

Pancreatitis: TIGAR-O Version 2 Risk/Etiology Checklist With Topic Reviews, Updates, and Use Primers

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The Toxic-metabolic, Idiopathic, Genetic, Autoimmune, Recurrent and severe acute pancreatitis and Obstructive (TIGAR-O) Pancreatitis Risk/Etiology Checklist (TIGAR-O_V1) is a broad classification system that lists the major risk factors and etiologies of recurrent acute pancreatitis, chronic pancreatitis, and overlapping pancreatic disorders with or without genetic, immunologic, metabolic, nutritional, neurologic, metaplastic, or other features. New discoveries and progressive concepts since the 2001 TIGAR-O list relevant to understanding and managing complex pancreatic disorders require an update to TIGAR-O_V2 with both a short (S) and long (L) form. The revised system is designed as a hierarchical checklist for health care workers to quickly document and track specific factors that, alone or in combinations, may contribute to progressive pancreatic disease in individual patients or groups of patients and to assist in treatment selection. The rationale and key clinical considerations are summarized for each updated classification item. Familiarity with the structured format speeds up the completion process and supports thoroughness and consideration of complex or alternative diagnoses during evaluation and serves as a framework for communication. The structured approach also facilitates the new health information technologies that required high-quality data for accurate precision medicine. A use primer accompanies the TIGAR-O_V2 checklist with rationale and comments for health care workers and industries caring for patients with pancreatic diseases.

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INTRODUCTION

Many factors contribute to the etiology of acute pancreatitis (AP), recurrent AP (RAP), chronic pancreatitis (CP), and diseases with overlapping features. New understanding and approaches to medical management require a holistic approach to prevent complex chronic disease features (1). For this approach, it is critical to identify risk factors and etiologies causing the signs and symptoms at disease onset, such as the first episode of AP. Knowledge of these susceptibility and modifying factors facilitates diagnosis of organ-specific susceptibilities and pathogenic responses that are pathogenic and require targeted management before development of irreversible damage. These factors, properly analyzed within the clinical setting, provide insights for the prognosis and the potential prevention of RAP, CP, and their complications including pain syndromes, exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (EPI), diabetes mellitus (DM), and pancreatic cancer.

The spectrum of pancreatic diseases is more complex than previously imagined. Various combinations of genetic, epigenetic, metabolic, and environmental factors apparently converge to form a “perfect storm” that initiates and drives the inflammatory process and its consequences in multiple systems that normally regulate and maintain pancreatic function. Because of the random combination of severity and modifying factors, each patient is unique, and each one

requires personalized assessment and management—the goal of precision medicine. Fortunately, most of the factors interact with known systems and pathogenic pathways so that effective management plans can be developed as new or repurposed therapies are evaluated and utilized using evidence-based strategies (2–4).

TIGAR-O Version 1 (TIGAR-O_V1) (List 1) is a pancreatitis-associated risk/etiology checklist first published in 2001 by Etemad and Whitcomb (5). TIGAR-O is an acronym for 6 categories of risk/etiology including Toxic-metabolic, Idiopathic, Genetic, Autoimmune, Recurrent and severe acute pancreatitis and Obstructive, with the latter category separated from the others with a dash to indicate extra-acinus etiologies (outside the acinar and proximal duct cells). The system was initially designed as a tool for the North American Pancreatitis Study II (NAPS2) projects (6) to capture and record each of the factors believed to confer risk (prepancreatitis) or contribute to etiology (postpancreatitis), based on a novel, mechanistic reverse engineering approach to complex diseases (7). The categories were organized in terms of expected prevalence. The list was also developed using the sentinel acute pancreatitis event (SAPE) model (8), allowing it to be used both for RAP and CP. This distinction is important because we now recognize that the global transition rate from the SAPE to RAP is ~20% and from RAP to CP is ~35% (1), whereas ~40%

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of patients with CP do not have a history of AP or RAP, and multiple risk and modifying factors determine these patterns of progression. The TIGAR-O risk/etiology checklist was included in all 3 phases of NAPS2 (6,9,10).

The TIGAR-O_V1 risk/etiology checklist has wide utility, being cited in more than 1,250 publications, used in major

LIST 1. TIGAR-O VERSION_V1 (ETEMAD AND WHITCOMB, 2001 (5))

Toxic-metabolic

Alcoholic
Tobacco smoking
Hypercalcemia
Hyperparathyroidism
Hyperlipidemia (rare and controversial)
Chronic renal failure
Medications
Phenacetin abuse (possibly from chronic renal insufficiency)
Toxins
Organotin compounds (e.g., DBTC)

Idiopathic

Early onset
Late onset
Tropical
Tropical calcific pancreatitis
Fibrocalculous pancreatic diabetes
Other

Genetic

Autosomal dominant
Cationic trypsinogen (Codon 29 and 122 mutations)
Autosomal recessive/modifier genes
CFTR mutations
SPINK1 mutations
Cationic trypsinogen (codon 16, 22, 23 mutations)
 α 1-Antitrypsin deficiency (possible)

Autoimmune

Isolated autoimmune chronic pancreatitis
Syndromic autoimmune chronic pancreatitis
Sjögren syndrome-associated chronic pancreatitis
Inflammatory bowel disease-associated chronic pancreatitis
Primary biliary cirrhosis-associated chronic pancreatitis

Recurrent and severe acute pancreatitis

Postnecrotic (severe acute pancreatitis)
Recurrent acute pancreatitis
Vascular diseases/ischemic
Post-irradiation

Obstructive

Pancreatic divisum
Sphincter of Oddi disorders (controversial)
Duct obstruction (e.g., tumor)
Preampullary duodenal wall cysts
Posttraumatic pancreatic duct scars

LIST 2. TIGAR-O_2L (LONG FORM)

Toxic-metabolic

Alcohol-related (susceptibility and/or progression)

Categories

- 0 to <1 drink per day. Includes abstainers and occasional drinkers.
- 1–2 drinks/d
- 3–4 drinks/d
- 5 or more drinks/d

[__1; __2; __3; __4] Susceptibility (pre-acute pancreatitis)

[__1; __2; __3; __4] Progression (post-acute pancreatitis)

Smoking (if yes, record pack-years: _____)

Non-smoker (<100 cigarettes in lifetime)

Past smoker

Current smoker

Other, NOS

Hypercalcemia (total calcium levels >12.0 mg/dL or 3 mmol/L)

Hyperparathyroidism

Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia (by family history)

Other NOS

Hypertriglyceridemia

Hypertriglyceridemic risk (Fasting >300 mg/dL; non-fasting >500 mg/dL)

Hypertriglyceridemic acute pancreatitis, history of (>500 mg/dL in first 72 hours)

Familial hypertriglyceridemia (by family history)

