Overlapping of Sturge-Weber Syndrome and Klippel-Trenaunay Weber Syndrome with Upper Limb Involvement

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Received 2015 February 26; Accepted 2015 May 20.

Abstract

Introduction: The phakomatoses are a group of clinical disorders that are linked. Overlap between Sturge-Weber Syndrome (SWS) and Klippel-Trenaunay Weber Syndrome (KTWS) is very rarely.

Case Presentation: We presented a case of SWS with KTWS that involved upper limb. A 24 years old male with extensive port-wine staining over left side of his face, extending to lower eyelids, cheeks, neck and left upper extremity. The size of mid arm circle in left side was 34cm and in right side was 27cm.

Conclusions: This is a case of overlap SWS and KTWS that involved upper limb.

Keywords: Sturge Weber Syndrome, Klippel-Trenaunay Weber Syndrome, Upper Limb

1. Introduction

The phakomatoses are a group of clinical disorders that are linked. One of these disorders is Sturge-Weber syndrome (SWS) and the other is Klippel-Trenaunay Weber syndrome (KTWS). The SWS is a neurocutaneous congenital but not an inherited disease and it occurs sporadically. It is a disorder of vasculature which belongs to the group of phakomatosis characterized by nevus flammeus and angiomas of the meninges, abnormal blood vessels on the cerebral cortex [1]. It is a rare disease that occurs with a frequency of approximately 1 per 50,000 [2]. These changes are usually unilateral. It can be seen in both sexes equally. The SWS and port-wine stains are caused by a somatic activating mutation in GNAQ [3].

KTWS is a very rare; the prevalence is 1/20,000 - 40,000. It is sporadic, complex malformation characterized by the clinical triad of (A) capillary malformations (B) soft tissue and bone hypertrophy and (C) atypical, mostly lateral varicosity [4].

2. Case Presentation

The patient is a 24 years old male, who referred to our ward due to frequent seizures. The seizure attacks start on left extremities and then may be generalized since three years ago. Physical examination revealed that there was extensive port-wine staining over left side of his face, extending to lower eyelids, cheeks, neck and left upper extremity (Figure 1).

The portwine stain lesions were after birth. The size of mid arm circle in left side was 34cm and in right side was 27cm, but the episclera and retina were normal (Figure 2).

Laboratory exams was normal. Electroencephalogram was abnormal with epileptic discharges that prominent in right hemisphere. Brain MRI was normal. The parents of this patient have not family relation and there is no other patient like this patient in his family.
3. Discussion

Sturge Weber syndrome is three types. Type 1 is the most common form, this type involves both facial and leptomenigeal (brain) angiomas (vascular malformations) and may involve glaucoma. Type 2 involves a facial angioma and the possibility of glaucoma, but no evidence of intracranial disease. Type 3 is commonly noted to have a leptomeningeal angioma [5]. Our patient has typical lesions on 1, 2 and 3rd division of 5th nerve on left side, and even neck in left side (Figure 1), but the MRI was normal. The lesions are usually found only in one extremity, most frequently, lower limb, but in our patient the lesions were located only within the upper extremity (Figure 2), the skin lesions were seen after birth. The patient has normal intelligence. In our patient the seizure attacks started 4 years ago. The seizures were focal, but sometimes be generalized is same other reports [6]. In a study the seizures occurred in 85.5% of SWS patients [7]. In this patient the size of left (with port wine stains) mid arm circle is more than the right side. Hypertrophy of the limb is observed in 67% of all the patients with KTWS [8]. The SWS in our patient was type 2. Several hypotheses regarding cause and pathogenesis in KTS exist, but none explains all KTS characteristics completely.

Footnotes

Authors’ Contribution: Writer and corresponding author, Hossein Ali Ebrahimi; photographer, translator and history taker, Saeed Ebrahimi.

Conflict of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References


Figure 2. The Left Arm Is Larger Than Right