FIRST REPORT OF INTRAUTERINE PERICARDIOCENTESIS IN A FETUS WITH NEONATAL LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

Background and aims Neonatal lupus erythematosus (NLE) is a passively acquired autoimmune disease of infancy, caused by the transplacental passage of maternal autoantibodies, mostly anti-RO/SSA and anti-LA/SSB. NLE presents with a transient rash and/or congenital heart block (CHB). The risk of developing NLE in SSA-positive women is ~2%, however the risk increases to 25%, if the mother has had a previous child with NLE.

Objectives We present a case of NLE characterised by a third-degree CHB, ascites and life-threatening pericardial effusion, which was treated twice with intrauterine pericardiocentesis in week 22 and 29. After birth the child was treated with systemic corticosteroid on and off for 1 year, and she later received a pacemaker and was treated with ACE inhibitor and diuretics due to heart failure. Now, at the age of 6 years, she is still treated with ACE inhibitor. Her older sister also had NLE and her mother was found to have asymptomatic anti-SSA >100 U/ml.

Discussion This case is exceptional, as the fetus had severe exudative pericarditis and had life-saving pericardiocentesis performed in utero. We want to draw the clinicians’ attention to the increased risk of NLE, when a mother earlier has given birth to a child with NLE. Regular fetal echocardiography is important from week 16. In case of first- and second-degree CHB, maternal corticosteroid can be tried to reverse the condition. Also, treatment with hydroxychloroquine or IVIG may decrease the risk of CHB.

MATERNAL AND FETAL OUTCOMES AMONG FILIPINO PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: A SINGLE CENTRE STUDY

Background and aims Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) usually affects women of child-bearing age, with pregnancy thus posing a relevant management challenge. This paper describes materno-fetal outcomes among Filipino SLE patients in a single tertiary care centre.

Methods We retrospectively reviewed the medical files of patients in the Lupus Database of the University of Santo Tomas Hospital in Manila, Philippines, who had a recorded pregnancy after SLE diagnosis, describing the maternal and fetal outcomes of each pregnancy.

Results There were a total of 197 pregnancies among 99 patients. Average age at first pregnancy was 29 years old. Lupus Nephritis (LN) was present in 13.7%, hyperthyroidism 1.0%, and autoimmune thyroiditis 1.0%. Maternal complications intra- and post-partum included hypertension (5.6%), pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) (4.0%), pre-eclampsia (3.6%), HELLP syndrome, gestational diabetes (GDM) (3.0%), urinary tract infections (UTI) (3.0%), herpes zoster (2.0%) and 0.5% cases each of TB meningitis, TB spondylitis, dilated cardiomyopathy, and postpartum depression. Term deliveries were recorded in 98 (79.0%) pregnancies while 26 (21.0%) were delivered preterm. There were 73 (37.0%) nonviable pregnancies including miscarriages (82.2%), intrauterine fetal demise (IUFD) (11.0%) and blighted ovum (6.8%). Normal birth weight was recorded in 83.9% of infants. Congenital abnormalities included congenital heart block (0.8%), meningocoele (0.8%), thyroid abnormality (0.8%), G6PD deficiency (0.8%), and autism (0.8%).

Conclusions Although successful pregnancy outcomes are possible for SLE patients, miscarriages, preterm deliveries, blighted ovum and IUFD remain a concern, requiring close monitoring and intensive multi-specialty team approach.

QUALITY OF LIFE OF PATIENTS WITH LUPUS NEPHRITIS: CLINICAL-PATHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISATION OF MATERNAL AND FETAL OUTCOMES AMONG FILIPINO LUPUS

Background and aims Neonatal lupus erythematosus was present in 13.7%, hyperthyroidism in 1.0%, and autoimmune thyroiditis in 1.0%. Maternal complications intra- and post-partum included hypertension in 5.6%, pulmonary tuberculosis in 4.0%, pre-eclampsia in 3.6%, HELLP syndrome, gestational diabetes (GDM) in 3.0%, urinary tract infections (UTI) in 3.0%, herpes zoster in 2.0% and 0.5% cases each of TB meningitis, TB spondylitis, dilated cardiomyopathy, and postpartum depression. Term deliveries were recorded in 98 (79.0%) pregnancies while 26 (21.0%) were delivered preterm. There were 73 (37.0%) nonviable pregnancies including miscarriages (82.2%), intrauterine fetal demise (IUFD) (11.0%) and blighted ovum (6.8%). Normal birth weight was recorded in 83.9% of infants. Congenital abnormalities included congenital heart block in 0.8%, meningocoele in 0.8%, thyroid abnormality in 0.8%, G6PD deficiency in 0.8%, and autism in 0.8%.

Conclusions Although successful pregnancy outcomes are possible for SLE patients, miscarriages, preterm deliveries, blighted ovum and IUFD remain a concern, requiring close monitoring and intensive multi-specialty team approach.

QUALITY OF LIFE OF PATIENTS WITH LUPUS NEPHRITIS: THE CASE OF THE COLOMBIAN CARIBBEAN REGION

Background and aims The objective of this study was to analyse the impact of lupus nephritis (LN) on the quality of life of 30 patients from the coast clinic in the city of Barranquilla, Colombia, diagnosed with this disease.

Methods To evaluate the patients’ quality of life, the GENCAT scale was used as the instrument of study and three controls were performed on each patient since they were diagnosed with LN. It also counted with the collaboration of the medical and psychological body of the clinic.

Results The results of the study showed that the patients in the first controls obtained a low score with respect to the dimensions that make up the GENCAT scale, whereas the second and third controls, it was possible to observe improvements in the dimensions of the GENCAT scale, indicating that the patients began to perceive a favourable quality of life.

Conclusions When the patient has a good response to treatment, aspects of their quality of life improve markedly.

CLINICAL-PATHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISATION OF COHORT OF 400 PATIENTS WITH LUPUS NEPHRITIS: NEFRORED REGISTRY

Background and aims Lupus Nephritis is one of the most serious complications of SLE with a prevalence of 65%, it is diagnosed in the first five years of SLE and is uncommon after 10 years. Between 5% and 25% of cases have Chronic Renal Disease (CKD) after 5 years.