GRAVES ORBITOPATHY COURSING WITH HYPOTHYROIDISM: A CASE-REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

- Graves's orbitopathy (GO) is usually associated with Graves's Disease, which is typically characterized by hyperthyroidism and goiter.
- However, in rare situations, GO can also present with hypo or euthyroidism (prevalence 1.6 and 8.6%)

ORBITS CT 07/03/2013:
Optic nerves and eyeballs without significant changes in their morphology or their densitometry. Intra and extraconal fat without obvious changes in their densitometry. Bony walls apparently preserved. Small focus of high density in the adjacent soft tissue on the right side of the nasal bones - to correlate with clinical history.

CONCLUSIONS

- There are different types of TRAbs, capable of inducing distinct clinical syndromes, according to their functional influence - stimulating, blocking, or neutral.
- In this patient with Graves's orbitopathy, a predominance of blocking type TRAbs could be a possible explanation for the presence of hypothyroidism. However, TRAbs blocking and stimulating activity were both in the normal range. So, neutral TSH-receptor antibodies, which do not block TSH binding and are unable to induce cAMP via Gs, may be present in this patient. However they may induce other signaling cascades with important implications for the generation and persistence of chronic inflammation.
- In conclusion, hypothyroidism in this particular case may be a consequence of the associated thyroiditis (suggested by high titers of anti-peroxidase/anti-thyroglobulin autoantibodies and ultrasonographic findings), while orbitopathy may be a result of neutral TRAbs' effects.

CLINICAL CASE

- IDENTIFICATION: Male, 38 years old.
- PAST MEDICAL HISTORY: Overweight; Unilateral Renal Agenesis; Haemorrhoids.
- Smoker – 10 cigarettes/day since 14 years old: 12 pack-year.
- No regular medication.

ORBITAL NUMERICAL VALUES:

- Hemoglobin: 16.0
- WBC: 8.94
- Platelets: 213
- AST: 24
- ALT: 26
- GGT: 15
- AP: 63
- CT: 257
- HDL: 37
- LDL: 161
- Triglycerides: 195
- Glucose: 88
- Urea: 36
- Creatinine: 1.15
- TSH: 62.75
- FT4: 0.70
- FT3: 2.90
- TSH receptor antibodies: 5.2

Levothyroxine

- 75 µg
- 88 µg
- 88 µg
- 100 µg 4x
- 100 µg 5x
- 88 µg 3x
- 112 µg 2x
- 125 µg

Symptoms Relapse


REFERENCES

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