A new syndrome mimicking Jaffe-Campanacci syndrome: a case report

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Jaffe-Campanacci syndrome (JCS) is a well-known condition with its clinical and radiological characteristics. Extraskeletal congenital anomalies of this syndrome include café-au-lait spots, mental retardation, cardiovascular abnormalities, ocular deformities, hypogonadism or cryptorchidism. Multiple non-ossifying fibromas are also characteristic bone lesions. In this article, we present a new syndrome mimicking JCS, which is characterized by a simple bone cyst and extraskeletal lesions.

Key words: Abnormality; café-au-lait spots; Jaffe-Campanacci syndrome; neurofibromatosis; non-ossifying fibroma; simple bone cyst; skeleton.

Campanacci et al.[1] in 1983 reported the first complete description of clinical aspects and radiographic evidence for a new syndrome distinguished by multiple non-ossifying fibromas (NOF) of the bones associated with extraskeletal congenital anomalies such as café-au-lait spots, mental retardation, cardiovascular malformations, ocular anomalies, hypogonadism or cryptorchidism. Prior to Campanacci et al.,[1] Jaffe[2] was the first to notice the novel entity and distinguish it from fibrous dysplasia and neurofibromatosis. In short, the connection of multiple non-ossifying fibromas with café-au-lait skin patches has been named the Jaffe-Campanacci syndrome (JCS). Patients afflicted with this syndrome usually have no family history of comparable tribulations. The basis for the disease is unknown but it is presumed that there is an underlying aberration on the patient's chromosomes. There are still limited numbers of case reports regarding the existence of JCS; we therefore aimed to present a new syndrome mimicking JCS or a possible variant form of JCS without non-ossifying fibromas but with a simple bone cyst and extraskeletal anomalies which have not been previously described.

CASE REPORT

A 10-year-old boy was admitted to the department of orthopedic surgery with the complaints of pain and swelling of the proximal part of his left humerus. Our attention was attracted by the unusual clinical findings of growth retardation, mild mental retardation, pulmonary stenosis, spina bifida, ocular anomaly, right cryptorchidism and left hydrocele, erythema, and alopecia areata.

Furthermore, he was the first boy of a healthy family with a normal younger brother. The genetic examination, family pedigree, details of pregnancy, delivery and the postnatal period were all normal. Detailed medical history revealed that the child...
was normal at birth but was diagnosed with growth retardation at age three and that his weight was persistently below the third percentile for his age group. The clinical findings demonstrated that the bone age of the child was four when he was actually 6.5 years old. Mild mental retardation manifested during the developmental period. In addition to having erythema and hair loss from the eyebrows and alopecia areata, he was diagnosed with pulmonary stenosis, spina bifida, cryptorchidism on the right side and a hydrocele on the left side at age five. He also had an operation for the cataract in the left eye at age nine. Last year he had a probable pathologic fracture of the proximal humerus which was treated conservatively at that time.

On complete physical examination, the patient showed small stature (height: 110 cm and weight: 20 kg, both below the third percentile). He did not have cutaneous lesions but there were erythema and hair loss from his eyebrows (Figure 1). Radiographic examination of the entire skeleton revealed a lesion in the proximal part of the left humerus characterized by central osteolysis which mildly expanded the cortex as single bony septa. The lesion depicted well-defined borders with no osteosclerotic rim (Figure 2). No other skeletal lesions were present and all routine biochemical tests were normal as well. During the operation the diagnosis of a simple bone cyst or unicameral bone cyst was confirmed with aspiration of clear fluid from the cyst. Curettage and bone grafting of the simple bone cyst were performed and histological examination established a definitive diagnosis of simple bone cyst with bands of fibroblastic tissue lining the cyst (Figure 3).

**DISCUSSION**

Jaffe-Campanacci syndrome is a very rare but distinct entity with constant features of multiple non-ossifying fibromas in association with extraskeletal congenital anomalies. Until now 20 cases (6 girls, 14 boys), ranging in age from 4-18 years, have been published (1 case by Mirra et al.,[3] 10 cases by Campanacci et al.,[1] 1 case by Steinmetz et al.,[4] 1 case by Kotzot et al.,[5] 1 case by Boivin et al.,[6] 1 case by Hau et al.,[7] 4 cases by Colby and Saul,[8] and 1 case by Al-Rikabi et al.[9]). Originally described extraskeletal anomalies included café-au-lait spots, mental retardation, urogenital anomalies, ocular anomalies, cardiovascular malformations, kyphoscoliosis, and precocious puberty. Other anomalies were also reported later such as chylothorax, chylopericardium, ptosis, sternal depression, and toe anomalies (Kotzot et al.,[5] and Boivin et al.[6]). Growth retardation, spina bifida, erythema and hair loss from the eyebrows as in our case have not been described in any patient until now.

The accurate incidence of this syndrome is probably underestimated because of unrecognized features.
A high incidence of extraskeletal congenital anomalies emphasizing that all patients with JCS should be thoroughly investigated. Not every feature of a syndrome necessarily has to be present in every case. As in most syndromes, a single feature is not pathognomonic for a JCS. The presence of the different radiographic pictures, the distribution of the skeletal lesions, and non-ossifying fibromas are constantly characteristic for the disease but extraskeletal anomalies may vary. The number of extraskeletal anomalies ranged from one to five. However, in the literature no patient having all the extraskeletal anomalies has been described.

This case has a simple bone cyst which is common in childhood\(^9\) and middle ages,\(^{10}\) as a main skeletal lesion unlike JCS which has M-NOF in addition to extraskeletal findings like growth retardation, spina bifida, erythema and hair loss on eyebrows and alopecia areata. Therefore, this case can be proposed as a new syndrome.

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**REFERENCES**