LEMBAR	
HASIL PENILAIAN SEJAWAT SEBIDANG ATAU PEER REVIE	W
KARYA ILMIAH : JURNAL ILMIAH	

JudulKarya Ilmiah (Artikel) : Clinical ma	nifestation and gen	etic analysis of f	amilial rare disease	
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- c. Kecukupan dan kemutahiran data/informasi dan metodologi: Studi kasus serial dengan menyajikan empat kasus dengan XP dari dua keluarga di Indonesia. Pemeriksaan histopatologi menggunakan cytokeratine (CK), CD10, dan pewarnaan Ber-EP4.
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## Case Report

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## Saccharopinuria accompanied by hyperammonemia and hypercitrullinemia presented with elderly-onset epilepsy, progressive cognitive decline, and gait ataxia

Ryohei Norioka<sup>1,\*</sup>, Shinsuke Tobisawa<sup>1</sup>, Ryusei Nishigori<sup>2</sup>, Tomiko Kuhara<sup>3</sup>, Masahide Yazaki<sup>4</sup>, Masayoshi Nagao<sup>5</sup>, Toshihiro Ohura<sup>6</sup>, Yasuyuki Takai<sup>7</sup>, Asuka Funai<sup>1</sup>, Kazuhito Miyamoto<sup>1</sup>, Akihiro Kawata<sup>1</sup>, Kazushi Takahashi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>5</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Hokkaido Medical Center, Hokkaido, Japan;

SUMMARY We report a case of saccharopinuria with hyperammonemia and hypercitrullinemia in a Japanese woman who presented with elderly-onset epilepsy, progressive cognitive decline, and gait ataxia. Blood amino acid analysis revealed an increase in citrulline, cystine, and lysine levels, and urine amino acid analysis showed increased citrulline and cystine levels. Urine metabolomics revealed an increased saccharopine level, leading to the definitive diagnosis of saccharopinuria. In western blots of liver biopsy samples, normal citrin levels were observed, suggesting that adult-onset citrullinemia type 2 (CTLN2) was not present. In addition, decreased argininosuccinate synthetase (ASS) levels were observed, and ASSI gene, a causative gene for citrullinemia type 1 (CTLN1), was analyzed, but no gene mutations were found. Because the causes of hypercitrullinemia were not clear, it might be secondary to saccharopinuria. Muscle biopsy findings of the biceps brachii revealed diminished cytochrome c oxidase (COX) activity, mitochondrial abnormalities on electron microscopy and p62positive structures in immunohistochemical analyses. Saccharopinuria is generally considered a benign metabolic variant, but our case showed elevated lysine and saccharopine levels causing ornithine circuit damage, mitochondrial dysfunction, and autophagy disorders. This may lead to so far unknown neurological disorders.

*Keywords* saccharopinuria, hyperammonemia, hypercitrullinemia, metabolomics, elderly-onset neurological disorders

#### 1. Introduction

Familial hyperlysinemia is an autosomal recessive disease caused by a defect in the bifunctional alphaaminoadipic semialdehyde synthase (AASS) protein. AASS includes lysine-ketoglutarate reductase (LKR) and saccharopine dehydrogenase (SD) (1,2). A variant of familial hyperlysinemia, saccharopinuria (hyperlysinemia type II), has been described in which only SD activity was undetectable (3). While saccharopinuria is generally considered a benign metabolic variant, there are some case reports that describe that saccharopinuria exhibits neurological features such as epilepsy and intellectual impairment, and all of these cases were infantadolescent cases as far as we know (4). On the other hand, hypercitrullinemia is caused by citrullinemia type 1 (CTLN1) with argininosuccinate synthetase (ASS) deficiency and adult-onset citrullinemia type 2 (CTLN2) with citrin deficiency (5,6). CTLN1 and CTLN2 can cause neurological symptoms such as epilepsy and consciousness disturbance.

Herein, we report a rare case of saccharopinuria complicated with hyperammonemia and hypercitrullinemia presenting epilepsy, progressive cognitive decline, and gait ataxia.

