 AIP using ICDC

Diagnosis	Primary basis for diagnosis	Imaging evidence	Collateral evidence
Definitive type 1 AIP	Histology	Typical/indeterminate	Histologically confirmed LPSP (level 1 H)
	Imaging	Typical	Any non-D level 1/level 2
		Indeterminate	Two or more from level 1 (+level 2 D*)
	Response to steroid	Indeterminate	Level 1 S/OOI + Rt or level 1 D + level 2 S/OOI/H + Rt
Probable type 1 AIP		Indeterminate	Level 2 S/OOI/H + Rt

*Level 2D is counted as level 1 in this setting

Table 5 Level 1 and Level 2 criteria for type 1 AIP

Criterion	Level 1	Level 2
P Parenchymal imaging	Typical: Diffuse enlargement with delayed enhancement (sometimes associated with rim-like enhancement)	Indeterminate (including atypical [†]): Segmental/focal enlargement with delayed enhancement
D Ductal imaging (ERP)	Long (>1/3 length of the main pancreatic duct) or multiple strictures without marked upstream dilatation	Segmental/focal narrowing without marked upstream dilatation (duct size, <5 mm)
S Serology	IgG4, >2 × upper limit of normal value	IgG4, 1 – 2 × upper limit of normal value
OOI Other organ involvement	a or b a. Histology of extrapancreatic organs Any three of the following: (1) Marked lymphoplasmacytic infiltration with fibrosis and without granulocytic infiltration (2) Storiform fibrosis (3) Obliterative phlebitis (4) Abundant (>10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells b. Typical radiological evidence At least one of the following: (1) Segmental/multiple proximal (hilar/intrahepatic) or proximal and distal bile duct stricture (2) Retroperitoneal fibrosis	a or b a. Histology of extrapancreatic organs including endoscopic biopsies of bile duct [‡] : Both of the following: (1) Marked lymphoplasmacytic infiltration without granulocytic infiltration (2) Abundant (>10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells b. Physical or radiological evidence At least one of the following: (1) Symmetrically enlarged salivary/lachrymal glands (2) Radiological evidence of renal involvement described in association with AIP
H Histology of the pancreas	LPSP (core biopsy/resection) At least 3 of the following: (1) Periductal lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate without granulocytic infiltration (2) Obliterative phlebitis (3) Storiform fibrosis (4) Abundant (>10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells	LPSP (core biopsy) Any 2 of the following: (1) Periductal lymphoplasmacytic infiltrate without granulocytic infiltration (2) Obliterative phlebitis (3) Storiform fibrosis (4) Abundant (>10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells
Response to steroid (Rt)*		Diagnostic steroid trial Rapid (≤2 weeks) radiologically demonstrable resolution or marked improvement in pancreatic/extrapancreatic manifestations

*Diagnostic steroid trial should be conducted carefully by pancreatologists with caveats (see text) only after negative workup for cancer including endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration

[†] Atypical: Some AIP cases may show low-density mass, pancreatic ductal dilatation, or distal atrophy. Such atypical imaging findings in patients with obstructive jaundice and/or pancreatic mass are highly suggestive of pancreatic cancer. Such patients should be managed as pancreatic cancer unless there is strong collateral evidence for AIP, and a thorough workup for cancer is negative (see algorithm)

[‡] Endoscopic biopsy of duodenal papilla is a useful adjunctive method because ampulla often is involved pathologically in AIP

Description ERCP shows narrowing of the main pancreatic duct, which is characteristic of AIP. This finding is used as the basis for diagnosis [1]. Narrowing of the

pancreatic duct is usually diagnosed from ERCP images. The narrowing of the pancreatic duct is “unlike the obstruction or stenosis, as the narrowing extends to certain

degree and the duct diameter is smaller (narrower) than normal, with some irregularities” [1, 71] (Fig. 3a).

The Clinical Diagnostic Criteria of Autoimmune Pancreatitis 2011 (JPS-2011) states that diagnosis of the disease requires pancreatic images showing “the distinctive narrowing of the main pancreatic duct”, where the narrowing may be diffuse or local. The range of narrowing varies. The typical case exhibits narrowing over one third of the entire pancreatic duct (Fig. 3b). Even when the narrowing is localized to less than one third of the entire duct, in most cases no significant dilatation is observed above the narrowed area upstream of the main duct [72–75] (Fig. 3c).

There are, however, other cases where the narrowing is localized to less than one third, or the lesions are multiple-stenotic (skip lesions) (Fig. 3d) [73, 74]. If the narrowing is localized, it is necessary to consider differentiating the disease from pancreatic cancer [4, 75, 76]. Typical pancreatic duct features of AIP visible in ERCP images, such as side branch arising from narrowed portion or multiple stenosis of the main pancreatic duct, are useful for

differential diagnosis from pancreatic cancer. Short narrowing images of the main pancreatic duct less than 3 cm are impossible [4, 75, 76].

About 80 % of patients with AIP show stenosis of the bile duct [77–81]. Although most of the stenosis is found in the lower bile duct, it can also be detected in the extra-hepatic or intra-hepatic bile ducts [77–81].

CQ-I-11. What are the characteristic histopathological findings in AIP?

- As histopathological findings of type 1 AIP are characteristic, typical ones can be diagnosed by themselves without clinical informations (Level of recommendation: A).
- Histopathological findings of AIP are characterized by fibrosis with strong lymphoplasmacytic infiltration, abundant infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes, storiform fibrosis, obliterative phlebitis, and periductal inflammation of inflammatory cells. (Level of recommendation: A).

