

A Lady with Tuberous Sclerosis with Abdominal Distension**Abhinav Gupta¹, Radhika Govil¹, Atiq Ur Rehman², Preshant Choubey³**¹Post Graduate student in Medicine, ²MD Medicine, Assistant Professor, ³MD Medicine, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Peoples College of Medical Sciences And Research Centre, Bhopal (M.P), India***Corresponding author**

Dr. Abhinav Gupta

Email: abhinavguptasmims@gmail.com

Abstract: Tuberous sclerosis also called tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC), is a rare genetic disease that causes benign tumors to grow in body, resulting in a variety of hamartomatous lesions that may affect virtually every system of the body. Tuberous sclerosis is often detected during infancy or childhood. Some people with tuberous sclerosis have such mild symptoms that it couldn't diagnosed until adulthood, while others experience serious disabilities. The signs and symptoms of tuberous sclerosis widely vary, depending on where the tumors develop and how severely a person is affected. The best-known cutaneous manifestation of TSC is adenoma sebaceum, which often does not appear until late childhood or early adolescence.**Keywords:** tuberous sclerosis, Renal Angiomyolipoma, adenoma sebaceum

INTRODUCTION

First described in the 1880s, "tuberous sclerosis complex" also called as "Bourneville's disease" named after the French physician Desire-Magloire Bourneville. Tuberous sclerosis is a neurocutaneous autosomal dominant disorder with an estimated prevalence of 9/100000 population and a varied clinical presentation which affects multiple organs like skin, brain, kidneys, eyes, lungs, teeth, etc. However, some organs are involved more than other [1]. Neurological presentation of tuberous sclerosis occurs typically in children with seizures and intellectual impairment. However approximately 50% of patients who fulfil the diagnostic criteria have normal intellect and 15% remain free from seizures [2]. Genetic studies have shown that two thirds of cases do not have affected parents, and the disease results from a new dominant mutation either in the TSC1 gene on chromosome 9q343 or the TSC2 gene on chromosome 16p13 with the latter accounting for an estimated 78% of cases [3, 4].

Here we report a case of 48 yr old female came to our hospital with complains of abdominal distension.

CASE REPORT

A 48 year old female came to the hospital with complain of abdominal distension from the past 10 years. Patient was able to feel two distinct masses in abdomen which started from lower abdomen and was gradually progressive to reach the upper abdomen. This was associated with nausea, vomiting, pain abdomen, reduced appetite and weight loss.

In the past, patient had history of seizures till the age of 7 yrs after which it got subsided on its own without any medication. She had 6 children out of which 3 children had history of seizures, in which 2 are dead and one is still alive. Parents and siblings have no such history.

On examination patient had multiple hyperpigmented papules over nose and cheeks (FIGURE 1), hyperkeratosis in nail beds of fingers and toes (FIGURE 2). Two distinct lump in either half of the abdomen was palpated which are present in right and left lumbar, iliac, and hypogastria region for which MRI was done which showed large heterogeneous masses from both kidneys occupying almost entire abdomen (FIGURE 3), mixed fat and soft tissue intensity was noted in the masses which most likely represent Renal Angiomyolipoma. For hyperpigmented papules on face biopsy was done which was suggestive of adenoma sebaceum. In due course routine biochemical investigations were done which came out to normal except for hypoproteinemia. With all the findings the final diagnosis of tuberous sclerosis with renal Angiomyolipoma was made. As the patient had financial constraints so the patient couldn't continue the treatment in our hospital and was referred to government hospital.



Fig.1:hyperpigmented papules over nose and cheeks (adenoma sebaceum)



Fig.2: hyperkeratosis in nail beds



Fig.3: MRI Abdomen showing renal angiomyolipoma

DISCUSSION

TS is a rare multisystem autosomal inherited disorder that causes non-malignant tumours to grow in the brain and on other vital organs such as the kidneys, heart, eyes, lungs, and skin. TS are caused by a mutation of either of two genes, TSC1 and TSC2, which code for the proteins hamartin and tuberin respectively. These proteins act in a complex as growth suppressors by inhibiting the activation of a master, evolutionarily conserved kinase called mTOR. Loss of regulation of mTOR occurs in cells lacking either hamartin or tuberin, and this leads to abnormal differentiation and development, and to the generation of enlarged cells [5].

The benign, non-invasive lesions of tuberous sclerosis can appear in any organ like the brain, heart, skin, eyes, kidney, lung, and liver. Therefore, TS has a wide clinical spectrum. The diagnosis of definitive TS is based on specific clinical features and requires the presence of two major criteria, or one major and two minor [6]. Pulmonary lymphangioleiomyomatosis, renal Angiomyolipoma and facial angiofibroma are some of the major clinical features. The most frequent cause of death in patients with TS is renal complication [6, 8]. Multifocal, bilateral Angiomyolipoma are found in about 70-90% of adult patients [6], and the prevalence increases with age, being less frequent in children [3,4]. These lesions are more often prevalent in women, suggesting a hormonal component to the tumour growth [9]. The Angiomyolipoma are composed of varying amounts of mature adipose tissue, smooth muscle, and abnormal blood vessels [6,9]. The demonstration of intratumoral fat with negative attenuation values at CT is virtually pathognomonic of Angiomyolipoma. Thin-section unenhanced CT is essential to visualize the fat content of Angiomyolipoma [10]. Progressive enlargement of tumours and haemorrhage into the lesion can result in flank pain, a palpable tender mass and gross or microscopic haematuria, and interfere with renal function [9]. Tumours larger than 4 cm in diameter have a greater risk of spontaneous or traumatic rupture resulting in hemorrhagic complications [9], which is the most common cause of death in patients with TS [11]. Some patients with TS carry a contiguous germline deletion that affects both the TSC2 gene and the adjacent gene, polycystic kidney disease type 1 (PKD1), resulting in a polycystic kidney phenotype that leads to early renal insufficiency [6,7]. In our patient, as there is no family history which indicates that she might have acquired mutation in the TSC2 gene. Renal cell carcinoma can occur in approximately 2-3% of adults with TS [6].

The principal goal of AML management is preservation of renal tissue and prevention or treatment of symptoms, particularly haemorrhage, which can be life threatening. Treatment methodology is decided based on the size of the tumour, symptoms, and rate of growth, complications, and the degree of diagnosis certainty on radiologic results. Selective arterial embolization has shown itself effective either in the treatment of haemorrhage or as the initial treatment of AML. However, the disadvantage of this method is its inability to provide tissue for histological examination; therefore, it should not be undertaken as the only treatment unless there is a very high degree of diagnostic certainty. Regarding surgical treatment, tumorectomy, partial nephrectomy, or total nephrectomy may be performed [12]. Total nephrectomy should be performed sparingly—in cases

of uncontrollable bleeding, central tumours, massive tumours, presence of extensive necrosis, or when there is a diagnosis of RCC in the same kidney [12]. Recently, cryotherapy and radiofrequency ablation have been suggested as therapeutic options.

CONCLUSION

Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) is an autosomal dominant disorder characterized by hamartomatous tumours that involve multiple organ systems. Approximately 80% of patients with TSC develop renal angiomyolipoma (AML).

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