Medications

NOS

Toxins

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) (CKD Stage 5: end-stage renal disease, ESRD)

No dialysis

On dialysis

Kidney transplant

Oxidative stress-associated factors

Radiation/chemotherapy

Vascular insufficiency

Other factors

Other toxins, NOS

Metabolic, other

Diabetes Mellitus (with the date of diagnosis if available)

Diet controlled

Medication controlled (oral agents)

Insulin requiring (\geq 10 U/d or \geq 0.1 U/kg/d)

Diet (red meat \geq 2 oz or 57 g per day; vegetarian, vegan)

Obesity (BMI >30 kg/m²)

Visceral adiposity (e.g., apple-shaped obesity, see text)

Other, NOS

Idiopathic

Early onset (<35 years of age)

Late onset (>35 years of age)

Other, NOS

Genetic

Suspected; No or limited genotyping available

Autosomal dominant (Mendelian inheritance—single gene syndrome)

PRSS1 mutations (Hereditary pancreatitis)

CEL—MODY8 phenotype
 Other, NOS
 Autosomal recessive (Mendelian inheritance—single gene syndrome)
 CFTR, 2 severe variants in *trans* (cystic fibrosis)
 CFTR, <2 severe variants in *trans* (CFTR-RD)
 SPINK1, 2 pathogenic variants in *trans*. (SPINK1-associated familial pancreatitis)
 Other, NOS
 Complex genetics—(non-Mendelian, complex genotypes +/- environment)
 CFTR variant (1 variant or >1 all in *cis*)
 CTSC variants
 CASR variants
 SPINK1 variant (1 variant or >1 all in *cis*)
 CPA1 variants
 CEL or CEL-HYB variants
 Other, NOS
 Modifier genes (pathogenic genetic variants)
 PRSS1-PRSS1 locus
 CLDN2 locus
 SLC26A9
 GGT1
 ABO—B blood type
 Other, NOS
 Hypertriglyceridemia syndromes (pathogenic genetic variants)
 LPL—lipoprotein lipase deficiency
 APOC2—Apolipoprotein C-II deficiency
 Other familial chylomicronemia syndrome (FCS)
 Multifactorial chylomicronemia syndrome (MCS)
 Other, NOS
 Rare, non-neoplastic pancreatic genetic variant-associated syndromes
 Shwachman-Diamond syndrome
 Johanson-Blizzard Syndrome
 Mitochondrial disorders (e.g., Pearson's Marrow-Pancreas Syndrome)
 Other, NOS

Autoimmune pancreatitis (AIP)/Steroid responsive pancreatitis

AIP Type 1—IgG4-related disease
 Isolated to the pancreas
 Associated with other organs (IgG4-related disease)
 AIP Type 2
 Isolated to the pancreas
 With Crohn's disease
 With ulcerative colitis
 Associated with other organs
 AIP-NOS (Steroid responsive, not Type 1 or Type 2)

Recurrent acute pancreatitis (RAP) and severe acute pancreatitis (SAP)

Acute pancreatitis (single episode, including date of event if available)
 AP without persistent MOF and <30% PNec
 AP without persistent MOF and >30% PNec
 SAP (persistent MAF with <30% PNec)
 SAP (persistent MAF with \geq 30% PNec)

AP Etiology—Extra-pancreatic (excluding alcoholic, HTG, hypercalcemia, genetic)
 Biliary pancreatitis
 Post-ERCP
 Traumatic
 Ischemic (acute, such as postsurgical, hypotension)
 Infectious: Viral, other (not secondary infection)
 Undetermined or NOS
 Recurrent acute pancreatitis (number of episodes, frequency, and dates of events if available)

Obstructive

Pancreas divisum
 Ampullary stenosis
 Main duct pancreatic stones
 Widespread pancreatic calcifications
 Main pancreatic duct strictures
 Localized mass causing duct obstruction
 Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma
 IPMN
 Other tumor
 Mass effect, NOS
 Anatomic Variants (other than pancreas divisum)
 Other NOS

TIGAR-O Version 2 risk/etiology classification—Long form—The list is updated Version 1 proposed by Etemad and Whitcomb in 2001 to reflect new discoveries and clarification of older categories (5). Patients typically have multiple risk factors from the list that contribute to recurrent acute and CP. All contributing etiologies should be documented in each patient. The list should be dated, complemented by further documentation in the patient record or case report form, and updated and dated with new information or changes in risk or etiology. See text.

epidemiology studies, and recommended for use by leading experts and major societies (3,11–18). A modification of TIGAR-O, with the classes reorganized to spell M-ANNHEIM (19), has also been included in a more extensive disease severity classification system and used in similar ways (20–23).

The TIGAR-O_V1 risk/etiology checklist was designed for capturing information associated with RAP and CP gleaned from the 20th century literature. The NAPS2 projects and other studies generated many new insights into pancreatitis risk and disease mechanisms, especially regarding the quantitative risk of alcohol for susceptibility vs progression, the independent role of smoking, the importance of hypertriglyceridemia (HTG), the classification of autoimmune pancreatitis (AIP), many genetic discoveries and new insights into complex genotypes, the need to specify types of injuries leading to RAP or severe acute pancreatitis (SAP), and further definition and delineation of obstructive etiologies. Diabetes mellitus and pancreatic cancer also affect the pancreas, and some features overlap with features of CP.

As the cutting edge of pancreatitis translational research approaches clinical utility in the precision medicine paradigm, it

LIST 3. TIGAR-O VERSION 2.0—SHORT FORM (TIGAR-O_V2-SF)

Toxic-metabolic

Alcohol-related (susceptibility and/or progression)
 3-4 drinks/d
 5 or more drinks/d
 Smoking (if yes, record pack-years)
 Non-smoker (<100 cigarettes in lifetime)
 Past smoker
 Current smoker
 Other, NOS
 Hypercalcemia (total calcium levels >12.0 mg/dL or 3 mmol/L)
 Hypertriglyceridemia
 Hypertriglyceridemic risk (Fasting >300 mg/dL; non-fasting >500 mg/dL)
 Hypertriglyceridemic acute pancreatitis, history of (>500 mg/dL in first 72 hours)
 Medications (name)
 Toxins, other
 Chronic kidney disease (CKD)—(CKD Stage 5: end-stage renal disease, ESRD)
 Other, NOS
 Metabolic, other
 Diabetes Mellitus (with the date of diagnosis if available)
 Other, NOS

Idiopathic

Early onset (<35 years of age)
 Late onset (>35 years of age)

