Letter to the Editor

Clinicopathologic study of IgM nephropathy in children presenting with idiopathic nephrotic syndrome in Pakistan

Madam, IgM Nephropathy (IgMN) is a newly described, albeit controversial entity which manifests mainly as idiopathic nephrotic syndrome (INS) in children and adults. It was first described by two independent groups of investigators in 1978. Since then, many studies have been conducted on this disease with conflicting results mainly due to variable criteria used for the diagnosis. The disease is defined immunohistochemically by the presence of IgM as the sole or predominant immunoglobulin with or without other immunoglobulins and complement components in the native renal biopsy record (1995-2009) and identified 138 cases of IgMN in children (<17 years). Their biopsy reports with INS reported till date. The previous largest series reported from Finland included 110 patients. Our cohort is being followed to determine the long term outcome of this disease. Our results show that IgMN is not an uncommon cause of INS in children of Pakistan. It shows a spectrum of morphologic changes ranging from minor changes to segmental glomerulosclerosis. IMF is indispensable for its diagnosis. It is predominantly a steroid dependant disease in children.

References


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