Epidermolysis Bullosa Associated Septicemia in a Neonate-case Report

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ABSTRACT

Epidermolysis bullosa is a rare genetic connective tissue disorder that typically manifest at birth or early childhood or adults with various subtypes (simplex, recessive, dystrophic and junctional). A 17-day-old male baby born to primi consanguinous parent presented with serous blisters and atrophic scars on arms and body since birth. Referred to our hospital as baby developed dystrophic nail and oral lesions, blistering of skin involving both upper and lower limb below knee joint including dorsum of foot and involving upper limb extending below elbow joint, dorsum of both hands, minimal trauma elicited fresh blisters. Dermatologist advised skin biopsy, deferred due to financial constraints. Systemic examination was normal. No family history of bullous skin lesion. Baby initially had bullous skin lesions over abdomen, hands, and legs. Oral antibiotics (amoxicillin), t.bact oint outside, since new lesions found antibiotics changed to augmentin. Liquid paraffin for e/a. For super added infections linezoloid and minimal handling advised, baby on breast-feeding, increasing in weight 3.5 kg on follow-up at 60 days of life. There is no definite, approved management. Avoid the baby from rough handling, breast feeds and vit e also suggested. Stem cell based therapy is on trial.

Key words: Epidermolysis bullosa, epidermolysis bullosa dystrophica, newborn, blistering.

INTRODUCTION

Epidermolysis bullosa comprises a group of genetically determine skin fragility disorder characterized by blistering of the skin and mucosa following mild trauma. Epidermolysis bullosa is a rare group of inherited disorders that manifest as blistering or erosion of the skin and in some cases the epithelial lining of other organs, in response to little or no apparent trauma. The exact prevalence of epidermolysis bullosa is unknown, mild variant have been estimated to occur as frequently as 1 in 50,000 births. Approximately 400,000-500,000 are affected worldwide and no definitive treatment have yet been developed.

Case report

A term 17 days old female baby born to a 3rd degree consanguineous parent, primi mother, 24 years old with the history of gestational diabetes on meal plan, history of PROM more than 24 hours delivered by LSCS indication being CPD with foetal distress was admitted to NICU for blisters, of skin of the hands and foot from birth onwards. On examination there was blistering and pleeting of the skin involving abdomen and mouth also. Baby was treated outside with amoxicillin and breast feeds. As the lesions in the tongue was increasing there was difficulty to suck at the breast.
After initial septic work up, heamogram, x-ray chest and abdomen, baby was continued breast feeds directly and also through paladi. Baby was started on syrup augmentin. Dermatologist suggested dressing with liquid paraffin. Birth weight of the baby was 2.8 Kg. admission weight in NICU was 2.47 Kg. For the next few days, lesions were started resolving but new lesions were appearing on and out but lesser in severity.

Investigations showed haemoglobin 13.3 g/dl, total WBC count 26400 /cu mm neutrophils 68% lymphocytes 25 eosinophil 1% monocytes 6%, Pcv 40%, platelet 7.5 lakhs /cu mm. The blood culture showed methicillin resistant coagulase negative streptalococcus (MR_CONS) sensitive to amikacin, Clindamycin, Gentamicin, Rifampin, Linezolid, Teicoplanin, Vanocymycin treated with continued breast feeding and paladai feeds syrup augment in 1.25 ml twice a day for one week. Syrup Linezolid 1.25 ml twice a day for one week justee drops 0.5 ml, zincovit drops 1 ml liquid paraffin and teaBactointment. After a stay of 12 days in nursery baby was discharged with a weight of 2.5 kg. baby was reviewed after one month with a weight of 3 kg the last visit was after one month the weight picked upto 3.5 kg advise on discharge with regular immunisation schedule with continuing breast feeds with vitamins use of white soft clothes less of trauma.

DISCUSSION

More than 30 types of epidermolysis bullosa have been described, rendering categorization of the typer controversial and often confusing. An international consensus meeting in Vienna, Austria in 2008 reaffirmed the following currently used names for the four major types of epidermolysis bullosa.

Epidermolytic: epidermolysis bullosa simplex (ebs) - where blistering occurs in the upper layer of the skin (the epidermis), this is the most common type of eb, accounting for 70% of cases and tends to be milder than the other types. This intraepidermal type is divided into 2 major subtypes: suprabasal and basal. Suprabasal EBS targets transglutaminase 5; plakophilin 1; desmoplakins; plakoglobin proteins. Basal EBS targets keratin 5 & 14; placenta; exophilin 5 (slac 2-b); bullous pemphigoid antigen 1.

Dermolytic

Dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (DEB) - where blistering occurs below the basement membrane zone in the upper part of the dermis. DEB accounts for around 25% of cases. The dystrophic forms of EB are characterized by...
deformities of the skin including coalescence of the fingers, blistering, scarring, nail changes and milia formation and have either autosomal recessive or autosomal dominant inheritance. In the most severe cases, scars may cause either ankyloglossia or microglossia. This affects the sublamina densa layer and is divided into two types: dominant dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (DDEB) and recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (RDEB). Both the dominant and recessive types target the collagen VII protein.

**Lecidolytic**

Junctional epidermolysis bullosa (JEB)—where blistering occurs at the junction between the epidermis and dermis (lower layer of the skin) in layer of skin known as the basement membrane zone—accounts for around 5% cases and is usually considered the most severe type of EB. This affects the intralamina lucida layer and is divided into two major subtypes, generalized proteins localized JEB targets collagen XVII, lamina-332, α6β4 integrin proteins.

**Kindler syndrome**

Multiple levels of blistering, a unique clinical phenotype—photosensitivity—Kindler syndrome affects multiple layers of skin while targeting the fermitin family homolog 1 (kindling-1) gene.

The identified genes include those that encode keratin 5 & 14 in epidermolysis bullosa simplex, collagen VII in dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, and lamina 5 in herlitz junctional epidermolysis bullosa. This affects the intralamina lucida layer and is divided into two major subtypes, generalized proteins localized JEB targets collagen XVII, lamina-332, α6β4 integrin proteins.

**Epidermolysis bullosa simplex ogna** has been described in Norwegian individuals.

Epidermolysis bullosa is an autosomal inherited disorder, the incidence does not differ by sex.

This revised classification of EB incorporated several new genetic subtypes. Our proposed systemic onion skin approach using successive layer of clinical, immunohistochemical and molecular finding will prove useful to both clinicians and researchers and adaptable to future discoveries. Special dental concern involving the use of soft toothed brushes and irrigation techniques, pure diets are recommended because the lesion are affecting the oral mucosa and esophagus. There is also a need for diet supplements, such as vitamins, proteins and iron in order to prevent anemia. The use of corticoids, vitamins and immunosuppressive drugs have also been suggested for the treatment of epidermolysis bullosa.

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REFERENCES