

Pseudogout

Pseudogout is the deposition of calcium pyrophosphate crystals in joints, which are positively birefringent. Patients complain of arthritis, typically in the knee, and are usually above 50 years of age.



PLAY PICMONIC

Pathophysiology

> 50 Years Old

[Greater Than old 50-cent](#)

This disease is more common with age and is typically seen in individuals above the age of 50 years old.

Arthritis of Large Joints (Classically the Knee)

[King-Arthur with Large Joints](#)

Pseudogout can be monoarticular or polyarticular. It classically manifests as large joint pain, particularly affecting the knee.

Calcium Pyrophosphate Crystals

[Calcium-cow shooting Pyro-phosphate-P Crystals](#)

Calcium pyrophosphate crystals accumulate in joint causing arthritis. It is unknown how these crystals form.

Diagnosis

Positively Birefringent

[Positive Bi-refrigerators](#)

These crystals are positively birefringent under polarized light. Thus, they appear blue when parallel to the light.

Chondrocalcinosis (On X-ray)

[Condiment-calcium-cow](#)

This refers to calcification of articular cartilage and can be seen on imaging.

Treatment

NSAIDs

[N-sad](#)

NSAIDs help relieve pain and inflammation in patients with pseudogout.

Colchicine

[Cult-of-cheese](#)

Colchicine can inhibit leukocyte chemotaxis and degranulation and thus reduce inflammation and associated pain.

Steroids

[Steroid-stairs](#)

Steroids can reduce inflammation and associated pain.