Vision Loss Case of Bardet Biedl Syndrome

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Abstract

We would like to report a rare case of Bardet Biedl Syndrome of a women forty-three years, known case of Retinitis pigmentosa presented for medical report, after ocular and systemic assessment we found she is obese, moon face, and has extra toes of both feet and some other finding which was diagnosed later on Bardet Biedl Syndrome. We documented this rare case for its important in clinical practice for regular systemic follow up and therefore, subsequently requiring management accordingly.

Keywords: Bardet Biedl; Retinitis Pigmentosa; Obesity; Polydactyly.

Introduction

Bardet Biedl Syndrome is a rare hereditary autosomal recessive disorder with multisystem involvement. The prevalence 1:140,000 and 1:160,000 [1, 2]. While the number prevalence increased with consanguinity marriage by 1:65,000 [3]. The complete BBS represented by obesity, retinal rods and cone degeneration, mental retardation, postaxial polydactyly, stunted growth, renal involvement and hypogonadism [4]. The review would give the fundamental familiarity with the syndrome manifestation that will have an effect in early control of disease and directing advantages to the patients and their families. Hence, we conducted this study along with clinical profile of Bardet Biedl Syndrome patient.

Case Report

A woman of forty-three years, known case of retinitis pigmentosa and presented to East Jeddah Hospital, Ophthalmology department requesting a medical report, by history, she was not able to see at night for years then both day and night lost with noticed horizontal nystagmus. Patient has past history learning difficulties. The rest of systemic review is unremarkable. By examination: patient underwent for dysmorphology examination, anthropometric measurements, ophthalmology evaluation such microscopic examination, fundus camera and Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT). Patient was conscious, mild cognitive impairment and no cerebellar signs, including coordination and gait instability. Examinations of power, tone grades and Sensation of all limbs were intact.

Her BMI is 30.8 obese, other findings were polydactyly of lower limbs, Figure 1 upper limb polydactyly has had excised at childhood. The rest of examination was irrelevant. Laboratory and radiology have obtained, include of complete blood count, random blood sugar, HgA1c, liver, renal function tests, and abdominal/pelvic ultrasonography, Electrocardiography (ECG) that were found to be normal.

Ocular History

Visual Acuity: light perception both eyes and horizontal nystagmus in both eyes.

Slit Lamp: Lids/Lashes, Conjunctiva and Cornea are Normal.

Goldman Tonometry: OD: 16 mmHg OS: 14 mmHg at 2:30 PM.

Fundus Exam: multiple bony spicules and attenuated vessels with pale optic disc. Retinitis pigmentosa on fundoscopy Figure 2 thinned and atrophy of RBE Figure 3.

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Discussion

Bardet Biedl Syndrome is a rare hereditary autosomal recessive disorder with multisystem involvement. Diagnosis of BBS was made when four of the primary features or three primary features and two secondary features were present [5]. The primary features of BBS include rod-cone dystrophy, post axial polydactyly or other dystrophic extremities such brachydactyly or syndactyly, obesity, impaired cognitive, renal abnormality, and male hypogonadism [6]. The other signs associated secondary features include liver fibrosis, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, short stature, speech defects, and developmental delay.

In contrast, to the variety of manifestations among BBS, the rod-cone deterioration prevalence still the highest number reached up to 95% our patient was started complain in early second decade of age for only night blindness and later on, by mid of thirty, she unfortunately lost both eyes vision (No Perception of Light).

The poor visual acuity early live of those patients can be attributed with Macular degeneration. Study done by Azari et al., has shown ten patients with BBS suffered from maculopathy in beginning of their life showing peripheral retinal degeneration and peripheral pigments as well [7].

Postaxial polydactyl, is considered common reported systemic sign in BBS, it was our guide to discover the syndrome. Polydactyly of toes is presented more common than fingers although, our patient has both upper and lower limb polydactyl but she has had...
the extra fingers excised at childhood [5]. The prevalence gene mutation of BBS is in BBS1 to BBS18 gene accounts for about 70% - 80% world wide [8] While the prevalence of BBS3, BBS9 genes mutations are found in the Saudi Arabia race [9].

Conclusion

Our case has shown advance retinitis pigmentosa (RP) and Maculopathy in middle-aged women resulting blindness of both eyes in a case of Bardet Biedl Syndrome.

In spite, no definite treatment of BBS, the early diagnose, counseling, control of disease manifestation could suppress a variety of organ complication and subsequently reduce morbidity and mortality.

References