Genetic

Suspected; No or limited genotyping available
 Autosomal dominant (Mendelian inheritance—single gene syndrome)
PRSS1 mutations (Hereditary pancreatitis)
 Autosomal recessive (Mendelian inheritance—single gene syndrome)
CFTR, 2 severe variants in *trans* (cystic fibrosis)
CFTR, <2 severe variants in *trans* (CFTR-RD)
SPINK1, 2 pathogenic variants in *trans*. (SPINK1-associated familial pancreatitis)
 Complex genetics—(non-Mendelian, complex genotypes +/- environment)
 Modifier Genes (list pathogenic genetic variants)
PRSS1-*PRSS1* locus
CLDN2 locus
 Others:
 Hypertriglyceridemia (list pathogenic genetic variants)
 Other, NOS

Autoimmune pancreatitis (AIP)/Steroid responsive pancreatitis

AIP Type 1—IgG4-related disease
 AIP Type 2

Recurrent acute pancreatitis (RAP) and severe acute pancreatitis (SAP)

Acute pancreatitis (single episode, including date of event if available)
 AP Etiology—Extra-pancreatic (excluding alcoholic, HTG, hypercalcemia, genetic)

Biliary pancreatitis

Post-ERCP

Traumatic

Undetermined or NOS

Recurrent acute pancreatitis (number of episodes, frequency, and dates of events if available)

Obstructive

Pancreas divisum

Ampullary stenosis

Main duct pancreatic stones

Widespread pancreatic calcifications

Main pancreatic duct strictures

Localized mass causing duct obstruction

TIGAR-O Version 2 risk/etiology classification—Short form—As additional information is received, the patient's list should be transitioned to the longer form.

is necessary to update the risk and etiology list to reflect these advances. Coincident with the 20th anniversary of the initiation of the NAPS2 studies, the TIGAR-O_V1 checklist is being updated as TIGAR-O Version 2 long (TIGAR-O_V2-L, List 2) with comments and suggestions for checklist users. A short form (TIGAR-O_V2-S, List 3) can be used for initial screening in a busy clinic, with anticipation of expanding to the full list as additional information is received.

TIGAR-O_V2

The basic information supporting the elements of TIGAR-O_V1 and reported previously remains useful, and the reader is referred to these references for further discussion (5,17). Modifications in the classification with recommendations on completing the TIGAR-O_V2 checklist are given in List 2 and described below. A short form was also developed, at the request of some NAPS2 investigators List 3, to capture the more common and high-level information from busy clinicians who are not familiar with many of the details in the long form.

The TIGAR-O_V2 checklist is hierarchical. This organizational feature provides more specificity and accuracy related to the exact type of risk/etiology in a patient and some quantitative information within some categories. The nature of the items as risk or etiologic factors are not specified, while recognizing that some agents are primary drivers of injury or stress, others increase susceptibility by lowering tolerance to injury or stress, others affect protective responses, involve parallel or downstream systems or cells, limit regeneration or contribute to disease features in other ways. These data should be supplemented in patient histories, examinations, and objective measures. Each of the 6 categories and some subcategories include a “not otherwise specified” (NOS) section where unusual or other factors can be added.

Checklist users

Health care workers who intend to use TIGAR-O_V2 should become familiar with the list so that critical information is

collected at the time of the patient examination and all the relevant factors are checked efficiently. Typically, multiple factors will be checked in each patient. However, in most cases, a limited amount of information is available to the clinician at the time of an initial examination. Checking only the main categories and some subcategories with an initial visit is expected because additional testing is needed to check additional items in various categories. Thus, it is like a patient's problem list for pancreatitis-associated factors. As new information is received, the TIGAR-O_V2 checklist for the patient should be updated and dated. This provides progressively more accurate understanding of individual patients and the ability to develop time lines and assess treatment success in patients or groups of patients.

Instructions on the use of the checklist, along with evaluation and management considerations are included for each category (below), and a brief primer on the approach to pancreatitis is provided in the discussion. Medical decisions must be based on primary medical resources and guidelines with the checklist used as an additional tool. The health care provider's overall assessment and plans, based on their training and experience, must always take precedence in medical care.

TOXIC-METABOLIC FACTORS

The Toxic-metabolic risk and etiology category focuses on agents that specifically cause dysfunction or injury to components of the acinar or duct cells or alter the response of cells linked to the pancreas during the injury → inflammation → resolution → regeneration sequence (24). Updates from Version 1 include revisions to Alcohol, Smoking, Hypercalcemia, Hyperlipidemia, Medications, Toxins, and Other categories, with chronic renal failure moved to Toxins and a new Metabolic category to include diabetes mellitus, diet and obesity.

Alcohol

The "Alcohol" category was changed into "Alcohol-related" category with stratified levels of (i) 0 to <1 drink/d/occasional; (ii) 1–2 drinks/d; (iii) 3–4 drinks/d; and (iv) 5 or more drinks/d. The change was based on NAPS2 findings and other research demonstrating a possible threshold for susceptibility to alcoholic CP at approximately 4–5 drinks/d with increasingly higher risk with heavier drinking, drinking pattern (e.g., binge drinking), and duration (25–27). After the first episode of AP, continued alcohol drinking increases the risk of RAP, rates of progression to CP, and development of diabetes mellitus and other complications in a dose-dependent manner (28–30). After an episode of AP, and especially RAP, a safe level of drinking without risk of progression is yet to be established.

Many patients develop AP, RAP, and CP with alcohol drinking below the expected threshold levels of very heavy drinking. Occasional or social alcohol consumption is common among adults, whereas pancreatitis is uncommon—even among heavy alcohol users (31). Furthermore, in many populations, including the United States, most patients with RAP and CP do not have alcohol-related etiologies, indicating that additional factors or random triggering events are required to develop AP, RAP, and CP. These cases may be complex gene-environment interactions, and additional research and insights are required to provide more specific guidance.

Checklist users. The effects of alcohol differ with respect to susceptibility and progression. Because the effects are quantitative,

all subjects should have their use recorded using 1 of 4 categories for susceptibility and progression.

Smoking

Use of TIGAR-O_V1 allowed the effects of smoking to be defined in the NAPS2 cohort, as well as a synergistic effect with alcohol in patients who both drink and smoke (25–27). Smoking is an independent risk factor for RAP and CP, with current smokers being at a higher risk than past smokers. The risk from smoking increases with the number of cigarettes smoked per day (25,26). The Other, NOS section can be used to record the smoking of cigars, pipes, or marijuana.

Checklist users. The category of "Past smoker" is intended to capture patients who were previously exposed to the effects of smoking that may have initiated the pancreatitis process. The category of "Current smoker" is intended to capture both past exposure and ongoing use. The risk/etiology should be further defined by recording the number of packs of cigarettes smoked per day and the number of years of smoking and recording the interval years. This establishes the pattern and exposure dose and can be used to calculate "pack-years," i.e., packs per day × years of smoking.

