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Neonatal and infant cholestasis: Clinical, therapeutic and evolving aspects

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Introduction: Neonatal and infant cholestasis have a relatively high incidence. Their particularity is the high variability of their etiologies and the severity of the prognosis of some of them.

Objective: The aim of this study is to describe the epidemiological, clinical, therapeutic and evolving aspects of this pathology

Methods: This is a retrospective study of over 14 years based on medical records of 57 newborns and infants with cholestasis who were admitted in pediatric and neonatology service of Mongi Slim Hospital.

Results: The hospital incidence was 3,7 new cases per year. The mean age was 3 months and 14 days. 60% were under the age of 45 days. The sex ratio was 1,8. Surgical pathologies were found in 17 cases (29.8%). The most frequent surgical cause was biliary atresia (16 cases). Only one newborn had lithiasis of the common bile duct. Cholestasis were caused by medical pathologies in 24 cases (42.2%). It was caused by idiopathic neonatal hepatitis (15 cases), Alagille's syndrome (3 cases), Byler disease (2 cases), urinary infection (3 cases) and pituitary stalk interruption syndrome (1 case). The etiology was unknown in 16 patients (28%). The mean age of jaundice onset in biliary atresia was 10 days. Surgical treatment was performed at a mean age of 3 months and 13 days. 13 patients developed cirrhosis of the liver. 6 of them died at a mean age of 4,3 years. Liver transplantation was successfully performed in only one patient.

Conclusion: Our study shows the high variability of etiologies of cholestasis, and biliary atresia reminds the most common etiology. The implementation of a liver transplant program in Tunisia would improve the future of those patients.

Biography

Selmi I has completed her Medical studies from Tunis El Manar University. She chose Pediatrics as specialty. She accomplished training in different pediatric departments and neonatal centers. She participated in national and international conferences as speaker. She has published papers in reputed journals.

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