

mortality rates up to 50%. It is precipitated by an acute event which disrupts compensatory mechanisms present in severe hypothyroidism. Treatment includes IV levothyroxine (LT4) with consideration of liothyronine (LT3) therapy and management of any underlying stressor. Here we present a case of MC and adrenal crisis due to pituitary dysfunction successfully treated with IV LT4 and LT3. **Case:** A 55-year-old female with no pertinent medical history presented with two weeks of shortness of breath, anorexia, fatigue, and unexplained falls. Her initial vital signs were notable for a blood pressure of 86/60, temperature of 36.3 °C, heart rate of 59, SpO₂ of 86 on room air, and respiratory rate of 21. Exam was notable for altered mentation, respiratory distress, decreased bowel sounds, and edematous facies. Initial serum studies were notable for sodium of 133 mmol/L (135-145 mmol/L), blood glucose of 50 mg/dL (74-99 mg/dL), TSH of 2.1 mIU/L (0.45-4.50 mIU/L), and blood gas showed pH of 7.27 and PaCO₂ of 84.7 mmHg. She was intubated, started on vasopressors, and IV hydrocortisone 100 mg was administered. Her pretreatment serum cortisol was unmeasurable (below 0.5 mcg/dL) and ACTH resulted at 2.0 pg/mL (7-63 pg/mL). Despite hydrocortisone 50 mg q8h, her vitals worsened with HR to 40 bpm and temperature to 34.4 °C. Given concerns for MC, free and total T4 tests were obtained and both were undetectable (below 0.4 ng/dL and 4.0 ug/dL, respectively), so 300 mcg IV LT4 was administered. The next day, the patient's vasopressor requirement increased, so 5 mcg IV LT3 q8h was added and IV LT4 was maintained at 100 mcg/day. Total T4 and T3 were measured daily and increased into the reference range over the course of 8 days and 2 days, respectively. LT3 was discontinued after 8 days and LT4 was converted to oral regimen of 125 mcg LT4 (weight expected 115 mcg) on day 14 after extubation; her hydrocortisone was tapered to a daily total of 30 mg PO. An MRI of pituitary showed an empty sella with a thin rim of normal appearing tissue without other lesions. The patient later denied any history of post-partum hemorrhage, idiopathic intracranial hypertension, pituitary surgery, radiation, or trauma. She is currently doing well on LT4 and hydrocortisone replacement. **Conclusion:** This case highlights the successful use of combined LT4 and LT3 in the treatment of MC with concomitant adrenal crisis. LT3 therapy may have been particularly beneficial in this case as conversion of T4 to T3 may be limited in setting of severe illness and high-dose glucocorticoid administration. Limited observational literature suggests that LT3 use can have clinical benefit, although excessive LT3 dosing may be associated with increased mortality. Further research is required to elucidate the benefits of empiric LT3 use in MC with concurrent adrenal insufficiency.

Neuroendocrinology and Pituitary NEUROENDOCRINOLOGY AND PITUITARY CASE REPORTS

Surgical Remission of Acromegaly Resolves Neuroglycopenia and Paradoxical Rise in GH after OGTT

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Background: Acromegaly is known to cause insulin resistance through increased gluconeogenesis and reduction in peripheral glucose use; however, hypoglycemia related to acromegaly has not been reported.

Clinical Case: A 58-year old man presented for evaluation of several elevated serum IGF1 levels. The patient had reported years of increased body heat but no changes in his hands or feet and no voice deepening. He recently needed 15 dental crowns due to gaps in his teeth. He also had difficult to manage OSA and weight gain. The patient reported neuroglycopenia after a high glycemic meal or drink, although he was never able to objectively measure any low blood glucoses when they occurred; these symptoms improved but did not resolve despite adhering to a low carbohydrate diet. He also had decreased libido and erectile dysfunction. Exam was significant for coarse facial features. Prior testing revealed several elevated IGF1 serum levels, the last one being 227 ng/mL (54-194). One year prior, OGTT resulted in an initial GH level of 0.1 ng/mL with a decrease to <0.1 ng/mL after two hours. Repeat OGTT had an initial GH of 2.98 ng/mL which paradoxically rose to 12 ng/mL. Fasting BG was 90 mg/dL and peaked at 171 mg/dL. Pituitary MRI showed a 5 mm microadenoma, consistent with acromegaly from a GH secreting adenoma. He underwent a TSSC, and his heat intolerance, low libido, and symptom of hypoglycemia resolved completely. Subsequent IGF1 levels and MRI imaging normalized. Postoperatively OGTT showed a peak GH of 0.23 ng/mL with a peak glucose of 134 mg/dL. There was no paradoxical rise in GH.

Discussion: Acromegaly is commonly associated with insulin resistance in ~30% of cases; however, there are no reports of associated neuroglycopenia after a carbohydrate-rich meal or OGTT, which in our patient resolved after successful removal of the pituitary microadenoma. His low glucose symptoms could have been a result of reactive hypoglycemia, which is often seen in patients with diabetes or even prediabetes. However this patient had no history of either. He did not have evidence of any tumors causing hypoglycemia and no gastric surgery to suggest a related etiology (e.g. dumping syndrome or nesidioblastosis). Conversely since GH is normally anabolic and stimulates insulin release, the patient's elevated GH may have caused an abnormal increase in insulin, leading to his hypoglycemia symptoms. Indeed GIP, which stimulates insulin, is thought to be the cause of the paradoxical rise in GH seen in 30% of acromegaly cases. Remarkably, the patient's hypoglycemia symptoms disappeared after treatment of the acromegaly, which leads us to consider that excess GH was the culprit.

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The Biggest Man in the Room

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A 42 year old gentleman who had been healthy all his life, began to develop new clinical symptoms including acid reflux. He was tested for H. Pylori by his PCP, and