Hypercalcemia

Hypercalcemia is a well-known risk factor for AP and can lead to CP. In TIGAR-O_V2, hypercalcemia is listed as a risk factor when total ionized calcium levels are ≥ 12.0 mg/dL or 3 mmol/L. The value is well above the typical upper limits of normal (e.g., up to 10.2 mg/dL) because it is intended to reflect AP risk (32). Approximately 90% of cases of hypercalcemia are caused by primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT) or hypercalcemia of malignancy (33), with a small subset associated with genetic disorders, sarcoidosis, chronic kidney disease (CKD), and other factors.

Hyperparathyroidism causes hypercalcemia (typically with hypophosphatemia), but AP generally occurs in less than 7% of people with PHPT (32,34–36). The risk of AP correlates with the highest serum calcium levels among patients with PHPT (e.g., 13.0 vs 12.1 mg/dL (32,36)).

Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia is a syndrome most often associated with specific mutations in the calcium-sensing receptor gene (*CASR*) (37–39). AP, RAP, and CP are not associated with *CASR* mutations *per se* (35), but pancreatitis has been documented in patients with PHPT and *CASR* mutations (40).

The *CASR* is a complex, pleiotropic receptor used for different purposes in different cells (39,41,42). Therefore, it is possible to have a complex pancreatitis risk linked to *CASR* variants without hypercalcemia. In this case, only the *CASR* variant under genetic risk/etiology should be checked.

Other, NOS category is for identified causes of hypercalcemia such as parathyroid tumors (43), multiple endocrine neoplasia (MEN) type 1 or 2a (33,44), other cancers such as multiple myeloma (33,45), or rare causes of hypercalcemia.

Checklist users: Total and/or ionized calcium levels. Ionized calcium levels with associated dates of analysis and normal ranges for the laboratory should be recorded in the chart and/or case report form. Patients with hypercalcemia from medications (e.g., lithium and vitamin D overdose) should also be included under Toxic-metabolic > Medication and those with variants in genes affecting serum calcium (e.g., *CASR* and MEN syndromes) should be included under Genetics > Modifier Genes or Genetics > Other.

Clinical evaluation of hypercalcemia should be documented, as well as family history, medical history including

renal stones, medications including lithium and vitamin D use, and basic laboratory values including parathyroid hormone (PTH) levels and serum ionized calcium and phosphorus levels with urine calcium if familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia is suspected. If the patient has hypercalcemia of malignancy (33), the tumor type should be recorded in the evaluation, consultation, and/or case report form.

Hypertriglyceridemia

Earlier literature suggested that hyperlipidemia was a rare and controversial cause of CP (5). However, in the NAPS2-Continuation and Validation (CV) study, hyperlipidemia was identified as a risk factor in 13% of subjects with CP (9). In TIGAR-O_V2, the term “hyperlipidemia” is changed to hypertriglyceridemia (HTG) and used as a clinical diagnosis. Controversy continues as to whether the critical triglyceride (TG) level is the trough (fasting levels recommended by endocrinologists) or peak (levels during pain and/or pancreatitis in the fed state as recommended by some gastroenterologist). In fasting patients, a threshold TG of >300 mg/dL represents the 95th percentile and HTG (to convert mmol/L to mg/dL, multiply by 88.6) (46). In the United States, 1.7% of the population have fasting TG > 500 mg/dL, and 0.4% have >1,000 mg/dL (47). Nonfasting TG levels confer increased risk of AP. Analysis of data from the Copenhagen City Heart Study suggests that the risk of AP begins with nonfasting mild-to-moderate HTG (>177 mg/dL), with hazard ratio (HR) 2.3 for TGs 177–265 mg/dL, HR 2.9 for TGs 366–353 mg/dL, HR 3.9 for TGs 354–442 mg/dL, and HR 8.7 for TGs > 442 mg/dL (48). The highest risk levels translate into an expected 12 events per 10,000 person-years (48).

Checklist users. HTG not only increases the risk of AP, RAP, and CP but also worsens the severity of an episode of AP in terms of pancreatic necrosis (PNec), systemic inflammatory response syndrome, multiple organ failure (MOF), intensive care unit (ICU) admissions, length of stay, and mortality (49–52). Therefore, identifying and managing HTG remains one of the most important actionable findings of patient evaluation.

Clinical evaluation should include a complete lipid panel at baseline (noting fasting or fed) and at the time of admission during an attack of AP. Pre-AP TG levels roughly correlate with HTG AP, but there is wide variability (53). Medications should be reviewed and documented. Family history of pancreatitis, HTG, DM, obesity (body mass index [BMI] >30 kg/m²), and cardiovascular disease should be documented, and a dietary/nutrition history is recommended.

Medications

Medications are believed to cause both acute and CP through multiple mechanisms. Several medications most strongly associated with severe AP and/or RAP including azathioprine (and its metabolite 6-mercaptopurine), 2'3'-dideoxyinosine (54), and L-asparaginase (55,56). More than 100 drugs have been implicated in AP and RAP, such as methylprednisolone, fenofibrate, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors, statins, estrogens, and valproic acid, although direct, mechanistic cause-effect relationships are typically lacking and underlying cofactors such as genetic factors have not been excluded in most case reports (57–61). The medications taken by patients should be documented and tracked in anticipation of deeper understanding of complex disorders. No specific medication list is included in the TIGAR-O_V2 checklist, but the drugs listed above should be among the ones considered.

Checklist users should list the medications believed to be a risk factor or causative agent for RAP or CP in the NOS section, including dates of use and doses.

Toxins

Toxins include any agent that causes stress or injury to the acinar or duct cells, excluding alcohol and tobacco. The TIGAR-O_V1 checklist included “Organotin compounds (e.g., DBTC [dibutyltin dichloride])” as an example, which was not identified as a risk factor in NAPS2, although “Toxic” was selected in 3 patients with CP and 1 patient with RAP without indicating the suspected factor. The TIGAR-O_V2 checklist divides toxins into CKD, Oxidative stress-associated factors, and Other Toxins, with the Short Form including CKD, with the option to add additional information under NOS.

Chronic kidney disease. In TIGAR-O_V1, the term “Chronic renal failure” was used. In TIGAR-O_V2, the terminology is updated and the severity of CKD is specified as stage 5 or end-stage renal disease (ESRD). CKD may confer risk either through inability to clear pancreatic toxins or electrolyte imbalances such as hypercalcemia. CKD also presents challenges in fluid management and assessment of episodes of AP.

In the NAPS2-CV study, chronic renal failure was identified as a coexisting risk factor in ~2% of patients with CP and in ~5% of patients with idiopathic CP (9). The severity of disease was not well defined. For TIGAR-O_V2, a history of only the most severe forms of CKD is included. CKD stage 5 represents a person with ESRD with a glomerular filtration rate of 15 mL/minute or less. Further qualifications are included as to whether the subject is on dialysis or has had a kidney transplant at any time. A person with a kidney transplant should also be classified as “No dialysis” or “On dialysis” at the time of evaluation.