#### 2. Case Report

A 70-year-old woman was admitted to our hospital with a chief complaint of generalized convulsion (Figure 1).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Department of Neurology, Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Japan Clinical Metabolomics Institute, Ishikawa, Japan;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Neurohealth Innovation Division, Institute for Biomedical Sciences, Shinshu University, Matsumoto, Japan;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Division of Clinical Laboratory, Sendai City Hospital, Sendai, Japan;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Department of Ophthalmology, Juntendo University Urayasu Hospital, Tokyo, Japan.

## Case Report

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# **Rituximab use for refractory anti-HMGCR immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy: A case report**

Sonia Gupta<sup>1,\*</sup>, Amandeep Rakhra<sup>2</sup>, Vinay Thallapally<sup>1</sup>, Joseph Nahas<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, USA;

<sup>2</sup>Department of Rheumatology, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA.

**SUMMARY** Immunosuppression is the cornerstone therapy for anti-3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A reductase (anti-HMGCR) myopathy. Typical immunosuppressants such as corticosteroids, methotrexate, and azathioprine have been used in conjunction with removal of the offending agent, yet the use of rituximab is more limited in this type of myopathy. Reported here is a case of a patient who responded well to rituximab (RTX) after the standard immunosuppressants had failed. This case illustrates the importance of further studies to evaluate the role of RTX in anti-HMGCR myopathy.

Keywords anti-HMGCR, immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy, immunosuppressants, rituximab

#### 1. Introduction

Immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy (IMNM) is an autoimmune condition resulting from the direct or indirect injury of myofibers by the immune system. Anti-3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A reductase (anti-HMGCR) myopathy is a subtype of IMNM and was first described in 2010 (1). It has been seen both in statin-naïve and statin-exposed patients, with a prevalence of 1-2 cases per million in those who are statin-exposed (2). It presents with muscle weakness, myalgia, and elevated serum creatine phosphokinase with a mean age of 55 years. Studies have found that statin-naïve patients were younger than statin-exposed patients (3). There are currently no guidelines for the management of anti-HMGCR myopathy. Immunosuppressants are the cornerstone of therapy, but very few studies regarding the use of rituximab (RTX) have been published - all with varying responses (4). Described here is a case of anti-HMGCR-associated IMNM refractory to conventional immunosuppressants but responsive to RTX.

#### 2. Case Report

A 61-year-old female with a history of primary hypercholesterolemia, hypothyroidism, and hypertension presented with rapidly progressing proximal upper and lower muscle extremity weakness for seven days. Her symptoms were associated with muscle pain and slowly progressive dysphagia to both solids and liquids. Her medication history included taking pravastatin for two years. A physical examination revealed a grade of 3/5 on the Medical Research Council (MRC) Scale for Muscle Strength in the proximal upper and lower extremities bilaterally. Laboratory tests including a complete blood count, renal function test, and inflammatory markers (erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) and C-reactive protein (CRP)) were normal. Her creatinine kinase level was 15,000 U/L (normal, 26-192 U/L), her myoglobin level was higher than 1,000 (normal, 9-83ng/mL), and aspartate aminotransferase (309 U/L; normal: 10-40 U/ L) and alanine aminotransferase (691 U/L; normal: 12-78 U/L) were elevated (Table 1). Differentials were polymyositis, statin-induced myopathy, paraneoplastic myopathy, and anti-signal recognition particle-associated myopathy.

Liver ultrasound was normal. Statin was discontinued and oral prednisone at a dose of 60 mg was started since IMNM was suspected. An initial rheumatologic workup for autoimmune myopathies was negative including rheumatoid factor, antinuclear antibody, and anti-myositis antibodies including anti Jo1, anti Ro, anti-signal recognition particle, anti-mi-2, acetylcholine receptor antibody, and muscle-specific tyrosine kinase antibody. Pan computed tomography including the chest, abdomen, and pelvis did not reveal evidence of a malignancy. Magnetic resonance imaging of the right lower extremity revealed diffuse patchy muscular atrophy throughout the thigh with extensive patchy muscle edema involving the anterior medial and posterior compartments. The right quadriceps was biopsied, an electromyogram and anti-HMGCR antibodies were ordered, and pending biopsy results the patient was discharged on 60 mg of steroids.