Incomplete Penoscrotal Transposition in a Boy with Prenatally Diagnosed Klinefelter Syndrome: Case Presentation and Review of the Literature

Teresa Dudek – Warchol, Stanislaw Warchol*

Department of Pediatric Surgery and Urology, Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Zwirki&Wigury street 63 a: Poland

*Corresponding Author: Stanislaw Warchol, Department of Pediatric Surgery and Urology, Medical University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Zwirki & Wigury street 63 a: Poland, E-mail: swarchol@poczta.onet.pl

Abstract

Klinefelter syndrome characterized by hypergonadotropic hypogonadism, gynecomastia and azoospermia, with characteristic male karyotype 47,XXY, represents the most common major abnormality of sexual differentiation as well as and form of infertility. The syndrome is diagnosed more frequently in an adolescent or adult patient. Genital anomalies are generally not recognized as associated features. Newborns with Klinefelter syndrome usually present normal male phenotype and the only abnormal clinical symptom are small testes; however, this is recognized usually after puberty. Prepubertal diagnosis of Klinefelter syndrome, especially due to genital malformations, is a rare entity. We present a boy with prenatally diagnosed Klinefelter syndrome concomitant with penoscrotal transposition. Review of the literature on the subject is enclosed.

Keywords: Klinefelter syndrome, hypergonadotropic hypogonadism, penoscrotal transposition, prepubertal diagnosis, prenatal diagnosis

1. INTRODUCTION

Klinefelter syndrome with characteristic male karyotype 47, XXY, represents the most common major abnormality of sexual differentiation as well as any form of infertility. The typical presentation is an adolescent or adult patient with hypergonadotropic hypogonadism, gynecomastia, azoospermia, increased gonadotropin levels and small, firm testes [1, 2].

Most cases are diagnosed after puberty [3, 4, 5, 6]. Genital anomalies are generally not recognized as associated features [5, 7, 8]. Prepubertal diagnosis of Klinefelter syndrome, especially due to genital malformations, is a rare entity [9].

The aim of this report is to present a boy with prenatally diagnosed Klinefelter syndrome concomitant with penoscrotal transposition. Review of the literature on the subject is enclosed.

2. CASE REPORT

2-month old boy with prenatally diagnosed Klinefelter syndrome (amniocentesis with karyotyping performed because of hypotrophia of the fetus as well as prenatal ultrasound results suggestive of abnormal external genitalia) was referred for urological evaluation because of ambiguous genitalia (Figure 1 a, b). After birth small VSD was diagnosed, which closed spontaneously during follow-up. On physical examination partial penoscrotal transposition, bifid scrotum and bilateral scrotal hernia were noted. Abdominal ultrasound was unremarkable, scrotal ultrasound showed disseminated microscopic calcifications within both testes (Figure 2 a, b). Tumor markers were within normal limits. At the time of bilateral herniorrhaphy cystoscopy was done: normal bladder and urethra and no Mullerian structures were found.

At the age of 4 – years the boy (Figure 3 a, b) underwent one-stage correction of penoscrotal transposition (Figure 4 a, b). Postoperative period was uneventful. The cosmetic appearance of genitalia during the short-term follow-up (6 months) was acceptable (Figure 5 a, b).
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Figure 1 (a, b). Incomplete penoscrotal transposition

Figure 2 (a, b). Ultrasound: disseminated microscopic calcifications within both testes

Figure 3 (a, b). Preoperative view of incomplete penoscrotal transposition.

Figure 4 (a, b). Scrotoplasty: intraoperative view

Figure 5 (a, b). Postoperative view: two months after scrotoplasty
3. DISCUSSION

Klinefelter patients classically have complete male sex differentiation and genital anomalies are generally not recognized as associated features of this syndrome [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]. In 2015 the extensive retrospective reviews of the literature for boys with Klinefelter syndrome and associated penoscrotal malformations, revealed only 16 such cases [9]. The described malformations included hypospadias, penile chordee, bifid scrotum and penoscrotal transposition. Penoscrotal transposition was noted in about one-third of collected cases. In those entire boys Klinefelter syndrome was diagnosed before puberty as a part of diagnostic workup for the presence of ambiguous genitalia.

Our patient presents an exceptional case of prenatally diagnosed Klinefelter syndrome because of suspicion of abnormal external genitalia and incomplete penoscrotal transposition was confirmed after the birth.

Penoscrotal transposition is a rare genital anomaly with wide spectrum of presentations [10,11,12,13]. In complete form of transposition the penis is located completely caudal to the scrotum and no scrotal tissue is present distally to the penis. In incomplete form scrotal tissue surround the root of the penis. Complete penoscrotal transposition usually occurs in conjunction with various forms of severe hypospadias: perineal, scrotal or penoscrotal. Other systemic abnormalities, including urinary tract as well as no genitourinary anomalies such as cardiac, gastrointestinal, craniofacial, central nervous system, growth deficiency and mental retardation are found up to 75% of patients with complete penoscrotal transposition [10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17]. Incomplete transposition tends to present as isolated anomaly [10, 11, 13]. In presented boy incomplete penoscrotal transposition, except Klinefelter syndrome and small VSD which resolved spontaneously, was the leading abnormality.

Various operative techniques of scrotoplasty have been described to correct penoscrotal transposition [10, 11, 13]. In all of them the main goal of repair is relocating the penis superiorly and scrotum to a dependent position. In 1973 Glenn and Anderson published their technique for surgical correction of incomplete penoscrotal transposition [18], which is still in use with further modifications [19, 20]. In our patient scrotoplasty according to the technique presented by Glenn and Anderson was applied with good result.

Abnormal genitalia can be diagnosed prenatally as the result of ultrasound finding of abnormal external genitalia or discrepancy between fetal chromosome and phenotypic sex [21]. Prenatal sonographic features of penoscrotal transposition were described for the first time in the literature in 2002 [22], and then Wang et al. presented that prenatal diagnosis of penoscrotal transposition can be enable and facilitated with 2- and 3-dimensional ultrasonography [23]. Also Klinefelter syndrome is more frequently diagnosed prenatally [24]. To our knowledge the case of prenatally diagnosed Klinefelter syndrome and penoscrotal malformation has not been described so far.

REFERENCES

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