A Case Report on Griscelli Syndrome

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Abstract: Background: Griscelli syndrome (Partial albinism with variable immunodeficiency) is an uncommon disorder characterized by pigmentary dilution and variable cellular and humoral immunodeficiency. It is inherited as an autosomal recessive disorder. Features include hepatosplenomegaly, silvery grey sheen hair, large clumped melanosomes in hair shafts, pancytopenia, hepatitis and immunologic abnormalities. The commonest complication leading to mortality includes lymphohistiocytic proliferation in various organs, including the brain. Case Report: A 8 months old female child brought by parents with complaints of fever since 2 months [on & off], abdominal distension since 1 month. H/O developmental delay present [neck holding attained at 5th month, sitting with support not yet attained] H/O similar hair pattern to paternal uncle & grandmother. On examination vitals stable, febrile. Child was pallor with greying of hair and eyebrows, liver 2 cm below RCM, massive splenomegaly [8cm below LCM] firm in consistency.

Keywords: griscelli syndrome, hemophagocytosis, Lymphohistiocytic proliferation, Silvery gray hair, hepatosplenomegaly

1. Investigations

HB:-6.1g/dl, wbc count:-3300cells/cumm RBC count:-3.6M/cumm

Platelet Count: 0.54 lakhs/cumm, CRP:-23.80mg/l Routine fever investigations normal. Hypertriglyceridemia [629mg/dl], hypofibrinogemia [100mg/dl] and hypeferritinemia [1534 ng/ml].

USG Abdomen: mild hepatomegaly, moderate splenomegaly

Peripheral Smear: Moderate Degree Microcytic Hypochromic Anaemia with Thrombocytopenia

Bone Marrow Report: Positive for Hemophagocytosis.

2. Discussion

Griscelli syndrome (Partial albinism with variable immunodeficiency) is an uncommon disorder characterized by pigmentary dilution and variable cellular and humoral immunodeficiency.

The genetic defects include mutations in either MYO 5A or RAB 27A, both located on chromosome 15q21(5,6). The hemophagocytic syndrome seen in GS-1 and GS-2 is also described as the accelerated phase

This is secondary to the uncontrollable T lymphocyte and macrophage hyperactivation. The main differentiation between GS-1 and GS-2 is the primary or secondary central nervous system (CNS) involvement.

The secondary CNS involvement in GS-2 is caused by the infiltration of lymphocytes and histiocytes as a result of hemophagocytic syndrome. Temporary remission of the
accelerated phase seen in GS-2 can be achieved with chemotherapy or immunotherapy. However, recurrent relapses of increasing severity are frequently observed as infiltration of the CNS despite maintenance therapy.

BMT is the only curative treatment of GS-2. Patients usually succumb to severe infection or CNS infiltration at an average age of 5 years without BMT. Thus prompt diagnosis is vital in the prognosis of GS-2.

Palliative management includes treatment of associated infections, and immunomodulatory therapy during accelerated phases.