Table 6 Diagnosis of Definitive and Probable Type 2 AIP, and AIP-not otherwise specified using ICDC

Diagnosis	Imaging evidence	Collateral evidence
Definitive type 2 AIP	Typical/ indeterminate	Histologically confirmed IDCP (level 1 H) or clinical inflammatory bowel disease + level 2 H + Rt
Probable type 2 AIP	Typical/ indeterminate	Level 2 H/clinical inflammatory bowel disease + Rt
AIP-not otherwise specified	Typical/ indeterminate	D 1/2 + Rt

Table 7 Level 1 and Level 2 Criteria for Type 2 AIP

Criterion	Level 1	Level 2
P Parenchymal imaging	Typical: Diffuse enlargement with delayed enhancement (sometimes associated with rim-like enhancement)	Indeterminate (including atypical [†]): Segmental/focal enlargement with delayed enhancement
D Ductal imaging (ERP)	Long (>1/3 length of the main pancreatic duct) or multiple strictures without marked upstream dilatation	Segmental/focal narrowing without marked upstream dilatation (duct size, <5 mm)
OOI Other organ involvement		Clinically diagnosed inflammatory bowel disease
H Histology of the pancreas (core biopsy/resection)	IDCP: Both of the following: (1) Granulocytic infiltration of duct wall (GEL) with or without granulocytic acinar inflammation (2) Absent or scant (0–10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells	Both of the following: (1) Granulocytic and lymphoplasmacytic acinar infiltrate (2) Absent or scant (0–10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells
Response to steroid (Rt)*		Diagnostic steroid trial Rapid (≤2 weeks) radiologically demonstrable resolution or marked improvement in manifestations

*Diagnostic steroid trial should be conducted carefully by pancreatologists with caveats (see text) only after negative workup for cancer including endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration

[†] Atypical: Some AIP cases may show low-density mass, pancreatic ductal dilatation, or distal atrophy. Such atypical imaging findings in patients with obstructive jaundice and/or pancreatic mass are highly suggestive of pancreatic cancer. Such patients should be managed as pancreatic cancer unless there is strong collateral evidence for AIP, and a thorough workup for cancer is negative (see algorithm)

- Histopathological findings of type 2 AIP are characterized by infiltration of granulocytes into the epithelium and lumen of the interlobular pancreatic duct. Infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes is rarely seen (Level of recommendation: A).

Description As histopathological findings of type 1 AIP called “lymphoplasmacytic sclerosing pancreatitis (LPSP) [21]” are characteristic, typical ones can be diagnosed by themselves without clinical information. The major histological findings are (i) prominent infiltration of lymphoplasmacytes without granulocytic infiltration and fibrosis (Fig. 4a); (ii) abundant (> 10 cells/HPF) IgG4-positive cells (Fig. 4b); (iii) storiform fibrosis (Fig. 4c); (iv) obliterative phlebitis (Fig. 4d); and (v) periductal infiltration of inflammatory cells (Fig. 4e); and the fibrosis associated with prominent infiltration of lymphocytes and plasmacytes [6–11, 82–86]. When three of the first four (i–iv) histologic items fulfil the Japanese clinical diagnostic criteria (JPS-2011) [10, 11] or three of the last four (ii–v) fulfil the ICDC [9], definitive diagnosis can be made based on histology alone.

Type 1 AIP is considered to be a pancreatic manifestation of IgG4-RD [17–20, 87–89]. Abundant infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes is characteristic, but not specific for

IgG4-RD. Because a few cases have been reported in which IgG4-positive plasmacytes appear in patients with pancreatic cancer or alcoholic pancreatitis, IgG4-positive plasmacytes cannot be used as the sole basis for the diagnosis of AIP [17–20, 87–89]. Therefore, histopathological findings as well as infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes are important in the diagnosis of IgG4-RD [17–20, 87–89].

The histopathological diagnosis of type 1 AIP is easy with a resected specimen, and difficult with a biopsy specimen. Although many investigators reported that diagnostic values by cytological or histological diagnosis using EUS-FNA are low, those by histological diagnosis using EUS-trucut biopsy are high [90–92]. However, a recent study suggested that histological diagnosis by EUS-FNA using 22G needles was useful [93].

Type 2 AIP is idiopathic pancreatitis. It is characterized by the infiltration of neutrophils into the epithelium and/or lumen of interlobular pancreatic ducts, and is referred to as either ICDP or AIP with GEL [22, 23, 82, 85]. To make a definitive diagnosis of type 2 AIP, histopathological criteria are the gold standard due to the lack of specific images and serum markers [9]. In some cases, however, a few IgG4-positive plasmacytes (more than 10 cells/HPF in rare cases) may be observed.

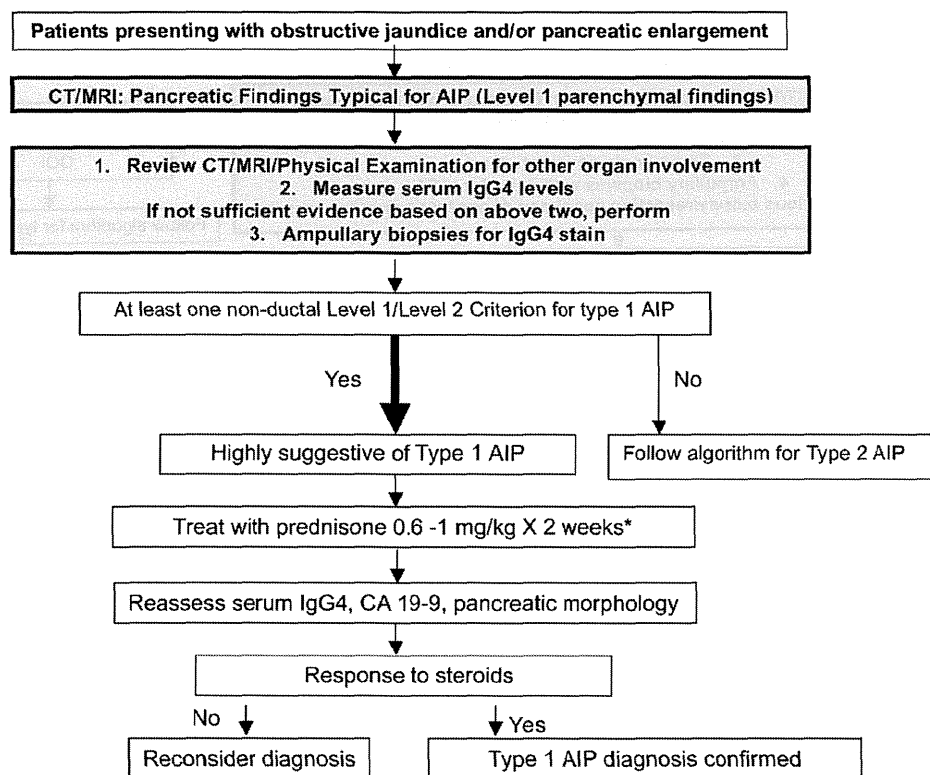


Fig. 5 Algorithm to diagnose type 1 AIP in subjects presenting with obstructive jaundice and/or pancreatic enlargement. This schematic drawing shows a flow to diagnose type 1 AIP with typical diffuse enlargement of the pancreas on CT/MRI (level 1 parenchymal findings)

CQ-I-12. How should AIP be diagnosed?