Oxidative stress-associated factors. Oxidative stress-associated factors are included as a separate category based on the observation that antioxidants seem to be useful in some studies (62). Postirradiation/chemotherapy-associated toxicity and ischemic risk (chronic, such as vascular disease), which were listed under Recurrent/SAP in TIGAR-O_V1, are now listed under the “Oxidative Stress” category. Factors that generate toxicity through oxidative stress mechanisms that are, or potentially mitigated by antioxidants, including some environmental factors, or toxic metals such as arsenic, cadmium, and chromium, which may also contribute to pancreatic cancer (63–66) should be listed here. These factors are not sufficient to cause pancreatitis alone, but likely contribute to disease in the context of alcohol, smoking, malabsorption, or dietary deficiencies in vitamins and antioxidants, exhaustive physical exercise, and/or genetic factors.

Other Toxins includes dose-dependent or idiosyncratic agents that cause AP, RAP, or CP by hyperstimulation (e.g., scorpion venom and anticholinesterase insecticides (67)). In addition, agents that are deemed to be toxic but are of unknown mechanism but contribute to risk can be listed under NOS.

Metabolic, other

This represents a new category to consolidate diabetes, obesity, metabolic syndrome, diet, and other factors likely associated with RAP and/or CP. HTG is listed as a separate category because of the unique mechanism of direct toxicity of fatty acids in AP (68) and a high incidence and morbidity in RAP and CP (9,50–53,69). The Short Form includes Diabetes, with the option to add additional information under NOS.

Diabetes mellitus. Diabetes Mellitus is broadly defined by elevated fasting glucose levels and/or hemoglobin A1c. This category of risk is new to TIGAR-O_V2 and is included because it can be a cause of pancreatic atrophy and fibrosis (e.g., exocrine pancreatopathy (70–72)), is associated with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (73,74), and may be a biomarker for pancreatic cancer (75,76). The question of whether diabetes came before or after exocrine inflammation can be challenging in many cases (77), but the goal here is merely to document presence and severity as the features of exocrine pancreatic diseases are being evaluated (78). The term post-pancreatitis diabetes mellitus defines elevated blood glucose >3 months after an AP event (79). New-onset diabetes after pancreatitis is a study term that further defines the stage of pancreatitis (e.g., the first episode of AP [i.e., SAPE], RAP, or CP) (79). The 3 levels of therapy include Diet-controlled glucose intolerance, Medical control diabetes mellitus (oral agents), and Insulin requiring diabetes mellitus (≥ 10 units per day).

Checklist users may check more than 1 category. The date of onset of diabetes should be documented. The diagnosis of diabetes mellitus should follow the American Diabetes Association guidelines (80). Abnormal glucose levels are classified as diabetes with hemoglobin A1C $\geq 6.5\%$, fasting plasma glucose of ≥ 126 mg/dL, or oral glucose tolerance test with a 2-hour glucose of ≥ 200 mg/dL after 75 g of oral glucose. The term “prediabetes” is used to define a condition where the A1C or serum glucose is abnormal, but is not diagnostic of diabetes such as a hemoglobin A1C of 5.7–6.4%, fasting plasma glucose of 100–125 mg/dL, or oral glucose tolerance test with a 2-hour glucose of 140–199 mg/dL after 75 g of oral glucose. If the results are equivocal, they should be repeated. A random plasma glucose of ≥ 200 mg/dL is also diagnostic in a patient with symptoms of diabetes (80).

In some cases, the patient will have brittle diabetes due to loss of the islet alpha cells (glucagon producing) and subject to severe hypoglycemia (78). If the patient is at risk of level 2 hypoglycemia, defined as blood glucose < 54 mg/dL (3.0 mmol/L), consider prescribed glucagon to be used as needed (80). The patient, family, caregivers, and other relevant individuals should be instructed on its location and when and how to administer it if needed (80).

Classifying the subtype of diabetes may be challenging in some patients, although the use of autoantibody testing and genetic analysis may be helpful. The patient’s medical record or case report form should include relevant family histories and medical history of obesity, metabolic syndrome, propensity to hypoglycemia and diabetic ketoacidosis, HTG, and the timing and type of passed or planned pancreatic surgery, including total pancreatectomy with islet autotransplantation. New-onset diabetes mellitus with weight loss can be an early sign of pancreatic cancer (76).

Diet. Diet may be an important disease modifier, either directly or indirectly, such as effects on the gut biome. Diet is one of the most difficult factors to accurately measure. For this version, dietary risk factors for CP are limited to red meat consumption of > 2 oz/57 g per day. The supporting data are the Multiethnic Cohort study in which a threshold of risk of RAP and CP was seen with the intake of > 24.5 g/1,000 kcal/d, with a hazard ratio of 1.37 (1.01–1.87) (81). Two ounces of red meat is the threshold level for a 2,300 kcal/d diet, and “2 oz” was therefore arbitrarily defined as a reasonable risk threshold level for most adults. Between 40% and 50% of adults of all ethnic backgrounds will exceed this threshold. Once red meat intake increases above 2 oz/57 g in adults, the risk remains stable and does not seem to increase with higher red meat intake (81). A meat-rich diet is also associated

with persistent organ failure in AP (82). In addition, a vegetarian/vegan diet should be noted as a possible protective factor.

Checklist users. Global measures of obesity such as BMI do not necessarily exclude malnutrition in patients with pancreatic disease. Patients with high intake of simple carbohydrates or who avoid fats may be overweight or obese and deny symptoms of maldigestion, while having protein and/or micronutrient deficiency, and especially in fat-soluble vitamins and vitamin B12. Thus, an elevated BMI should not preclude a complete nutrition analysis.

Obesity. Visceral adiposity, i.e., excess visceral adipose tissue (VAT) is associated with the risk of HTG, DM, metabolic syndrome, and other morbidities (83,84).

Visceral adiposity can be estimated by general morphology (e.g., “apple-” or “pear-” shaped obesity, with apple indicating VAT (85,86)), waist circumference, waist-to-hip ratio, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA), and others (84,87). VAT mass measured by DXA is comparable to MRI in a large, multi-ethnic cohort within a wide range of body fatness (87). DXA has the advantage of more rapid scanning, lower cost, and lower radiation exposure compared with MRI or CT while providing similar results (87).

Checklist users. Waist circumference is simple, measured 1 cm above the iliac crest with waist girth ≥ 102 cm for males and ≥ 88 cm for females indicating visceral obesity (84,87). Hip circumference is measured at the widest circumference of the buttocks at the area of the greater trochanters with waist-to-hip ratio > 0.90 for men and > 0.85 for women indicating visceral obesity (84,87).

