

Dental Management of COACH Syndrome

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Objective

This Case report will present the orodigital facial manifestation of JS and related disorders and present the experience in providing dental care.

Introduction

Coach syndrome

This article reported two cases of Saudi pediatric male and female patients with growth retardation. Parents are first cousins supporting an autosomal recessive mode of inheritance. Male and female are equally affected and occurs in 1 to 100,000 live births.

The literature review reveals COACH Syndrome:

Cerebellar venis defect (Joubert Syndrome) by Dr. Joubert 1969

Oligophrenia- mental retardation

Ataxia- lack of muscle control or hypotonia

Coloboma- malformation of the retina or ither parts of the eye

Hepatic fibrosis

Characterized as a rare brain malformation by the absence or underdevelopment of the cerebellar vermis - an area of the brain that controls balance and coordination as well as a malformed brain stem in which the obligatory hallmark is the molar tooth sign (MTS) through magnetic imaging.

Case 1

A 5-year-old male presented to the emergency clinic complaining of continuous biting on lip and tongue causing deep ulcer on them, difficulty in feeding and sleeping.

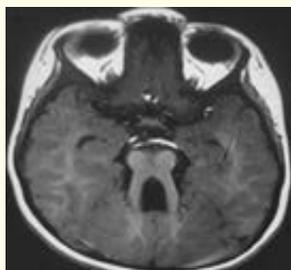
Past history revealed that the child was born by normal vaginal delivery in a hospital of full term pregnancy. Patient was diagnosed by antenatal ultra sound finding occipital frontal circumference larger than normal ventriculomegaly.

A child with the classic features of JS include ataxia, hyperpnea (abnormal breathing pattern), sleep apnea, abnormal eye and tongue movements, 4 arched eyebrows and eyelid ptosis with- spaced eyes.

On examination, patient's weight is 15 kg and .75 m height. All deciduous teeth are normal and free of caries. Deep ulcer on lip, tongue with bus exudate, continuous biting on tongue and lip. Patient was referred to neuro consultation and IV fluid replacement. Blood examination showed evidence of dehydration as shown in Table 1.

Treatment

Decision was taken by group consultation for extraction of the anterior teeth under local anesthesia and supported by nitrous oxide. Two weeks later, tongue and lip healed with scar. Patient developed good sleeping habits, had stopped lip and tongue biting, and improved psychologically.



Case 2

Female 13-years-old came with brother with no complain. Diagnosed with JS since age 6 month. With growth and mental retardation, ataxia, feeding, breathing patterns is less severe than her brother.

On examination, blood examination was normal, free of caries, with normal lip; tongue free of ulcer; no convulsion was noted.

Table 1. Blood examination results of the patients

BLOOD EXAMINATION	PATIENT 1	RANGE
WBC	14.0	5.0 – 14.5
RBC	3.15 L	3.9 – 5.30
HGB	8.8 L	11.5 – 15.5
HCT	0.285 L	0.360 – 0.440
MCV	91 H	73 – 89
MCH	27.9	24.0 – 30.0
MCHC	30.9 L	31.0 – 35.0
RDW	16.4 H	11.0 – 14.0
PLT	431	150 – 450
MPV	9.2	7.8 – 11.0
LYMPH	4.2	2.2 – 9.8
MONO	1.8 H	0.1 – 1.0
ALANINE TRANSAMINASE	47 H	2 – 40
ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE	80	0 – 269
SODIUM	141	135 – 145
POTASSIUM	4.1	3.2 – 5.0
UREA	17.6 H	2.3 – 7.5
CREATININE	58 H	23 – 37
TOTAL BILIRUBIN	4	2 – 22
ALBUMIN	44	38 – 51
CALCIUM	2.39	2.12 – 2.57
CORRECTED CALCIUM	2.29	2.12 – 2.57

Prognosis

The prognosis for individuals with JS varies. Some patients have a mild form with minimal motor disability and good mental development, while other may have severe motor disability and moderate mental developmental delays.



Conclusion

It was concluded that early dental treatment include symptomatic and supportive for patient diagnosed with JS. Education for parent is necessary to avoid possible future complication such as eating or feeding difficulties with dehydration.

Infant stimulation and physical occupational speech and hearing therapy may benefit for some patient.

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