- A comprehensive diagnosis must be performed based on pancreatic image findings, serological findings, histopathological findings, other organ involvement, and steroid treatment effects. (Level of recommendation: A).
- The international consensus diagnostic criteria (ICDC) for AIP can differentiate between type 1 and type 2. (Level of recommendation: A).
- In Japan, most AIP cases are type 1, as defined by the Japanese Clinical Diagnostic Criteria 2011 (JPS-2011). (Level of recommendation: A).

Description The Japan Pancreas Society took the initiative to propose the world's first clinical diagnostic criteria for AIP in 2002 [3]. The criteria were revised in 2006 by the joint efforts of the Japan Pancreas Society and the Research Committee for Intractable Pancreas Disease supported by the Ministry of Health and Welfare of Japan (RCIPD-MLHWJ) [4, 5]. The Japanese diagnostic criteria

were designed to be as simple as possible, to be easy for general physicians as well as pancreatologists to use. After a decade of international discussion about diagnostic criteria [94–96], the ICDC enabled the diagnosis of two distinctive subtypes of AIP, type 1 and type 2 AIP [9]. However, the ICDC is somewhat complicated for general use. Different from western countries, extremely few cases of type 2 AIP have been confirmed in Japan [6–8, 10, 11]. In response to the proposed ICDC, the JPS and RCIPD-MLHWJ revised the clinical diagnostic criteria for AIP in 2011 [10, 11] (Table 3, “Appendix 1”).

In contrast to the JPS2002 and JPS2006 criteria, JPS-2011 contains the following major diagnostic criteria [10, 11], (1) appearance of diffuse and segmental/focal type in pancreatic parenchymal CT/MRI images or ERCP duct images, (2) a single category without level 1 and 2 classifications in the ICDC (Table 4, 5, 6, 7), (3) IgG4 alone as a serum marker, (4) histopathological criteria for LPSP, (5) sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing sialoadenitis and retroperitoneal fibrosis as typical OOI, and (6)

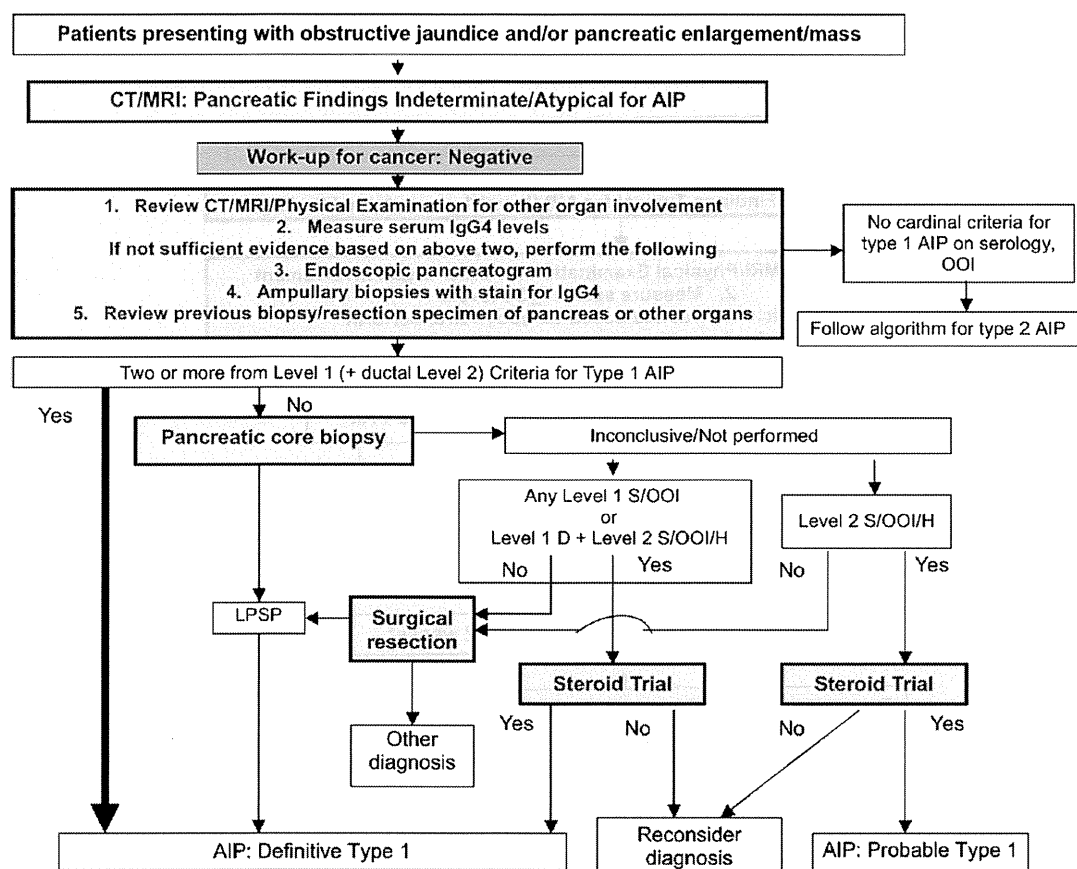


Fig. 6 Algorithm to diagnose type 1 AIP in subjects presenting with obstructive jaundice and/or pancreatic mass. This schematic drawing shows a flow to diagnose type 1 AIP with indeterminate or atypical findings of the pancreas on CT/MRI (level 2 parenchymal findings)