IDIOPATHIC

The TIGAR-O_V1 checklist subclassified idiopathic pancreatitis as “Early onset,” “Late onset,” and “Tropical.” In TIGAR-O_V2, the categories of early-onset and late-onset pancreatitis are the primary subcategory classes and defined by age < 35 years or 35 years and older. The INSPPIRE group further subdivides pediatric cases into 3 age cohorts (< 6 , 6–11, and ≥ 12 years) based on published recommendations for age grouping in pediatric trials (88,89).

Tropical pancreatitis seems to be a complex genetic disorder and is not discussed under “Genetic > Rare, non-neoplastic pancreatic genetic variant-associated syndromes.”

GENETIC

The last 20 years witnessed tremendous advances in understanding the genetics of pancreatitis, with most of the previous “Idiopathic” cases and many “Alcohol”-related cases having strong, pathogenic genetic factors. The TIGAR-O_V1 classification divided genetics into 2 subgroups, “Autosomal dominant” and “Autosomal recessive/modifier genes.” With growing knowledge of genetics, especially within the domain of precision medicine, this classification is now outdated. The Short Form includes only high-level classification with opportunity to add additional information under NOS.

Suspected

TIGAR-O_V2 uses 8 Genetic categories. The first category, “Suspected,” should be used to classify patients with suspected genetic factors, either while genetic testing is being considered, while the results are pending, or when the initial genetic test was too limited (e.g., only *PRSS1*, *CFTR*, *SPINK1*, and *CTRC*). Genetic etiologies should be suspected when there is early-onset pancreatitis

(age <35 years), if there are no other obvious causes (e.g., gallstones or trauma) such as idiopathic pancreatitis, when there is a positive family history of pancreatitis, diabetes, dyslipidemia, and pancreatic cancer, when unusual features suggest a genetic disorder (e.g., cystic fibrosis [CF]-related syndrome), or when the clinical course or response to treatment is unexpected or severe (90–92).

Autosomal dominant

The “Autosomal dominant” category is for mendelian syndromes including gain-of-function mutations in *PRSS1* (93,94) (see below for other *PRSS1* variants) or *MODY8* phenotype-associated variants in *CEL* (95,96) (see below for other *CEL* variants).

Autosomal recessive

The “Autosomal recessive” diseases with mendelian inheritance include classic CF, *CFTR*-related disorders (*CFTR*-RD), and biallelic pathogenic *SPINK1* mutations.

Cystic fibrosis. Patients with 2 disease-causing *CFTR* variants on different alleles (*trans*) plus other criteria of clinical setting and functional defects in *CFTR* function have CF (97). Genomic *CFTR* locus sequence variants are now classified into 7 classes based on the effect on protein function, with classes I, II, III, and VII being severe (98). The term “atypical CF” is no longer used. Patients with *CFTR* genotypes with less than 2 severe mutations in *trans* but include other pathogenic *CFTR* variants of class IV, V, or VI are classified as CF if there is both clinical (i.e., signs and symptoms of CF in >1 typical organ) and functional evidence of *CFTR* dysfunction (e.g., sweat chloride testing) (97).

***CFTR*-related disorder.** In some cases, the dominant disease feature in patients with *CFTR* variants is pancreatitis (99–101). The “*CFTR* <2 severe variants in *trans*” classification is for patients with at least 1 pathogenic *CFTR* variant (any class), including mutations of variable clinical consequence, variants of unknown significance, or no second identifiable variant, and in whom *CFTR* function testing is abnormal (typically a sweat chloride value in the intermediate range of 30–59 mmol/L). In TIGAR-O_V2, these are classified as a *CFTR*-RD if they do not qualify for classification as CF (e.g., it is monosymptomatic—affecting only 1 organ such as the pancreas). This category remains important because it may have specific therapeutic implications. Patients with male infertility and/or chronic sinusitis, in addition to RAP or CP, are classified here as *CFTR*-RD, with the other features noted (see LaRusch et al. (77)).

***SPINK1*-associated familial pancreatitis.** Patients with 2 pathogenic *SPINK1* variants in *trans* are also classified as autosomal recessive pancreatitis. Heterozygous pathogenic *SPINK1* variants are typically part of a complex, multigenic genotype.

Complex genetics

This category is emerging as one of the most important for all types of pancreatitis and other pancreatic diseases and is new in TIGAR-O_V2. Careful documentation of the risk and etiologic factors in individual patients is needed to continually improve the management of patients in the precision medicine paradigm. This category focuses on genetic variants that increase susceptibility to pancreatic injury, through the trypsin-dependent pathway (102), a protein misfolding pathway linked to the endoplasmic reticulum with a significant unfolded protein response (103), or other acinar or duct cell injury or stress mechanisms including calcium dysregulation (104,105). These represent disease drivers within the acinar or duct cells (e.g., causing recurrent injury), but do not include

common variants that modify the severity of injury, the immune response, or other disease features such as diabetes mellitus or pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (see below). Only variants that are known to be pathogenic or are likely pathogenic should be included in this checklist (e.g., see www.pancreasgenetics.org). The full genetic testing report should be stored separately.

CFTR variants in this category include cases in which one or more pathogenic variants that are in *cis* (all on the same allele with the other allele being “wild type”) and where there is either no functional information available (e.g., sweat chloride testing has not been performed) or when the functional testing of the genotype is normal (e.g., sweat chloride levels of <30 mmol/L). This category should also be checked if there are other pathogenic variants in this category (e.g., a single pathogenic *SPINK1* variant and *CTRC* variant) because *CFTR* variants may participate in multiple pathogenic pathways.

Other, NOS. This classification is for genetic variants that are considered susceptibility genes or disease drivers that are not listed above.

Modifier genes

Modifier genes differ from susceptibility genes in that do not independently cause RAP or CP, but make the disease phenotype worse. The list of pathogenic genetic variants selected for TIGAR-O_2 includes *CLDN2* (different genetics in men and women and linked to alcohol intake (106–108)), *SLC26A9* (linked with CF severity and their therapeutic responses (109,110)), *GGT1*, which likely requires generation of oxidative stress as the proximal cause and is associated with both pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer risk (111,112), and B blood type (associated with pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer) (113–115).

Other, NOS. This classification is for genetic variants that are considered modifier genes that are not listed above.

HTG syndromes

A clinical diagnosis of HTG should be included under “Toxic-metabolic > Hypertriglyceridemia.” In TIGAR-O_V2, a new category of HTG syndromes is included to document genetic variants in the most common genes associated with familial chylomicronemia syndrome (lipoprotein lipase gene [*LPL*] and *APOC2*) with other less common single gene variants or complex combinations of variants listed separately (see Moulin et al. (116)).

