Bone and Mineral Metabolism

BONE DISEASE FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE

Hypophosphatemia Gene Panel Sponsored Program: A High Yield Of Molecular Diagnoses from Clinically Confirmed XLH and Suspected XLH/ Genetic Hypophosphatemia

Nicole Miller, PhD1, Kathryn Dahir, MD2, Daniel Beltran, PhD3, Scott J. Eisenbeis, PhD, PhD3, Prameela Ramesan, MD2, Eric T. Rush, MD, FAAP, FACC MG3, Soodabeh Sarafrazi, PhD1, Rebecca Truty, PhD, Britt Johnson, PhD FACMG4.

1ULTRAGENXY, Brisbane, CA, USA, 2Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC), Nashville, TN, USA, 3Invitae, San Francisco, CA, USA, 4Children’s Mercy and Department of Pediatrics, University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, MO, USA.

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X-linked hypophosphatemia (XLH), an X-linked dominant disorder caused by a pathogenic change (variant) in the PHEX gene, affects males and females of all ages. Rickets and osteomalacia may be present along with short stature, lower limb deformity, muscle pain and/or weakness/fatigue, bone pain, joint pain/stiffness, hearing difficulty, enthesopathy, osteoarthritis and dental abscesses. Patients with XLH have below-normal serum phosphate and elevated serum FGF23. XLH is one of multiple etiologies of hypophosphatemia; depending on genetic cause, management may differ. The program provides a no-cost test to confirm a clinical XLH diagnosis or to aid diagnosis of suspected XLH or other genetic hypophosphatemia.

Methods

Program eligibility criteria: >/=1y old and either clinical XLH diagnosis (confirmatory) or suspicion of XLH/ genetic hypophosphatemia (suspected) as evidenced by 2 or more clinical signs/symptoms. The next generation sequencing gene panel includes 13 genes: ALPL, CLCN5, CYP2R1, CYP27B1, DMP1, ENPP1, FAH, FAM20C, FGF23, FGFR1, PHEX, SLC34A3 and VDR. Copy number variant (CNV) detection was performed.

Results

317 unrelated probands have been tested as of October 2, 2019. Of 158 XLH confirmatory samples received, 143 (90.5%) had a PHEX variant: 14 (9.8%) were variants of uncertain significance (VUS) and 129 (90.2%) were either pathogenic or likely pathogenic (P/LP) XLH molecular diagnoses. Of the 15 patients (9.5%) where no PHEX variant was found, one had a P variant in FGF23 (autosomal dominant hypophosphatemic rickets molecular diagnosis) and another had P and LP variants in ENPP1 (autosomal recessive hypophosphatemic rickets Type 2 molecular diagnosis). Of 159 suspected samples, 101 (63.5%) had a PHEX variant: 14 (13.9%) were variants of uncertain significance (VUS) and 87 (86.1%) were P/LP (XLH molecular diagnoses). No PHEX variant was found for 58 (36.5%) of suspected samples; however, 5 of these had other findings: a dominant-negative heterozygous P variant for ALPL was detected in 3 samples (3 hypophosphatasia, HPP, molecular diagnoses); a fourth carried two P variants in ALPL; a fifth had a LP variant and a VUS in ENPP1 (autosomal recessive hypophosphatemic rickets Type 2). Of 121 unique P/LP PHEx variants detected, 59 were deletions duplications or insertions. A complex rearrangement and an Alu-mediated insertion were detected in the full cohort. To date, additional family member testing was performed for 10 probands with original VUS: in 4 cases the VUS was reclassified to P/LP; 2 were reclassified to P/LP due to more clinical info, highlighting the value of family testing and clinical info to resolve VUS. RNA analyses to resolve VUS and unidentified variants may further improve molecular diagnoses of genetic hypophosphatemia. Program results demonstrate a high diagnostic yield for conformationary and suspected XLH/ genetic hypophosphatemia.

