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## Parapagus dicephalus (tetrabrachius, dipus) conjoined twins: A case report

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**Introduction:** Conjoined twins occur with a frequency of about 1 per 50,000-60,000 deliveries. Parapagus is the term used where there is extensive side to side fusion joined anterolaterally resulting from two nearly parallel notochords which are in close proximity to each other.

**Case Report:** We have got female parapagus conjoined twin born to 25 years old PI mother through cesarean section. The conjoined twins have two heads, four arms and two legs. The diagnostic procedure, patient follow up and outcome will be discussed in detail during the presentation.

**Conclusion:** Parapagus is very rare which represents less than 0.5% of all reported cases of conjoined twins. There are case reports presenting as dicephalic conjoined twins, some are reported to be stillborn, others will die shortly after birth and one case report living for 11 years.

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## Congenital dyserythropoietic anaemia: Comparison of data at the children's hospital and the institute of child health, Lahore with the International CDA Registry

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**Introduction:** The congenital dyserythropoietic anaemias (CDA) comprise a group of rare hereditary disorders of erythropoiesis, characterized by ineffective erythropoiesis as the predominant mechanism of anaemia and by distinct morphological abnormalities of the majority of the erythroblasts in the bone marrow. Whereas, genetic mutations responsible for this disorder have been discovered in European populations; there is still much work to be done in this regard in our part of the world, which could lead to a better management plan for such patients.

**Objective:** The objective of this study was to compare the clinical and laboratory features of CDA patients diagnosed at the Children's Hospital, Lahore with the International CDA Registry.

**Materials & Methods:** It was a retrospective case series studying data over a 12 year period from 2003-15. Patients diagnosed with CDA on the basis of mild to moderate anaemia, ineffective erythropoiesis and morphological abnormalities of erythroblasts in the bone marrow were included in the study. The parameters studied included age at presentation, gender, severity, skeletal anomalies, number of siblings involved, complete blood count, reticulocyte count, bilirubin levels and bone marrow findings, and these were compared with similar parameters from patients registered with the International CDA Registry. Data analysis was performed using SPSS v22.

**Results:** Significant differences exist between the Pakistani kindred diagnosed with CDA and the international one in terms of age at presentation, severity, skeletal anomalies, no. of siblings involved, haemoglobin levels, RBC count and indices, bilirubin levels and RBC morphological features. However, distribution of the types of CDA, gender and bone marrow findings are almost similar.

**Conclusion:** The clinical and laboratory features of CDA in our patients are significantly different, and more severe, from those registered with the International CDA Registry. As the genetic mutations causing this disease have so far not been mapped in our patients, there could be the possibility of either a different mutation in our population, or an entirely different disorder with bone marrow features similar to CDA.

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