Multifactorial chylomicronemia syndrome. This category includes both genetic and environmental cofactors in complex combinations. This category should be selected in patients with HTG, once genetic testing is completed or if there is strong clinical evidence of the phenotype in a patient with a known, strong inherited genetic risk.

Other, NOS is for variants that are documented in the patients records but do not fit into the above categories. Examples include *ANGPTL3*, *APOA5*, *APOB*, *CELSR2*, *FABP4*, *FADS1,2,3*, *GCKR*, *GPIHBP1*, *LMF1*, *MLXIPL*, *PPARG*, and others (116,117).

Rare, non-neoplastic pancreatic genetic variant-associated syndromes

This represents a new category in TIGAR-O_V2 and includes a group of distinct clinical syndromes that include pancreas dysfunctions and that can be caused by pathogenic variants in one or more genes.

Shwachman-Diamond syndrome. Shwachman-Diamond syndrome (SDS) is characterized by exocrine pancreatic insufficiency with hematologic abnormalities (e.g., cyclic neutropenia), skeletal

defects, and short stature (118). SDS is a rare autosomal recessive disorder associated with mutations in the *SBDS* gene (119) and likely other genes such as *DNAJC21*, *ELF1*, and *SRP54* (118). It does not cause pancreatitis but does disrupt exocrine pancreatic function.

Johanson-Blizzard syndrome. Johanson-Blizzard syndrome (JBS) is a rare autosomal recessive syndrome characterized by exocrine pancreatic insufficiency, typical facial features, dental anomalies, hypothyroidism, sensorineural hearing loss, scalp defects, urogenital and anorectal anomalies, short stature, and cognitive impairment of variable degrees (120). JBS is linked to mutations in the ubiquitin-ligase E3 (*UBR1*) gene, which is a key part of the unfolded protein response pathway for serine proteases (120,121). Pancreatic damage is characterized by pancreatic insufficiency and growth restriction, with lipomatous transformation of the pancreas rather than AP.

Mitochondrial disorders. The pancreas requires large amounts of energy to function. Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) is critical to calcium regulation, and deficits can predispose to trypsin activation (104). Mitochondrial dysfunction increases the risk of pancreatitis (122). The human prototype is Pearson marrow-pancreas syndrome, characterized by progressive, multiple system organ dysfunction and death in early childhood. This syndrome was caused by a 4977-bp deletion of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) encompassing portions of the genes coding for nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) dehydrogenase, cytochrome oxidase, and ATPase (123). Less damaging genomic or mtDNA variants in patients with RAP or CP should be included here.

Other, NOS. In TIGAR-O_V1, the entity known as tropical pancreatitis was listed under “Idiopathic.” Tropical pancreatitis is a historical term used to describe otherwise idiopathic CP in tropical regions. In many cases, these patients have complex genetic etiologies that are similar to other complex genetic pancreatitis cases (124,125). The term “tropical pancreatitis” is considered obsolete by many experts. From a phenotypic perspective, there are 2 distinct subtypes: “Tropical calcific pancreatitis” and “Fibrocalticulous pancreatic diabetes.” Further research is needed to determine whether these represent distinct syndrome that differ from other complex pancreatitis cases by genetic signatures or other factors that represent a disease sub-type (126).

AUTOIMMUNE PANCREATITIS

AIP describes a type of inflammation that is not directly linked to pancreatic injury, involves an abnormal B-cell response, and generally responds to steroid treatment. Two general types of AIP are recognized.

AIP type I is pathologically described as lymphoplasmacytic sclerosing pancreatitis, is usually associated with elevated IgG4 levels, and may be a part of a systemic IgG4-related disease syndrome with other organs also affected.

AIP type II is pathologically defined by the granulocyte epithelial lesion (GEL). There are currently no serum markers for AIP type II. Because a definitive diagnosis by pancreatic biopsy is a high-risk procedure, a trial of steroids is often preferred with a strongly positive response leading to a presumptive diagnosis. There is a high coincidence of inflammatory bowel disease with AIP type II. Medications used in treatment of inflammatory bowel disease, such as azathioprine, are associated with AP or RAP independent of AIP.

AIP-NOS

This category is for complex pancreatitis conditions in which an autoimmune component is demonstrated, but it does not meet

the criteria for AIP type I or type II, such as patients with non-IgG4 antibodies to carbonic anhydrase and lactoferrin or other acinar or duct cell antigens (127–130).

RECURRENT ACUTE AND SEVERE AP

Among the strongest risk factors for the development of CP are RAP and severe AP (28,30,131,132). The risk of progression to CP after AP or RAP may also depend on the other etiologies (106,133). The goal of this category includes addressing the risk of progression to CP associated with different severity classifications of AP and with different etiologies of AP—including modifiable risk factors. RAP is >1 episode of AP, regardless of severity, and is a much stronger risk factor for CP than a single episode of AP (28,30,134).

The TIGAR-O_V1 class of “Postnecrotic (severe acute pancreatitis)” has been modified in the TIGAR-O_V2 checklist to include all cases of AP, with subclasses based on the severity criteria. SAP is defined as the presence of persistent systemic inflammatory response syndrome (≥ 48 hours) with MOF (lung, cardiovascular, and kidney) based on the modified Marshall score (see Banks et al. (135)) and the Determinant-Based Classification of AP Severity (136) that uses infected PNec or a new and persistent (≥ 48 hours) score (137) > 2 to define organ failure. Four subcategories include patients with or without SAP and by the presence or absence of $\geq 30\%$ PNec. The Short Form only includes a Yes/No option for previous AP.

Checklist users should check both AP and RAP if the patient has RAP. If they are using the Long Form, they should use $< 30\%$ PNec if PNec is unknown. Use $> 30\%$ if the patient developed a clinically significant pseudocyst or required surgery. Use SAP if the patient was admitted to the ICU for management. If not subcategory category can be selected with confidence, do not check any.

TIGAR-O_V1 included “Vascular diseases/ischemic” and “Post-irradiation” in Recurrent and Severe Acute Pancreatitis, but these have been moved to become examples of “Toxic-metabolic > Toxins > Oxidative stress-generating factors.”

TIGAR-O_V2 includes a new category that captures the major etiologies of AP/RAP that are generated outside of the pancreatic acinar/duct and that are not Toxic-metabolic factors. This includes biliary AP, which is a major etiology of SAP, post-endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (post-ERCP), which many be linked to new risk etiologies, and others. Infectious includes viral and other with link to documentation. Note that bacteria as an etiology should not be confused with a secondary infections such as infected PNec.

Checklist users. Including information on SAPE, RAP, and CP is critical for the understanding of the pathobiology of individual patients because some patients progress from SAPE \rightarrow RAP \rightarrow CP, whereas others do not, and approximately 40% of patients present with CP without RAP or SAPE, suggesting that they have a different underlying disease process. It is important to document the dates and complications of each episode of AP and any new features that develop including diabetes mellitus, pancreatic exocrine insufficiency, or change in pain patterns. In addition, the frequency of attacks should be documented. These are important for evaluating the trajectory of disease, outcomes, and effectiveness of interventions (3,134,138).

