ACROMEGLY

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Case study

History

• Male, 40 years old, Farmer, 3 children.

Symptoms

 Headache, vomiting, increased shoes size and rings. After 3 years- polyphagia, polyuria, polydypsia, diabetes and joint pain.

Past history and family history.

• No drugs, operation. No family history.

Diagnosis-General exam

Vital signs

• 37°c, BP- 160/90, regular pulse, fully conscious.

Head

 Elongated head, prominent supra-orbital ridges, enlarged nose, lips, ear, prognathism, separated teeth. Husky voice.

Neck

By inspection, palpation

Diagnosis-Systemic examination

Skin

• Thickened, folds, sweaty, greasy skin.

Neuromuscular

Myopathy and neuropathy.

Bone

• Crepitus in knee joint.



Introduction

Acromegaly – serious hormonal disorder

Body produce too much growth hormone (GH)- produced by pituitary gland.

Too much growth hormone- tissues grow larger than normal lead to acromegaly.

Occurrence in children- gigantism(long bones of arms and legs)

Can affects all age group, all ethnic groups, strikes women and men equally and all region of the world.



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Pituitary Gland and Acromegaly

- The pituitary gland is about the size of a pea
- It is located at the base of the brain.
- It controls the production of hormones in most of endocrine glands.
- In almost all cases, it is caused by a benign (noncancerous) tumour of the pituitary gland.





PITUITARY GLAND









• Joint aches

- Thick, coarse and oily skin
- Deepening of voice due to enlarged sinuses and vocal cords
- Sleep apnea
- Excessive sweating and body odour
- Fatigue and weakness
- Headaches
- Impaired vision
- Abnormal menstruation
- Impotence
- Widely spaced teeth
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Heavy sweating

Diagnostic Tests

- 1. Blood test
 - **□** Elevated Growth Hormone (GH) levels
 - Elevated serum insulin like growth factor
- 2. Oral Glucose Tolerance test
 - □ Ingestion of 75g of sugar causes GH reduction
 - Normal patient: GH reduction occurs
 - □ Acromegaly: GH reduction does not occur
- 3. Visual Field Test

Confirmatory Tests

• Imaging test

Magnetic resonance Imaging or computed tomography

□ First, locates tumor at the pituitary gland

- If it fails, the chest, abdomen or pelvis are searched for tumors
- Growth hormone releasing hormone can be detected in non-pituitary tumors

Treatment

• Surgery :

Remove pituitary tumors - transsphenoidal surgery.



Medications

- ≻Somatostatin analogues
 - interfere with the excessive secretion of GH by the pituitary, produce rapid declines in GH levels.
- ➤Dopamine agonists
 - Iower levels of GH and IGF-I or decrease tumor size.
- ≻Growth hormone antagonist
 - normalize IGF-I levels and relieve symptoms , but does not lower GH levels or reduce tumor size.

• Radiation :

≻When tumor cells remain after surgery.



Prevention

• Early treatment may prevent complications.



Conclusion



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