



# Diaphragmatic Paralysis in Portuguese Patients: Prevalence of Late-Onset Pompe Disease - DIPPER Research

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## Abstract

Pompe complaint is a rare autosomal recessive neuromuscular complaint caused by acid  $\alpha$ -glucosidase enzyme (GAA) insufficiency and divided into two distinct variants, immature- and late- onset. The late- onset variant is characterized by a diapason of phenotypic variation that may range from asymptomatic, to reduced muscle strength and/ or diaphragmatic palsy. Since muscle strength loss is characteristic of several different conditions, which may also beget diaphragmatic palsy, a protocol was created to search for the opinion of Pompe complaint and count other possible causes.

**Methods:** We collected a sample size of 18 cases (10 ladies, 8 males) with a median age of 60 times and opinion of diaphragmatic palsy of unknown etiology, followed in the Pulmonology inpatient discussion of 9 centers in Portugal, over a 24- month study period. We estimated data from case's clinical and demographic characteristics as well as reciprocal individual tests including blood tests, imaging, neurophysiologic and respiratory function evaluation. All cases were estimated for GAA exertion with DBS (dried blood test) or serum quantification and positive results verified by serum quantification and sequencing.

**Results:** Three cases were diagnosed with Pompe's complaint and recommended for enzyme relief remedy. The frequency of Pompe, a rare complaint, in our diaphragmatic palsy case sample was 16.8.

**Conclusion:** We conclude that DBS test for GAA exertion should be recommended for all cases with diaphragmatic palsy which, despite looking at all the most common causes, remains of unknown etiology; this would ameliorate both the timing and delicacy of opinion for Pompe complaint in this patient population. Accurate opinion will lead to bettered care for this rare, precipitously enervating but treatable neuromuscular complaint.

**Keywords:** Diaphragmatic; Palsy; Pompe

## Introduction

Pompe complaint is a rare autosomal recessive neuromuscular complaint caused by acid  $\alpha$ -glucosidase enzyme (GAA) insufficiency, performing in the accumulation of glycogen in the lysosomes of multitudinous,

Depending on the age of onset, Pompe is divided into immature and late- onset complaint. Immature onset Pompe complaint represents the most severe form and nearly always leads to death, due to cardio-respiratory failure, within one time. The late- onset variant presents at any time after the age of one time, and is characterized by a diapason of phenotypic variation. It may range from asymptomatic cases with increased creatine kinase (CK) to muscle cramps and pain pattern or rigid- chine pattern. The lower branches and paraspinal muscles are constantly affected first, followed by the respiratory muscles, particularly the diaphragm, intercostal and appurtenant muscles. Respiratory failure is the main cause of increased morbidity and mortality<sup>8, 9</sup> and the main cause of respiratory failure is diaphragmatic weakness [1, 2].

The diaphragm is the major muscle of ventilation constituted by a pate- shaped structure of tendons and muscle innervated by the phrenic jitters which give sensitive, sympathetic and motor function. Diaphragm compression expands the casket adding pleural negative pressure and promoting air inflow into the lungs. Whenever there's diaphragmatic weakness the diaphragm fails to contract meetly, causing reduced inspiratory volume and possible dyspnea. An extreme form of diaphragmatic weakness is unilateral or bilateral diaphragmatic palsy.<sup>11</sup> several different conditions may present with respiratory failure and distinguishing among them is important to determine the correct remedial options. thus, the primary ideal of this study was to estimate the frequency of this complaint in cases with an opinion of diaphragmatic palsy of unknown etiology followed in the inpatient

setting of a Pulmonology clinic, and to characterize the clinical and socio- demographic profile of these cases. A secondary ideal was to produce an algorithm for the accurate opinion of late- onset Pompe complaint in cases with diaphragmatic palsy of unknown etiology, which will lead to better operation and treatment of cases with this neuromuscular complaint [3].

## Materials and Method

This was a public, multicenter, epidemiological study of cases with an opinion of diaphragmatic palsy of unknown etiology. The study population was linked from the Pulmonology inpatient consultations of 9 centers in Portugal over a 24- month study period. Cases were successively enrolled if they were  $\geq 18$  times of age, gave informed concurrence to participation, and fulfilled one of the following addition criteria opinion of (unilateral or bilateral) diaphragmatic palsy of unknown cause; opinion of restrictive lung complaint (both FVC (forced vital capacity) and TLC (total lung capacity)  $< 80$  of prognosticated, or  $\geq 12$  drop in VC (vital capacity) in the supine position), dropped minimal inspiratory pressure (IP max) or whiff nasal inspiratory pressure

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(SNIP) (at least -10 cm of H<sub>2</sub>O than prognosticated) of unknown origin; opinion of progressive habitual myopathy with respiratory involvement, particularly of the diaphragm, with either inconclusive muscle vivisection or a opinion grounded on the general description of addition body myositis [4, 5].

Cases were barred from the study if they were unfit or unintentional to give informed concurrence, were tracheostomized or pregnant, needed invasive mechanical ventilation, or suffered from one of the ensuing conditions neuromuscular junction conditions (Eaton - Lambert pattern, myasthenia gravis), myopathies (polymyositis and other mixed connective tissue conditions, dystrophy mitochondrial myopathies, amyloidosis), spinal cord myelopathy (cervical chine injury, sarcoidosis, syringomyelia, polyomyelitis, amyotrophic side sclerosis), supplemental neuropathy (cervical chine injury, mediastinal excrescence, Gilliam - Barré pattern, nutritive neuropathies (vitamin B12 insufficiency) and lead neuropathy) or active neoplastic complaint [6].

## Discussion

The late- onset form of Pompe complaint has a miscellaneous donation, mimicking other neuromuscular conditions, leading to individual challenge. Clinical instantiations vary in terms of organ involvement, age at onset and inflexibility, and symptoms are frequently unspecific and may remain mild for decades, so that neither the case nor the croaker considered going further with individual procedures. An early opinion could be applicable due to the chance of perfecting or at least stabilizing the course of complaint through enzymatic relief remedy (ERT) [7].

Although Pompe complaint is a rare condition, it has been reported in a number of different ethnical populations, videlicet Caucasian, Taiwanese, Korean and Japanese. This study is the first to probe the prevalence of late- onset Pompe complaint in Portugal, grounded on respiratory signs symptoms. One clinical study had preliminarily delved and linked four cases of the juvenile form of the complaint in Portuguese cases, raising mindfulness of the fact that Pompe complaint should be suspected in progressive myopathies at any age, especially those involving branch- belt and respiratory muscles and in small babies with cardiomyopathy [8].

In the present study, 18 cases with a mean age of  $60.8 \pm 11.1$  times and diaphragmatic palsy were linked and delved for the late- form of Pompe complaint. In Portugal, the opinion recommendations for late- onset Pompe complaint suggest that cases with a progressive

branch- belt weakness, fatigue, cramps and muscle pain should be estimated with creatinine kinase (CK) situations, electromyography, dynamic spirometry and muscle vivisection in inconclusive cases. Suspected cases and those in which muscle vivisection couldn't allow other opinion should be screened for lysosomal acid-  $\alpha$ - glucosidase insufficiency with dried blood spot (DBS), and the opinion should be verified by determination of lysosomal acid-  $\alpha$ - glucosidase exertion in a alternate sample and lysosomal acid-  $\alpha$ - glucosidase gene sequencing. According to this, 5 of the 18 cases delved substantiated absence or reduction of GAA exertion in the DBS test [9, 10].

## Acknowledgement

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## Conflict of Interest

None.

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