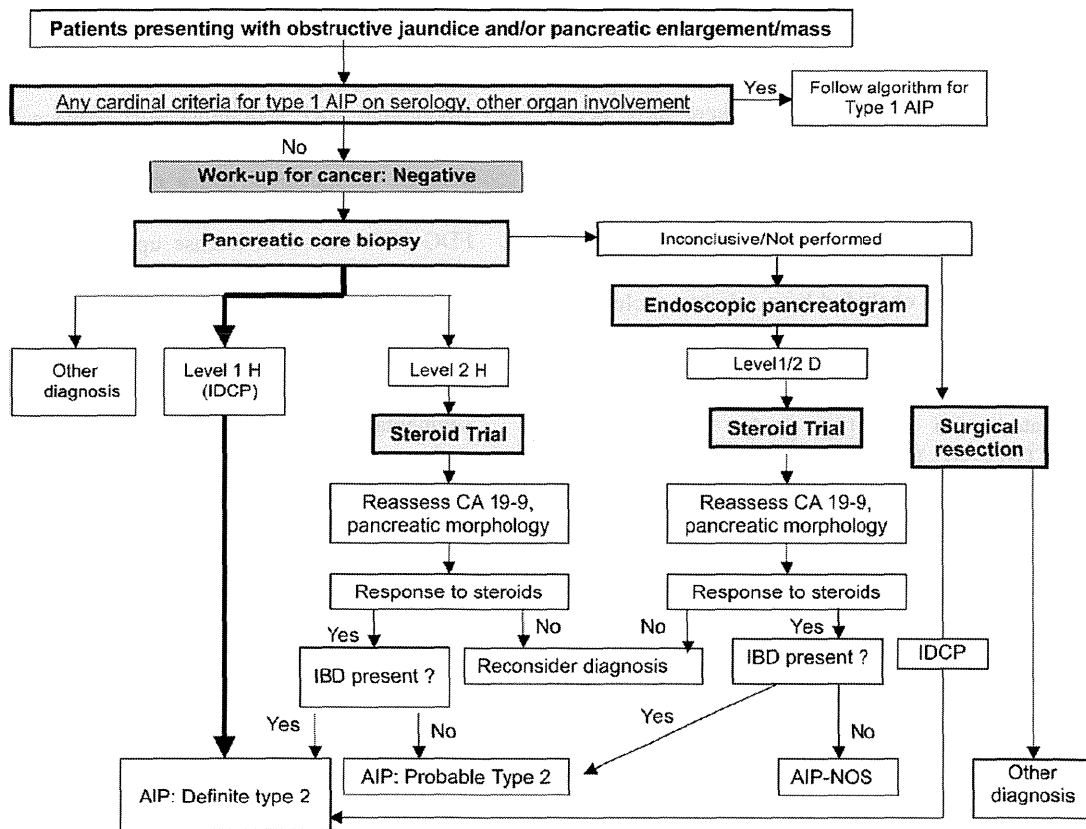


Fig. 7 Algorithm to diagnose type 2 AIP in subjects presenting with obstructive jaundice and/or pancreatic mass. This schematic drawing shows a flow to diagnose type 2 AIP with typical/indeterminate (atypical) findings of the pancreas on CT/MRI (level 1 and 2 parenchymal findings)

response to an optional steroid trial after using EUS-FNA to rule out malignancy. As in JPS-2006, the pancreatic images specific to AIP can be confirmed retrospectively after the diagnosis. Although some patients with pancreatic or biliary malignancy may show high serum levels of IgG4, measurement of serum IgG4 is very useful in the diagnosis of AIP because of higher sensitivity and values compared with other serum markers and malignancies, respectively. There are several reports showing that, if infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes is observed in the biopsy of the duodenal papillary mucosa, the chance of the patient having AIP is high [97, 98]. The inflammation of the duodenal papilla is mainly extended from the pancreas and is excluded from OOIs. Diagnostic algorithms for type 1 and type 2 proposed by the ICDC (Figs. 5, 6, 7) permitted modifications depending on the local expertise.

CQ-I-13. Is facile steroid therapy useful for a differential diagnosis against pancreatic cancer?

- Response to steroid treatment indicates possible AIP. However, response to steroid treatment does not exclude the possibility of the patient having pancreatic cancer. (Level of recommendation: B).

- In the cases of segmental/focal swelling or tumor-forming pancreas, facile steroid treatment should be performed only after a negative work-up for malignancy using ERCP or EUS-FNA cytology. (Level of recommendation: B).

In contrast the Mayo’s [94] and Korean [95] criteria, the effect of steroid treatment on the pancreas and OOIs are excluded from the Japanese diagnostic criteria. This decision is based on the following reasons: (1) autoimmune hepatitis is the only autoimmune disease that uses the effect of steroid treatment as a diagnostic criteria; (2) the clinical significance is different for the case of autoimmune hepatitis requiring differentiation from chronic hepatitis of other pathogenesis and the case of AIP requiring differentiation from pancreatic or bile duct cancer; (3) no evidence exists to show that the use of steroids does not affect the success of an operation or the long-term prognosis; (4) there is a danger that therapeutic diagnosis by steroid administration may be used as an easy solution to differentiate AIP from malignant tumors such as pancreatic cancer; (5) the standards were established for not only pancreas specialists but also general gastrointestinal internists and general

practitioners; (6) in Japan, the objective of the diagnostic criteria is not so much to find AIP but rather to eliminate the misdiagnosis of diseases with malignant tumors as often as possible; and (7) there have been reports of AIP associated with pancreatic cancer [3–5]. The ICDC [9] include response to steroid treatment following the Korean [95], and Asian criteria [96] in the criteria proposed jointly by Japan and South Korea in 2008. The JPS-2011 [10, 11] states that if the possibility of pancreatic cancer is excluded by a reliable exclusive-diagnosis using EUS-FNA or a similar test, the effect of steroid treatment may be used as diagnostic criteria. Meanwhile, there have been reports of pancreatic cancers associated with AIP [3]. (Refer to Treatment, Prognosis CQ-IV-10, 11.) If a patient responds to steroid treatment, it may suggest that he/she has AIP; however, since it does not exclude malignant tumors, such as pancreatic cancer or deny the association of pancreatic cancer, a simplistic diagnostic treatment must be avoided.

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Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Appendix 1: Explanations for the Japanese Clinical Diagnostic Criteria 2011 in Table 3

I. Enlarged pancreas

A diffusely enlarged pancreas with “sausage-like” appearance is highly specific to AIP. However, the problem is how to differentiate a segmentally/focally enlarged pancreas from pancreas cancer. For the definition of enlarged pancreas, many facilities use the criteria suggested by Haaga and consider the pancreas to be enlarged when “the width of the pancreatic head is more than one full transverse diameter of the vertebral body, and the width of the pancreatic tail is more than two-thirds of the transverse diameter of the vertebral body (which are approximately 3 and 2 cm for the pancreatic head and tail, respectively).” Precise definition is difficult due to age-related influences; it may be considered as an enlarged pancreas if steroid therapy reduces the pancreas size.

1. Abdominal ultrasound: an enlarged pancreas often shows a hypo-echoic area with scattered hyper-echoic spots in it.

2. Abdominal CT: dynamic CT shows delayed enhancement pattern and a capsule-like rim which are characteristic of AIP.
3. Abdominal MRI: abdominal MRI shows a low signal on a T1-weighted image, and dynamic MRI shows delayed enhancement and a capsule-like rim, which are characteristic of AIP.
4. FDG-PET: abnormal intense uptake is often seen in active lesions; the uptake is reduced after steroid treatment.

