Interesting image

Urachal bladder in kidney transplanted patient with Prune Belly syndrome and patent urachus

Vejiga uracal postrasplante renal en paciente con síndrome de Prune Belly y uraco persistente

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We report a 16-year-old-male patient with Prune-Belly-syndrome (PBS) and patent urachus, bilateral renal dysplasia and end-stage renal disease (ESRD). The first kidney transplantation was performed at the age of 3 years, leaving an urachal catheter. Transplant failure underwent in a new cadaveric transplant at the present.

Post-kidney transplant renogram was performed to evaluate the renal function after the administration of 150 MBq of 99mTc-mercapto-acetyl-triglycine and revealed adequate perfusion with a homogeneous radiotracer uptake in the renal transplant (Fig. 1A). Elimination phase (Fig. 1B) showed a progressively increasing tracer accumulation in “urachal bladder” (red-arrow), without activity in the urinary bladder (white-arrow).

PBS is a congenital abnormality of unknown aetiology with characteristic features: deficient development of abdominal muscles that causes the skin of the abdomen to wrinkle like a prune, cryptorchidism, abnormalities of the urinary tract, chronic renal failure and ESRD.1 The incidence is estimated between 1/35,000 and 1/50,000 live births while 97% of patients are male.2 Urethral hypoplasia or atresia is present in around 18% of cases, leading to a very poor prognosis and death unless there was an associated patent urachus or vesico-cutaneous fistula.3 The reported

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Fig. 1. 99mTc-mercapto-acetyl-triglycine post-kidney transplant renogram. (A) Vascular phase, showing good perfusion without morphological changes. (B) Elimination phase, revealing a patent urachus with a functional “urachal bladder” (red arrow), without significant activity being observed in the urinary bladder (white arrow).
average age at transplantation usually does not exceed 15-years-old. Awareness of PBS in renogram would contribute to the correct diagnosis.

Conflict of interest

The authors have no funding or conflicts of interest to declare.

References