

Parathyroid disorders

OBJECTIVES

- understanding physiology of parathyroid hormone and vitamin d
- recognition of causes of hypercalcemia and hypocalcemia
- addressing important diseases such as hypo and hyperparathyroidism , osteoporosis and osteomalacia

Calcium metabolism



physiology of calcium homeostasis

- PTH (parathyroid hormone)
- Vitamin D
- Calcitonin(parafollicular cells of thyroid gland) : it opposes the effects of PTH by : inhibiting osteoclasts from breaking down bone
 - It inhibits CA reabsorption in renal tubular cells





Vitamin D metabolism



 Best time for sun exposure in Riyadh
 Summer : 9 am -10:30 & 2-3 pm
 Winter : 10 am -2 pm

Hypercalcemic states

- Causes
- Hyperparathyroidism : presentations

symptoms

"stones,bones,abdominal

groans&psychic moans"

Impact on bones : osteoporosis , osteotis fibrosa cystica Impact on kidney : renal stones

Neuromuscular , psychiatric : fatigue , lethargy,depressed mood

Non-specific features : sometimes asymptomatic

Diagnosis

Treatment

Primary hyperparathyroidism

- Most common presentation is asymptomatic hypercalcemia
- "bones,stones,abdominal moansand psychic groans"
- Bone disease : osteoporosis and fractures. Osteitis fibrosa cystica
- Neuromuscular : fatigue and weakness
- Neuropsychiatric : depressed mood,psychosis
- Kidney : nephrocalcinosis , stones(ca oxalate)
- Cardiovascular : hypertension,ventricular hypertrophy

Primary hyperparathyroidism

- Calcium is high
- Phosphorus is low
- PTH is high

Other hypercalcemic states

- Sarcoidosis
- Thyrotoxicosis
- Adrenal insufficiency
- Thiazides & lithium
- Hypervitaminosis D
- Immobilization
- Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia(PTH IS NORMAL), mild hypercalcemia, hypocalciurea, Mg high normal or high ,autosomal dominanat
- MALIGNANCY : Increased PTHrp : commonest cause(BREAST CANCER),
- MULTIPLE MYELOMA , : production of osteoclast activating factor
- LYMPHOMA and SARCOIDOSIS : & 1,25 dihydroxyvitamin D
- PTH IS NORMAL in malignancy induced hypercalcemia

Treatment of hyperparathyroidism

In primary hyperparathyroidism : if patient is symptomatic (lithiasis, osteoporosis, pancreatitis)surgery is indicated: bilateral neck exploration or focused parathyroid exploartion if adenoma is localized preopeatively

- Intraopertave PTH monitoring
- endoscopic parathyroidectomy
- Medical treatment : cinacalcet (calcimemetic agent) : if patient is a high surgical risk.

- Preoperative localization : U/S, CT, MRI, sestamibi scan
- Removal of adenoma
 If hyperplasia : subtotal (removal of 3 ¹/₂ of glands)



enlarged gland

SURGERY OF PRIMARY HYPI

Secondary hyperparathyroidism

- Chronic renal disease causing hypocalcemia
- Severe vitamin D deficiency
- Malabsorption

Tertiary Hyperparathyroidism After long standing secondary hyperparathyroidism

Hypoparathyroidism

Causes : hypoparathyroidism (autoimmmune or post surgery ,

Hypomagnesaemia : Mg is important for the release of PTH and for its effect)

Polyglandular autoimmune syndrome Type I (mucocutneous candidiasis →hypoparathroidism→hypoadrenalism

 Pseudohypoparathyroidism : type IA autosomal dominant . Resistance to PTH+ somatic features. Type IB : isolated resistance . PTH IS HIGH

- Clinical presentations : acute tetany(post surgical)OR chronic :
- Eye : cataract , CNS (calcification of basal ganglia) causing extrapyramidal disorders
- Cardiac : prolonged QT interval .