II. Narrowing of the main pancreatic duct: Diffuse or segmental/focal irregular narrowing is seen in the main pancreatic duct.

1. Narrowing is referred to as being unlike the obstruction or stenosis, it extends to a certain degree and the duct diameter is smaller than normal, with some irregularities. In a typical case, the narrowing extends over one third (5 cm) of the entire pancreatic duct; even when the lesion is segmental, no significant dilation is observed above the narrowed area upstream of the main duct. If the narrowing is short (less than about 3 cm), it is difficult to differentiate from pancreatic cancer. The presence of side branches arising from narrowed portions of the main pancreatic duct or multiple skip lesions in the main pancreatic duct are effective in differentiating from pancreatic cancer.
2. Examination of pancreatic duct images basically requires a direct pancreatography such as ERP. Currently, magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) cannot be used for accurate evaluation of the narrowing of the main pancreatic duct; however, it may be used as a reference diagnosis if the main pancreatic duct shows skip lesions.
3. The pancreatic image findings described above may be observed retrospectively from the time of diagnosis.

III. Hematological examination

1. Patients with AIP often show elevated levels of serum gammaglobulin, IgG, or IgG4 and autoantibodies; an elevated level of serum IgG (1800 mg/dl or higher) or IgG4 (135 mg/dl or higher) is one criterion for the diagnosis. Although the diagnostic criteria defined in this paper reference only IgG4, since elevated levels of IgG4 are also observed in other diseases, including IgG4-related diseases of other organs (e.g., atopic dermatitis, pemphigus, asthma), it is not necessarily specific to AIP. Serum IgG4 is the best serum marker for differentiating from pancreatic cancer in terms of both sensitivity and specificity. However, caution is advised since elevated levels are also observed in some pancreatic or bile-duct cancers, and there are cases of

pancreatic cancers associated with AIP. The significance of elevated serum IgG4 in the pathogenesis and pathophysiology of AIP is still not clear.

2. Autoantibodies such as antinuclear antibodies or rheumatoid factor become positive in some cases, from which AIP presence may be suspected.

IV. Pathological findings of the pancreas

AIP shows a specific pathological image, called LPSP, whose typical features are as follows:

1. Prominent infiltration of lymphocytes and plasmacytes, and fibrosis are observed. These are often accompanied by eosinophil infiltration, but without neutrophils infiltration in many cases. Lymphoid follicle formation may also be present. Inflammation is prominent in inter-lobules, intra-lobules, peripancreatic fatty tissues, and around the epithelial cells of the pancreatic duct, however, infiltration of inflammatory cells into the epithelium of the pancreatic duct is rare.
2. Prominent infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes is characteristic of this disease; resected pancreatic specimens show 50 or more positive plasmacytes per high-power microscope field (x400) in most cases. In order to make diagnosis possible for small needle biopsy specimens, the criterion of 10 or more per high-power microscope field has been adopted worldwide. Although this diagnostic criteria has also adopted that guideline, since there are inflammatory lesions or tumors other than AIP, which also meet this criteria, pathological findings are alone not sufficient for making a definite diagnosis.
3. Storiform fibrosis is a lesion comprised of inflammatory cell infiltration (lymphocytes, plasmacytes) and spindle-shaped cell hyperplasia, which presents complex cell arrangements characterized by the expression “storiform”, and associated with differing degrees of fibrosis. The storiform most often appears in the pancreatic rim and peripancreatic fat tissues.
4. Obliterative phlebitis is a finding where lesions caused by the infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes and plasmacytes in inter-lobules and peripancreatic fat tissues extend into a vein to cause venous stenosis or occlusion.

Either a resected or biopsied pancreatic specimen may be used for the diagnosis. EUS-FNA cytological examination is extremely effective in differentiating AIP from malignant tumors, but is not effective in diagnosing AIP. EUS-FNA biopsy examination does not provide a definite diagnosis of AIP in most cases, since the amount of specimen is insufficient. EUS-core biopsy is reported to be effective in AIP diagnosis. Diagnosis of AIP using biopsied

specimens requires caution, since pancreatic cancer also shows a large number of IgG4-positive plasmacytes in and around the pancreas in some cases, and pathological findings similar to LPSP in some isolated cases.

[Notes] Type 2 AIP (IDCP)

IDCP is a pancreatitis of unknown cause, which is characterized by the infiltration of neutrophils into the lumen or epithelium of the interlobular pancreatic duct. As in the case of LPSP, clinical differentiation from pancreatic cancer becomes an issue. Because of its similarity to LPSP in being associated with the infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes/plasmacytes around the pancreatic epithelium, IDCP was once thought to be in the same category as LPSP. Currently, IDCP cannot be diagnosed by images or clinical findings, but requires histopathological examinations. In addition, while resected or necropsied specimens of pancreas are large enough for a definite diagnosis, biopsied specimens are so small that a definite diagnosis is difficult in many cases. If typical pancreatic images of AIP are shown without abnormal hematological evidence, the disease could be either type 1 or type 2. Some of type 2 AIP present clinical symptoms or image findings similar to those of pancreatic cancer, which makes it extremely difficult to differentiate type 2 AIP from pancreatic cancer.

V. Other organ involvement: OOI

1. Other organ involvement (OOI) observed in AIP refers to the IgG4 related lesions associated with type 1.
2. Other organs reported to be affected include the central nervous system, lacrimal/salivary glands, thyroid glands, lungs, biliary duct, liver, gastrointestinal tracts, gallbladder, kidneys, prostate glands, retroperitoneum, and lymph nodes. In the lymph nodes and lacrimal glands, however, fibrosis is scarce; not all of these organs have established concepts of their lesions. If the following conditions are met, there may be a close relation with AIP, although no clear basis is available.
 - 1) Investigations/reports of many cases show association with AIP.
 - 2) Histopathological findings feature the infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes, obliterative phlebitis, and the infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes into segmental lesions.
 - 3) Steroid therapy is effective; or, the onset and offset of the effect synchronizes between pancreatic lesions and the lesions in question.
 - 4) There are clear points that differentiate from diseases of each organ.

Diseases that satisfy the above conditions include sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis

(Mikulicz disease), retroperitoneal fibrosis, respiratory lesions, and tubulo-interstitial nephritis. Currently consensus is limited to sclerosing cholangitis, sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialadenitis and retroperitoneal fibrosis.