Reproductive Endocrinology

REPRODUCTIVE ENDOCRINOLOGY: REPRODUCTIVE FUNCTION AND DYSFUNCTION ON DEVELOPMENT

Impact of Race and Obstructive Sleep Apnea on Glucose and Insulin Regulation in Women with PCOS

Karla A. Temple, PHD, RDN1, Babak Mohklesi, MD2, Jason R. Carter, PHD2, Harry Whitmore, BS3, Eve Van Cauter, PHD1, David A. Ehrmann, MD2.

1University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA, 2Montana State University, Bozeman, MT, USA.

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The prevalence of prediabetes and diabetes is substantially higher in PCOS women with obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) compared to PCOS women without OSA1, 2, 3. Prior studies, however, did not examine the complex interaction between race and OSA on metabolic function in PCOS. We sought to determine if the impact of OSA on glucose and insulin metabolism is affected by race. We studied non-Hispanic white (NHW) (n=53) and African-American (AA) (n=48) women with PCOS. Following an overnight polysomnogram (PSG), PCOS women (NHW without OSA n=40; NHW with OSA n=13; AA without OSA n=36; AA with OSA n=12) had a 2-h 75-g oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) with blood sampling every 30 minutes for measurement of glucose, insulin, and C-peptide concentrations. OSA severity was measured by the Apnea-Hypopnea Index (AHI). Only women without OSA (AHI < 5) or with moderate-to-severe OSA (AHI > 15) were included in these analyses; women with mild OSA were excluded. Insulin secretion rates (ISR) during the OGTT were derived by deconvolution of C-peptide levels 4. Area under the curve (AUC) response to the glucose challenge was calculated using the trapezoidal method. BMI and age did not differ between races in PCOS women without OSA (BMI [kg/m^2]: 36.3±1.2 vs. 37.2±1.1, p=0.58; Age [yr]: 27.7±0.8 vs. 27.2±0.8, p=0.65; for NHW and AA respectively), or in PCOS women with OSA (BMI [kg/m^2]: 42.8±1.7 vs. 44.7±2.0, p=0.50; Age [yr]: 31.4±1.6 vs. 28.6±1.6, p=0.18; for NHW and AA respectively). OSA severity was similar in NHW and AA PCOS women without OSA (AHI: 1.5±0.2 vs. 2.1±0.2, p=0.076), and PCOS women with OSA (AHI: 32.0±1.1 vs. 32.3±2.4, p=0.26). Higher glucose responses during the OGTT were observed in NHW PCOS women with OSA compared to both NHW (AUC: 18.965±648 vs. 15.797±371, p=0.0004) and AA (AUC: 18.965±648 vs. 15.801±497, p=0.0005) PCOS women without OSA. Glucose responses did not differ significantly between AA PCOS women with OSA and AA PCOS women without OSA (AUC: 17.104±965 vs. 15.801±497, p=0.15). Similarly, ISR was higher in NHW PCOS women with OSA compared to both NHW (AUC: 5.648±488...
Thyroid

THYROID DISORDERS CASE REPORTS II

Delayed Hypersensitivity to Levothyroxine, and Oral Desensitization

Rashi Sandoja, MD, Michael Dominic Morocco, MD, Martin Smith, MD.
AKRON GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER, Akron, OH, USA.

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DELAYED HYPERSENSITIVITY TO LEVOTHYROXINE, AND ORAL DESENSITIZATION

Introduction- Hypothyroidism is a common endocrine disorder, affecting about 4.6 percent of the U.S. population aged 12 and older. The most common treatment is synthetic thyroxine hormone supplementation-levothyroxine, starting at 1.6 mcg/kg. Hypersensitivity reactions to levothyroxine are rare. Two cases have been published of successful oral desensitization, for suspected IgE mediated reactions. There are no published protocols describing induction of drug tolerance to immunologic, non-IgE mediated reaction to levothyroxine. The objective of this case report is to describe a novel outpatient protocol, for oral desensitization to levothyroxine, in the setting of a delayed immunologic (non-IgE mediated) reaction.

