TITLE: Case Report: Primary Hyperparathyroidism presenting as Pancreatitis in a 12 year old girl.

Keywords: pancreatitis, minimally invasive parathyroidectomy

Primary hyperparathyroidism is a rare cause of hypercalcemia in the pediatric population as compared to adults. This is the case of a 12 year old female who presented with epigastric pain radiating to the back, nausea and vomiting. The patient's mother reported polyuria, polydipsia with no musculoskeletal or mood changes. Upon investigation, she was found to have elevated serum calcium levels and elevated PTH. Imaging studies revealed a nodule posterior and inferior to the thyroid, likely a parathyroid adenoma. The diagnosis of Primary Hyperthyroidism presenting as acute pancreatitis secondary to hypercalcemia was made. The acute pancreatitis was treated conservatively with intravenous fluids and the hypercalcemia corrected by the use of furesomide. She was allowed home once clinically well, with the intent to undergo elective resection of the adenoma. The adenoma was successfully resected by minimally invasive parathyroidectomy. This was confirmed by a significant decline in serum PTH levels. There was no evidence of postoperative hypocalcemia and the patient was allowed home. Two weeks after her initial presentation, abdominal ultrasound revealed the development of an organized pancreatic pseudocyst. She is currently being followed up in our Outpatient Clinic for monitoring of serum calcium levels as well as preparation for elective cystgastrostomy.

PHPT remains a rare cause of hypercalcemia in the pediatric population. Even rarer still is PHPT presenting as acute pancreatitis (1.5-13% of cases). Most commonly, PHPT in children presents as either pathological fractures or the nonspecific symptoms of hypercalcemia which leads to a delay in diagnosis and treatment of the culpable adenoma. In this case report, diagnosis and treatment was relatively swift and there were no postoperative complications.

Conclusion: This case highlights the early treatment of parathyroid adenoma

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