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Intracranial lesions in children and adolescents with morbid obesity

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Background: Intracranial lesions (ICL) may effect hypothalamo-hypophyseal axis and lead to some neuro-endocrinological dysfunctions (hyperphagia, sleep disorders and hormonal dysfunctions). There is very limited study about childhood obesity and ICL.

Aim: Purpose of this study is to evaluate the incidence of ICL and their role in clinical symptoms and etiology in cases with morbid obesity (MO), who has admitted to the pediatric endocrinology department with this complaint.

Method: 120 cases admitted to the pediatric endocrinology department with the complaint of MO in between 2002-2015 were included in this study. Detailed history and physical examination was performed, biochemical, hormonal parameters were evaluated. Contrast dynamic magnetic resonance imaging (CDMRI) was performed in order to visualize cranial pathologies.

Results: 16.6% of the patients had an ICL and 55% of these lesions were adenoma of the hypophysis. Prolactin levels were increased in the six patients but front hypophyseal hormone levels were in between normal range in the rest of the patients. Growth velocity of the patients was not affected.

Conclusion: In our study, incidence of ICL in children and adolescents with MO was much higher than normal population. It's an important finding that increment in body weight and body mass index appeared before clinical symptoms (especially decrement in growth velocity) in these cases. According to this data, we are of opinion that CDMRI is helpful in children with MO for early detection of the mass before it causes any clinical or neurological symptoms and prevention of future complications.

Biography

Törel Ergür is Director of Pediatric Endocrinology. Her research interests include "Obesity, subclinical hypothyroidism, short stature, disorders of puberty, polycystic ovary syndrome, and hyperandrogenism in adolescents". She completed her Under-graduation in Medicine at Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Medicine, Turkey; Graduation in Pediatric Endocrinology at Ankara University, Faculty of Medicine, Turkey and; Master's degree in Pediatrics at Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Medicine, Turkey. She is a member of Association of National Pediatrics, Association of Pediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes. She received International KIGS Award in 2010, Vienna, Austria.

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