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A rare manifestation of a common disease: An adolescent girl with a transient ischemic attack (TIA) like presentation in multiple tuberculoma

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Statement of the Problem:

Tuberculosis (TB), an endemic disease in India, is a multi-system infectious disease that commonly infects the lungs but can spread in the form of extrapulmonary TB. While TB lymphadenitis is a common sequela, suprasternal lymph node involvement is very rare. Central nervous system (CNS) involvement accounts for only 1% of all TB cases but is a life-threatening infection and has a wide variety of presentations in children. The sub-acute and non-specific neurological clinical features can lead to difficulty in the diagnosis of tuberculoma. We report a case of intracranial tuberculoma with tuberculous lymphadenitis in an adolescent female with an unusual TIA-like neurological presentation. The patient was diagnosed with CNS-TB using clinical examination, laboratory, radiological imaging, and aspiration cytology tests. Thereafter, the adolescent was successfully managed with antitubercular therapy and anticonvulsant.

Conclusion & Significance:

TB can present with non-specific or unusual neurological manifestations. Compliance with treatment is a major deciding factor in TB and must be addressed by clinicians. In cases of CNS TB, anti-convulsant(s) with a full course of anti-tubercular treatment is the mainstay for the long-term prevention of seizures.

Recent publications

1) Krutika Tandon, Rahul Tandon, Meet Patel, Charmy Parikh, and Henil Upadhyay.

Glutaric Aciduria Type II with Ketosis in a Male Infant. Cureus Journal 2021. 1.7759/cureus.14407

2) Krutika Tandon, Rahul Tandon, Charmy G. Parikh, Henil M. Upadhyay, and Meet Patel.

Rare manifestation of common disease: An adolescent girl with transient ischemic attack (TIA) like presentation in multiple tuberculoma. Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care 2021. 10.4103/jfmpc.jfmpc_603_21

Biography

Dr Meet Patel is an NHS junior doctor currently working as an SHO in Elderly Care, at Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital (Oswestry, Shropshire). He has previously worked as an SHO in the Urology centre, at Alexandra Hospital (Redditch, Worcestershire). He has a background teaching work experience at Dr Mo Sobhy PLAB Academy (Liverpool, England) as a PLAB Tutor, Mentor & Mock Examiner and a Medicine tutor in Knowledge Institute of Physiotherapy (Gujarat, India). He is a global ambassador for Inspire Medics & Trewlink community (UK-based medical organizations). He completed his medical school and F1-level internship at Sardar Patel University (Gujarat, India).