3. Sclerosing cholangitis

- 1) The sclerosing cholangitis associated with AIP shows lesions over a wide area of the bile duct system; the stenosis of the lower bile duct caused by AIP must be differentiated from that caused by pancreatic cancer or cancer of the lower bile duct, and the stenosis of the intrahepatic and hilar bile ducts caused by AIP must be differentiated from that caused by primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) or bile duct cancer. It is necessary to make careful and comprehensive differentiation using not only the bile duct images but also endoscopic ultrasoundscopy (EUS), intraductal ultrasonography (IDUS), cytological and/or histological diagnosis, etc.
- 2) PSC is a different entity from the sclerosing cholangitis seen in AIP, because their responses to steroid therapy and prognoses are different. Findings characteristic to PSC are band-like strictures (e.g., short band-like strictures of 1–2 mm), a beaded appearance (e.g., alternating short strictures and dilatations), a pruned tree appearance (e.g., a reduced number of intrahepatic duct branches), and diverticulum-like outpouching.
- 3) It is controversial among specialists whether to include cases showing only lower bile duct stenosis within IgG4-related sclerosing cholangitis, or to view them as part of the pancreatic lesions. The findings in bile duct lesions effective in diagnosing AIP are stenosis of the intrahepatic and hilar bile ducts and the sclerosing images or wall thickening of the upper and middle bile ducts.
- 4) Most of the pathological studies show a thickened bile duct and prominent transmural infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes and plasmacytes. Many IgG4-positive plasmacytes are observed in the lesions. The epithelium of the bile duct remains normal in most cases. Storiform fibrosis and obstructive phlebitis are also observed.
4. The IgG4 immunostaining of enlarged duodenal papillary biopsy specimens may be useful as a supporting diagnosis, although this enlargement is infrequent. An enlarged duodenal papillary is considered to be spread from lesions of the pancreatic head, and, therefore, is not in the scope of extra-pancreatic lesions (other organ involvement).
5. Sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis
 - 1) Sclerosing dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis associated with AIP shows no or slight (if any) symptoms of dry eye or dry mouth caused by decreased function of the lacrimal glands. Unlike Sjögren's Syndrome which is often associated with swollen parotid glands,

sialoadenitis seen in AIP often demonstrates swollen submandibular glands and responds very well to steroid therapy. While most enlargement of the lacrimal and salivary glands is symmetrical, enlargement of the salivary glands is part of the enlarged submandibular, sublingual, or minor salivary glands. Dacryoadenitis/sialoadenitis in most cases test negative for anti SS-A antibody and anti SS-B antibody, which is different from Sjögren's Syndrome. The disease can be diagnosed based on the diagnostic criteria of the organs (diagnostic criteria for IgG4-related Mikulicz disease, Japan Sjögren's Syndrome Study Group, 2008), however, if prominent infiltration of IgG4-positive plasmacytes is observed; it may be diagnosed by labial lip biopsy analysis.

- 2) Pathological findings show the disappearance of acinar cells in the lobule, prominent infiltration of lymphocytes and plasmacytes, formation of lymphoid follicles, and interlobular fibrosis. In some cases, the lobular structure may be destroyed, and prominent infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes and plasmacytes may form diffuse lesions. Many of the plasmacytes are IgG4 positive. Storiform fibrosis and obliterative phlebitis may be observed, although the incidence rate is lower compared with that of AIP.
6. Retroperitoneal fibrosis
 - 1) Due to diffuse hyperplasia and the inflammation of fibrous connective tissues on and around the retroperitoneum, abdominal CT/MRI images show soft shadows or mass around the abdominal aorta. This can cause ureteral obstruction, and subsequent hydrophrosis occasionally provide a clue for diagnosis. In some cases, the disease is associated with dilated lesions of the abdominal aorta and the condition known as inflammatory abdominal aortic aneurysm may be present; however, it is difficult to differentiate said aortic aneurysm from those caused by other etiologies.
 - 2) Pathological study shows mass lesions formed by prominent infiltration and fibrosis of lymphocytes and plasmacytes. Many IgG4-positive plasmacytes are seen in the lesions. Storiform fibrosis and obliterative phlebitis are also seen very frequently.

VI. Option: effectiveness of steroid therapy

Targets are the lesions for which image evaluation is possible; clinical conditions or hematological findings are not subject to effect evaluations. If no sufficient effect is seen within 2 weeks, reexamination is necessary. Effort should be made to take biopsies for pathological examination as much as possible, and facile diagnostic treatment with steroids should be strictly avoided. The administration of steroids may be effective in improving malignant lymphoma.

VII. Endocrine and exocrine pancreatic functions

Typical AIP shows impaired exocrine pancreatic functions and diabetes. There are quite a few cases where steroid administration is effective in improving impaired endocrine and exocrine pancreatic functions

Appendix 2: The Working Committee of the Japan Pancreas Society (JPS) and the Research Committee for Intractable Pancreatic Disease supported by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (RCIPD-MHLWJ):

I. The professional committee for making clinical questions and statements

Chairperson: Kazuichi Okazaki (Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Kansai Medical University)

Co-Chairpersons: Shigeyuki Kawa (Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Management, Shinshu University), and Terumi Kamisawa (Department of Internal Medicine, Tokyo Metropolitan Komagome Hospital)

Committee members:

Tetsuhide Ito (Department of Medicine and Bioregulatory Science, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kyushu University), Kazuo Inui (Department of Gastroenterology, Second Teaching Hospital, Fujita Health University), Hiroyuki Irie (Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine, Saga University), Takayoshi Nishino (Department of Gastroenterology, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Yachiyo Medical Center), Kenji Notohara (Department of Anatomic Pathology, Kurashiki Central Hospital), Keishi Kubo (Department of Internal Medicine, Shinshu University School of Medicine), Hirotaka Ohara (Department of Community-Based Medical Education, Nagoya City University Graduate School of Medical Sciences), Atsushi Irisawa (Department of Gastroenterology, Fukushima Medical University Aizu Medical Center), Yasunari Fujinaga (Department of Radiology, Shinshu University School of Medicine), Osamu Hasebe (Department of Gastroenterology, Nagano Municipal Hospital), Isao Nishimori (Nishimori Clinic), and Shigeki Tanaka (Department of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, Tokyo Ariake University of Medical and Health Sciences)

II. The expert panelist committee for rating statements by the modified Delphi method

Chairperson: Tooru Shimosegawa

Committee members: Kazuichi Okazaki, Shigeyuki Kawa, Terumi Kamisawa, Tetsuhide Ito, Kazuo Inui, Takayoshi Nishino, Hirotaka Ohara, Isao Nishimori, and Shigeki Tanaka

