AN UNUSUAL CASE OF NEONATAL PROLONGED UNCONJUGATED HYPERBILIRUBINEMIA

1Uszár Athar Khan Haider, 2Uszár Athar Khan Flinn, 2Uszár Athar Khan, 2Orla Neylon. An Unusual Case Of Neonatal Prolonged Unconjugated Hyperbilirubinemia, Limerick, Ireland; 2University Hospital Limerick, Limerick, Ireland

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Introduction Celiac disease is an immune-mediated small intestinal enteropathy with an increasing global prevalence. Despite worldwide awareness, the diagnosis is frequently delayed because of a broad range of clinical manifestations of this disorder.

Case-report We report a 12-year-old boy who was referred from another hospital with the suspicion of a chronic hepatopathy, with peripheral oedema, abdominal distension (possibly ascites), hypoalbuminemia, coagulopathy (INR 2.5) and low ceruloplasmin level. The disease progressed gradually with these symptoms for 2 weeks. Furthermore, the patient complained of intermittent diarrhoea, weight loss (8 kg), growth failure, chronic abdominal pain and fatigue for 18 months. The patient presented severe wasting and stunting (BMI 13.7), pallor, dry skin, clubbing, lack of energy and bradycardia. Ultrasonography detected diffusely hypechoic liver, polyserositis and dilated bowel loops. ALT was slightly elevated, bilirubin level and ammonemia were normal, INR 1.2 after vitamin K parenterally administered (Koller test) and urinary copper excretion rate was low. We excluded the hypothesis of liver failure. Antibody TG >200 U/ml, HLA-DQ2 typing, led us to the final diagnosis of celiac disease. Treatment included a gluten-free diet, albumin, calcium and magnesium supplements, with an improved clinical appearance.

Conclusions The coagulopathy caused by vitamin K malabsorption and hypoproteinemia could be misdiagnosed as liver disease, leading to delayed diagnosis and inappropriate treatment of celiac disease. Further attention should be given towards the uncommon presentations of celiac disease.

COW’S MILK PROTEIN ALLERGY IN CHILDREN – CLINICAL PRESENTATION, DEMOGRAPHIC DATA AND FAMILY HISTORY IN A STUDY POPULATION

1Vanessza Emmert, 2Dominika Lendvai-Emmert, 2Tünde Komáromi-Szabó*, 1Gergely Tóth. 1Erzsébet Teaching Hospital and Rehabilitation Institute, Sopron, Hungary; 2University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary

Introduction Food allergy in children is a frequent topic of clinical studies, considering the increasing number of the affected individuals and the diversity of the symptoms these children demonstrate. Cow’s milk protein allergy is the most common food allergy in the paediatric population, with an estimated prevalence of 2–6% in infants.

Cow’s milk protein allergy can induce a variety of clinical symptoms, therefore establishing the correct diagnosis is often difficult. Beside the various clinical presentation, demographic and additional medical data of the research population and their families were also reviewed in this study.

Methods The study was conducted at the Paediatric Gastroenterology Department of the Balassa János County Hospital in Székesfehérvár, Hungary. The research population (n=47) included children (0–18 years) with symptoms suggesting cow’s milk protein allergy. This component of our research represents the data from questionnaires filled in by the parents. The evaluation of the results was performed with SPSS statistical software.

Results 47 children were included in our study (57.4% male, mean age: 7.36 years, SD: 4.22).