OBSTRUCTIVE

The major changes between TIGAR-O_V1 and TIGAR-O_V2 are the replacement of “Sphincter of Oddi disorders

(controversial) with “Ampullary stenosis” and the delineation of the location and etiology of factors that may obstruct the pancreatic ducts and contribute to obstructive CP.

Pancreatic calcifications develop within pancreatic ducts through poorly defined pathophysiological mechanisms. Because calcification/stone formation is highly variable, identifying patients with predominately large duct and predominately small duct (diffuse) calcifications is included.

Main pancreatic duct strictures are considered significant if there is upstream pancreatic duct dilation.

Localized masses can cause main pancreatic duct obstruction with permanent damage to upstream pancreatic tissue. Four categories are listed. Pancreatic ductal adenocarcinomas typically generate a desmoplastic reaction, which is not CP. Only localized pancreatic ductal adenocarcinomas with duct obstruction and residual CP pathology after tumor removal in patients should be included. If the patient had radiation therapy, also check the “Toxic-metabolic > Toxins, other > Oxidative stress-generating factors” category. Main duct intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasm (IPMN) should be localized, with upstream residual effects being due to obstruction.

Anatomic Variants is a new category within TIGAR-O_V2. This includes periampullary duodenal wall cysts, choledochoceles, Santoriniceles (focal cystic dilatation of the terminal portion of the dorsal pancreatic duct), anomalous pancreaticobiliary union, annular pancreas, and others, NOS. Pancreas divisum, a common variant and subject of ongoing studies, is retained within a separate category.

DISCUSSION

Our understanding of the spectrum of inflammatory diseases of the pancreas is undergoing a major revolution, driven in large part by the discovery that genetic variants play a major role in all aspects of pancreatic disease and that the spectrum of clinical features in patients with different diseases represents the interaction of multiple and common pathways. The complexity of chronic pancreatic diseases (17,24) and recognition of the importance of taking a holistic approach toward disease prevention and control (1) require a deeper understanding of disease mechanism, risk-etiology factors, and specific biomarkers of diseases activity and progressive state (139). The rationale for the TIGAR-O risk/etiology checklist is to provide mechanistic insights into a variety of pancreatic disorders with overlapping features and underlying mechanisms. For example, neither atrophy, fibrosis, pancreatic exocrine insufficiency, pancreatic pain, nor diabetes mellitus is specific for CP, especially early in the disease (15). The differential for detection of these clinical signs and symptoms and disease biomarkers includes AIP, pancreatic insufficiency syndromes, diabetes mellitus, obstructing masses, IPMNs, cancers, and other disorders. Furthermore, more than 1 disease can exist in the same person at the same time, making the diagnoses and management based on clinical features alone challenging. Thus, identifying and classifying risk and etiologies allows for the relative probability of disorders in the differential to be ranked and verified, based on further investigation and established criteria.

The approach to patients with idiopathic AP, RAP, and CP should include a complete checklist of all of all the factors in each patient. Organizing and standardizing a checklist assists in the assessment of a complex patient, facilitates the recognition of interacting factors, and helps identify potentially modifiable factors for lifestyle changes or therapeutic targeting.

The checklist should always be dated and updated with subsequent evaluations to include new information (e.g., genetic testing results) or changes in risk status (e.g., stopped smoking, control of HTG, and removal of an obstruction). It therefore serves as a key to define pathogenic pathways in active pancreatic diseases and defines risk of progression to successive stages, severities, and complications of disease (24). The standardized TIGAR-O_V2 checklist also provides structure for analyzing and comparing groups of patients using comparative statistics and/or machine learning to better define disease mechanisms and to optimize treatments. Insights from population studies are invaluable for advancing the caring for individual patients and groups of patients.

Checklist users should sequentially check the category heading, the subheading, and the specific factor. For example, a patient with familial HTG and 1 episode of AP might have all of the following categories checked: Toxic-metabolic > HTG > and all 3 subcategories of risk: Hypertriglyceridemic risk (if the HTG was not yet controlled), Hypertriglyceridemic AP, history of; and Familial HTG. In addition, if the patient was found to have a mutation in the *LPL* gene, the checklist user would also check Genetic > HTG syndromes > LPL. Finally, the checklist user should record the pancreatitis pattern and severity under Recurrent and SAP if 1 or more criteria are met.

The benefit of using a standardized approach to pancreatitis disorders early in the course of disease is that it provides a critical component of the precision medicine paradigm needed for successful disease mitigation or effective management. By necessity, success in preventing disease development and progression, rather than supportive care, will increasingly depend on the use of new health information technologies that link the patient, the patient data, the health care team, and a world of information together. In addition, this formatted tool will give the clinician focused on patient-centered care tangible information to review with patients directly. They will have the opportunity to discuss etiology and risk factors and ways to mitigate their patient’s individual risks directly.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Guarantor of the article: David C. Whitcomb, MD, PhD.

Specific author contributions: D.C.W. planned and coordinated the study, collected the data, and drafted the manuscript and approved the final draft. The other contributors reviewed the manuscript and approved the final draft.

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Study Highlights

WHAT IS KNOWN

- ✓ RAP and CP are complex inflammatory disorders.
- ✓ Multiple risk factors become etiologies once clinical disease begins.
- ✓ Complex gene and environment interactions drive RAP and CP through one or more disease mechanisms.
- ✓ Multiple disorders with features that overlap with the mechanistic definition of CP are considered in the differential diagnosis of CP.
- ✓ The TIGAR-O list of risk and etiologies provides an organizational tool for listing potential etiologies in patients, but new discoveries and insights are not included in the list.

WHAT IS NEW HERE

- ✓ The revised TIGAR-O Version 2 classification list is given.
- ✓ Clinically relevant details to understand the rationale and approach to complex risk factors, etiologies, and disease classifiers are discussed.
- ✓ Methods and specific cutoff values for documenting risks, potential etiologies, and clinical features are outlined.

TRANSLATIONAL IMPACT

- ✓ The TIGAR-O_V2 checklist provides a simple tool for busy physicians and health care workers to use in a clinical setting.
- ✓ A short form, TIGAR-O_V2-SF, can be used for initial risk/etiology/state classification while additional information is being gathered.
- ✓ The standardized format facilitates utilization of new health information technologies (HITs).
- ✓ The structured risk and etiologic format allows for epidemiological and systems biology studies to be conducted on the backend.
- ✓ Integration of the TIGAR-O_V2 system into clinical practice using health information technology, and linked to genomic data, biomarkers, clinical states, and other information will facilitate precision medicine.

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