III. The Evaluating Committee

Chairperson: Masao Tanaka (Department of Surgery and Oncology, Kyushu University)

1. Committee members:

Toshimasa Nishiyama (Department of Public Health and Hygiene, Kansai Medical University), Koichi Suda (Department of Pathology, Tokyo-West Tokushukai Hospital), Keiko Shiratori (Department of Gastroenterology, Tokyo Women's Medical University), Kenji Notohara, Keishi Kubo, Hiroshi Yamamoto, Hirotaka Ohara, Atsushi Irisawa, Yasunari Fujinaga, Osamu Hasebe, and Shigeki Tanaka

2. Committee Members of the JPS for Autoimmune Pancreatitis:

Kazushige Uchida (Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Kansai Medical University), Atsushi Kanno (Division of Gastroenterology, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine), Kensuke Kubota (Department of Gastroenterology, Yokohama City University), Shigeru Ko (Department of Systems Medicine, Keio University), Junichi Sakagami (Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine), Kyoko Shimizu (Department of Gastroenterology, Tokyo Women's Medical University), Masanori Sugiyama (Department of Surgery, Kyorin University), Minoru Tada (Department of Gastroenterology, University of Tokyo), Takahiro Nakazawa (Department of Gastroenterology and Metabolism, Nagoya City University), Hirokazu Nishino (Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Jikei University School of Medicine), Hideaki Hamano (Medical Informatics Division and Department of Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology, Shinshu University Hospital), Yoshiaki Hirooka (Department of Endoscopy, Nagoya University Hospital), Kenji Hirano (Department of Gastroenterology, University of Tokyo), Atsushi Masamune (Division of Gastroenterology, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine), Atsuhiko Masuda (Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Internal Medicine, Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine), Nobumasa Mizuno (Department of Gastroenterology, Aichi Cancer Center Hospital), Koji Yamaguchi (Department of Surgery 1, University of Occupational and Environmental Health), and Hitoshi Yoshida (Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, Showa University School of Medicine)

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II. Extrapancreatic lesions, differential diagnosis

Shigeyuki Kawa · Kazuichi Okazaki · Terumi Kamisawa · Keishi Kubo · Hirotaka Ohara · Osamu Hasebe · Yasunari Fujinaga · Atsushi Irisawa · Kenji Notohara · Tetsuhide Ito · Kazuo Inui · Hiroyuki Irie · Takayoshi Nishino · Isao Nishimori · Shigeki Tanaka · Toshimasa Nishiyama · Koichi Suda · Keiko Shiratori · Masao Tanaka · Tooru Shimosegawa · The Working Committee of the Japan Pancreas Society and the Research Committee for Intractable Pancreatic Disease supported by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan

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II. Extrapancreatic lesions, differential diagnosis

II-1. Extrapancreatic lesions

CQ-II-1-1. What types of extrapancreatic lesions are complicated with AIP?

- A variety of extrapancreatic lesions are reported to be complicated with AIP. Among those cited, those closely associated with AIP include lachrymal and salivary gland lesions, hilar lymphadenopathy, interstitial lung disease, sclerosing cholangitis, retroperitoneal fibrosis, and tubulointerstitial nephritis.

Description A variety of extrapancreatic lesions are reported to be complicated with AIP. Those most closely associated with AIP include lachrymal and salivary gland lesions (Fig. 1) [1], hilar lymphadenopathy [2], interstitial lung disease [3, 4], sclerosing cholangitis [5, 6], retroperitoneal fibrosis (Fig. 2) [7], and tubulointerstitial nephritis [8, 9]. AIP has also been reported to be associated with hypophysitis [10], pachymeningitis [11], autoimmune neurosensory hearing loss [12], uveitis [13], chronic thyroiditis [14], pseudotumors (breast, lung, liver) [15–17], gastric ulcer [18], swelling of the papilla of Vater [19], IgG4 hepatopathy [20, 21], aortitis [22], prostatitis [23], IgG4-related perineural disease [24], Schönlein-Henoch purpura [12], and autoimmune thrombocytopenia [25]. A few cases have reported other extrapancreatic involvement [12, 26, 27]. While it is not certain that all of these lesions were related to AIP, extrapancreatic lesions related to AIP are prevalent in systemic organs (Table 1) [10, 12, 14, 23,

This article is the second of a three-article series on the Japanese consensus guidelines. Please see the first article in the series (doi:10.1007/s00535-014-0942-2) for the abstract and keywords. The members of the Working Committee are listed in “Appendix” in the text.

S. Kawa (✉)
Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Management,
Shinshu University, Matsumoto, Japan
e-mail: skawapc@shinshu-u.ac.jp

K. Okazaki
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Kansai
Medical University, Osaka, Japan

T. Kamisawa
Department of Internal Medicine, Tokyo Metropolitan
Komagome Hospital, Tokyo, Japan

K. Kubo
Department of Internal Medicine, Shinshu University School of
Medicine, Matsumoto, Japan

H. Ohara
Department of Community-Based Medical Education, Nagoya
City University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Nagoya,
Japan

O. Hasebe
Department of Gastroenterology, Nagano Municipal Hospital,
Nagano, Japan

Y. Fujinaga
Department of Radiology, Shinshu University School of
Medicine, Matsumoto, Japan

A. Irisawa
Department of Gastroenterology, Fukushima Medical University
Aizu Medical Center, Aizuwakamatsu, Japan

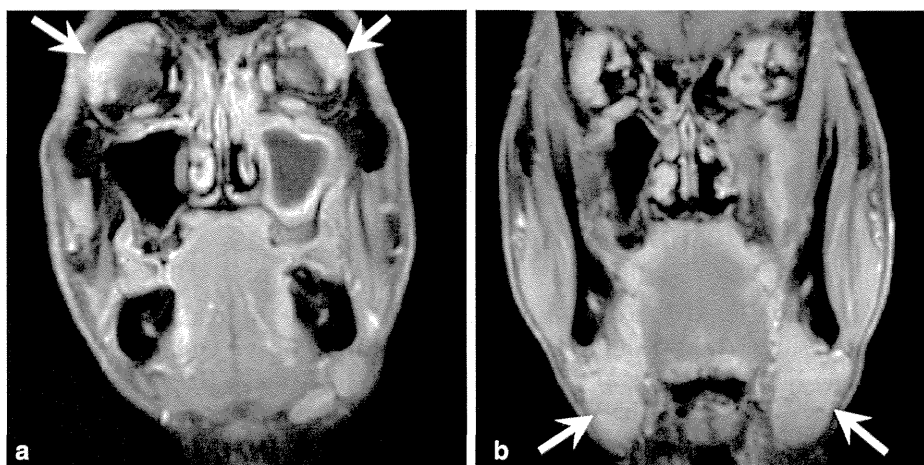


Fig. 1 Swelling of lacrimal and salivary glands (submandibular glands). **a** Coronal section of the skull. Enhanced MRI shows bilateral swollen lacrimal glands (*arrows*). **b** Coronal section of the skull.