Case report- A 66 year old male with history of hypothyroidism, diagnosed in 2010 presented to outpatient endocrinology. Between 2010 and 2019, the patient was on multiple brands and formulations of levothyroxine. He noticed an itchy, raised rash on abdomen, chest and arms, within a few months after starting each of the above. No mucosal involvement or signs of end organ damage were noted. The rash was deemed a type IV delayed hypersensitivity reaction, based on history and histological findings on biopsy. The patient reported clearance of the rash when he was off any form of thyroid supplementation, and reappearance of the rash when he re-trialed it. The patient had normal thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) levels while he was on supplementation despite the rash. The patient’s TSH after discontinuing treatment was 104 (uIU/mL) and free thyroxine (T4) was 0.13 ng/dl (0.9–1.7). All components of previous brands of levothyroxine were compared and no common ingredient was thought to be contributing to hypersensitivity reactions. Subsequently, an oral desensitization protocol was initiated at 0.075 mcg daily with weekly increase in doses over seven weeks to reach a target dose of 75 mcg.

Discussion- The patient was tried on different brands of levothyroxine and desiccated thyroid hormone. He consistently developed a type IV hypersensitivity reaction within a few months after starting them. The patient had uncontrolled TSH levels after discontinuing the treatment and was at risk of complications of untreated hypothyroidism. This necessitated the need for desensitization. There have been previous case reports of oral or IV desensitization, in suspected IgE mediated reactions, but we describe the first case of induction of levothyroxine tolerance in an immunologic non-IgE mediated reaction. Subsequently, the patient tolerated a therapeutic dose of levothyroxine, with no appearance of rash or itching, for almost 6 months. This case report describes a novel approach to levothyroxine desensitization over a period of seven weeks in an outpatient setting in response to a delayed type hypersensitivity reaction.

Neuroendocrinology and Pituitary

RESEARCH ADVANCES IN PITUITARY TUMORS

Tissue-Specific Tumorigenesis in Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type I

Juliet C. Gardiner, M.S.
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, USA.

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Tissue-Specific Tumorigenesis in Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type I

While a germline heterozygous mutation in the Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia type 1 (MEN1) gene predisposes tumor formation in specific tissues such as the endocrine pancreas, parathyroid glands and anterior pituitary, this tissue-specific tumorigenesis is not dependent on MEN1 mutations alone. In fact, a homozygous deletion of Men1 in mouse pancreatic exocrine tissue does not result in tumor formation, suggesting a tissue-specific mechanism. Loss of menin activates a menin-interacting protein retinoblastoma-binding-protein 5 (RBBP5). Since RBBP5 transcriptionally regulates DNA methyltransferase 1 (DNMT1), this causes global DNA hypermethylation and subsequent tumorigenesis in MEN1-target endocrine tissues. We hypothesize that while RBBP5 is ubiquitously expressed, it exclusively binds to the DNMT1 promoter in MEN1-target-tissues through its recruitment by tissue-specific factors. Using chromatin immunoprecipitation, we demonstrated that Rbbp5 is bound to the Dmnt1 promoter in MEN1-target-tissues, while not in non-target tissues. Following a high-throughput genome-wide approach, we identified two candidate factors that may recruit Rbbp5 to the Dmnt1 promoter. Immunohistochemistry showed MEN1-target-tissue-specific expression of these target factors. Co-immunoprecipitation revealed MEN1-target-tissue-specific binding of Rbbp5 to the factors. In conclusion, Rbbp5 binds the Dmnt1 promoter in MEN1-target-tissues and we have identified candidates for Rbbp5 recruitment to the Dmnt1 promoter that must be tested further to determine their role in the observed tissue specificity of MEN1-related tumorigenesis.