Hypocalcemia with high PTH :

- Vitamin D deficiency
- Renal impairment
- Vitamin D dependent rickets (I-alphahydroxylase deficiency) and hereditary resistance to to vitamin D).
- Pseudohypoparathyroidism (resistance to the action of PTH)

Hypoparathyroidism

- Low calcium
- High phosphorus
- Low PTH

Clinical presentation

- Numbness around mouth , hands and feet)
- If severe hypocalcemia : tetany
- Trosseau sign(carbopedal spasm when inflating sphygmomanometer 20 mmHg above systolic BP)
- Chovstek sign (contraction of facial muscles on tapping on zygomatic arch)
- ECG : prolonged QT interval







Treatment of hypocalcemia

- Calcium carbonate : I 2 gm daily
- vitamin D analogs : calcitriol or alfacalcidol
- If severe and acute with tetany : give 10 cc of 10% calcium gluconate slowly and under ECG monirtoring (careful in patients on digoxin)



Osteoporosis

DEFINITION DIFFERNTIATIING OSTEOPOROSIS FROM OSTEOMALACIA CAUSES DIAGNOSIS PREVENTION TREATMENT

DEFINITION OF OSTEOPOROSIS

• Low bone mass with micrarctictural disruption resulting in fracture from minimal trauma.



Causes of osteoporosis

- Menopause
- Old age
- Calcium and vitamin D deficiency
- Estrogen deficiency in women and androgen deficiency in men
- Use of steroids

Exclude secondary causes especially in younger individuals and men

Box 2: Common secondary causes of bone loss

- Hyperparathyroidism (primary or secondary)
- Vitamin D inadequacy
- Malabsorption state (e.g., celiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease, short gut syndrome)
- Hypercalciuria
- Hyperthyroidism
- Chronic lung disease
- Malignancy (e.g., myeloma, bony metastasis)
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Hepatic insufficiency

Diagnosis of osteoporosis

- Dual-energy x-ray absoptiometry (DXA) measuring bone minaeral density (BMD) and comparing it to BMD of a healthy woman
- More than -2.5 SD below average : osteoporosis



Lumbar spine Femoral neck



Bone density scanner

WHO Osteoporosis criteria 1994

Definition based on BMD : •

- Normal : greater than or equal to -1 SD
- Osteopenia: BMD which lies between - 1 and -2.5 SD
 - Osteoporosis : less than or equal to -2.5 SD
 - Severe osteoporosis : osteoporosis with 1 or more fragility fractures



Treatment of osteoporosis

- Prevention
- Public awareness
- Adequate calcium and vitamin D supplements
- Bisphphosnates : reducing bone breakdown
- Denosumab : reduces bone break down
- Teriparatide : anabolic



Effects

- Steroids for several days causes bone loss more on axial bones (40 %) than on peripheral bones (20%).
- Muscle weakness
- Prednisolone more than 5 mg /day for long time

Management

- Use smallest possible dose
- Shortest possible duration
- Physical activity
- Calcium and vitamin D
- Pharmacologic treatment: bisphosphontaes , ? PTH



Osteomalacia

Definition of osteomalacia

 Reduced mineralization of bone

 Rickets occurs in growing bone



Causes of osteomalacia

Vitamin D deficiency (commonest cause)

- Ca deficiency
- Phosphate deficiency
- Liver disease
- Renal disease
- Malabsorption (Celiac disease)
- Hereditary forms
 - (intestinal and gastric surgery) : bariatric surgery
- Drugs : anti epileptic drugs

Clinical presentation

- Two thirds of patients are asymptomatic
- Incidental radiological finding
- Unexplained high alk phosph
- Large skull,frontal bossing,bowing of legs, deafness,erythema, bony tenderness
- Fracture tendency: verteberal crush fractures , tibia or femur. Healing is rapid.



- Bony aches and pains
- Muscle weakness

LAB.



lab Ca level Po4 level Alk phosph PTH Vitamin D level

Low serum vitamin D

- High PTH
- High serum alkaline phosphatase

Radiology

 X-ray: growing bones vs mature bones.
 Subperiosteal resorption , looser"s zones (pathognomonic).
 Bone scan



Treatment of osteomalacia

- Calcium and vitamin D supplements
- Sun exposure
- Results of treatment is usually very good.
- Correcting underlying cause