Enhanced MRI (section next to that in *panel a*) shows bilateral swollen salivary glands (*arrows*) with homogeneous staining



Fig. 2 Retroperitoneal fibrosis. **a** Enhanced CT (arterial phase) shows an abdominal soft tissue density, indicating a mass around the aorta, which also surrounds the inferior mesenteric artery (*arrow*).

b CT shows a soft tissue density indicating a mass around the aorta and the inferior mesenteric artery (*arrow*). **c** CT shows bilateral soft tissue densities, indicating masses around the ureters (*arrows*)

26–28]. Relative to the pancreatic lesion(s) in AIP, extra-pancreatic lesions may appear synchronously or metachronously [29], share the same pathological conditions,

and show favorable response to corticosteroid therapy. These characteristics indicate a common pathophysiological background, which suggests the presence of a systemic

K. Notohara
Department of Anatomic Pathology, Kurashiki Central Hospital,
Kurashiki, Okayama, Japan

T. Ito
Department of Medicine and Bioregulatory Science, Graduate
School of Medical Sciences, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan

K. Inui
Department of Gastroenterology, Second Teaching Hospital,
Fujita Health University, Nagoya, Japan

H. Irie
Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine, Saga University,
Saga, Japan

T. Nishino
Department of Gastroenterology, Yachiyo Medical Center,
Tokyo Women's Medical University, Yachiyo, Japan

I. Nishimori
Nishimori Clinic, Kochi, Japan

S. Tanaka
Department of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, Tokyo Ariake
University of Medical and Health Sciences, Tokyo, Japan

T. Nishiyama
Department of Public Health and Hygiene, Kansai Medical
University, Osaka, Japan

IgG4-related disease [30]. The lesions are typically detected with imaging (CT, MRI, gallium scintigraphy, FDG-PET) [2, 31, 32] and blood tests (hormone assays), but results should be confirmed with histological findings. Extrapaneatic lesions sometimes mimic or are misdiagnosed as primary lesions in the corresponding organ. For example, lachrymal and salivary gland lesions may be mistaken for Sjögren's syndrome, respiratory lesions may be mistaken for sarcoidosis, and sclerosing cholangitis may be mistaken for primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC). Therefore, it is necessary to distinguish between IgG4-related diseases and diseases that arise from the corresponding organ. When a pancreatic lesion is obscure, it may be difficult to detect IgG4-related extrapancreatic lesions. However, recognition of these extrapancreatic lesions should aid in accurate diagnosis of AIP.

CQ-II-1-2. How are extrapancreatic lesions diagnosed?

- The diagnosis of extrapancreatic lesions complicated with AIP is based on clinical findings that suggest a close association between the lesion and AIP activity, including characteristic pathological findings, a favorable response to corticosteroid therapy, and distinct differentiation from similar lesions due to other causes in the corresponding organ. (Level of recommendation: B)

Description Several lines of evidence support the theory that extrapancreatic lesions are associated with AIP, including (1) frequent or coincident occurrence; (2) pathological findings of severe lymphoplasmacytic infiltration and storiform fibrosis, IgG4-positive plasma cell infiltrations, and obliterative phlebitis; (3) favorable response to corticosteroid therapy or synchronous response to therapies; and (4) distinct differentiation from the lesions of the corresponding organ, such as a distinction between AIP-associated salivary gland lesions and those due to Sjögren's syndrome. Among the many possible extrapancreatic lesions listed in Table 1, the following fulfill the above criteria: lachrymal and salivary gland lesions, respiratory

K. Suda
Department of Pathology, Tokyo-West Tokushukai Hospital,
Tokyo, Japan

K. Shiratori
Department of Gastroenterology, Tokyo Women's Medical
University, Tokyo, Japan

M. Tanaka
Department of Surgery and Oncology, Graduate School of
Medical Sciences, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan

T. Shimosegawa
Division of Gastroenterology, Tohoku University Graduate
School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan

Table 1 Extrapaneatic lesions that may be complicated with autoimmune pancreatitis

Close association
Lachrymal gland inflammation
Sialadenitis
Hilar lymphadenopathy
Interstitial lung disease
Sclerosing cholangitis
Retroperitoneal fibrosis
Tubulointerstitial nephritis
Possible association
Hypophysitis
Pachymeningitis
Autoimmune neurosensory hearing loss
Uveitis
Chronic thyroiditis
Pseudotumor (breast, lung, liver)
Gastric ulcer
Swelling of papilla of Vater
IgG4 hepatopathy
Aortitis
Prostatitis
IgG4-related perineural disease
Schönlein-Henoch purpura
Autoimmune thrombocytopenia

lesions, sclerosing cholangitis, retroperitoneal fibrosis, and tubulointerstitial nephritis.

CQ-II-1-3.: What are the differences between lachrymal and salivary gland lesions associated with AIP and those associated with Sjögren's syndrome?

- Compared to those of Sjögren's syndrome, AIP-associated lachrymal and salivary gland lesions show normal or slightly impaired exocrine function, presenting as a slight or negligible dryness in the eyes and mouth. (Level of recommendation: B)
- Salivary gland lesions associated with AIP appear predominantly in the submandibular gland, and those associated with Sjögren's syndrome frequently appear in the parotid gland. (Level of recommendation: B)
- Compared with those of Sjögren's syndrome, AIP-associated lachrymal and salivary gland lesions show negative results in tests for SS-A/Ro and SS-B/La autoantibodies. (Level of recommendation: B)
- Compared with those of Sjögren's syndrome, AIP-associated lachrymal and salivary gland lesions show numerous IgG4-positive plasma cell infiltrations in the affected tissues. (Level of recommendation: B)
- Unlike those of Sjögren's syndrome, AIP-associated lachrymal and salivary gland lesions respond favorably to corticosteroid therapy. (Level of recommendation: B)