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Possible role of rhinovirus in Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome exacerbation

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Background: Lennox-Gastaut syndrome (LGS) refers to a rare form of childhood-onset epilepsy characterized by cognitive dysfunction, generalized multiple type seizures, and slow spike-wave seen on an electroencephalogram (EEG). LGS presents between the ages of 3-5 and can persist into adulthood. LGS is associated with brain tumors and malformations, congenital infections, gene mutations and related disorders not limited to tuberous sclerosis. The management of LGS is limited due to treatment-resistant seizures. The prognosis for LGS is poor as mortality rates increase from childhood (5%) to adulthood (90%).

Case: We present a case of a 3-year-old female with a past medical history of LGS, global developmental delays, epileptic encephalopathy, and multiple chromosomal mutations (VUS-ALG13, CARS2, NF1). She presented to a local hospital after experiencing seven seizure episodes within 24 hours and experienced two more episodes within a minute. Ativan and Keppra were administered. For further management, she was later transferred to another hospital. Upon arrival, the patient was febrile and experienced two more seizure episodes. She was placed on a multi-drug regiment (Ativan, Onfi, Vigabatrin) of which improved her condition. The EEG demonstrated abnormalities that included diffuse spike/waves as well as multifocal spike/waves. She was later found to have an imposing rhinovirus infection.

Conclusion: We present a case of LGS exacerbation induced by a rhinovirus infection. While seizures in LGS are usually treatment-resistant, correction of any underlying causes could improve any LGS exacerbations.

Biography

Jonathan Quinonez passionate about medical cannabis research and advancing this important field of study – which is what attracted me to CannaMD. I look forward to participating in studies and helping patients by providing education, empathy, and evidence-based medical marijuana recommendations.