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Letter to Editor

Posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome in immunoglobulin A-associated vasculitis

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Arslan et al. [1] recently reported the well-documented case of a 14-year-old male patient affected by immunoglobulin A-associated vasculitis (formerly known as Henoch-Schönlein syndrome) with moderate hypertension, whose course was complicated by posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome. The authors identified no more than seven further published cases of posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome complicating immunoglobulin A vasculitis [1].

We performed a detailed review of the literature [2–7] and found a total of 23 rather well-documented cases (11 females and 12 males) published between 1990 and 2017. Patients' age ranged from 5 to 38 years (median age 8 years; 2 patients aged ≥19 years). Blood pressure was normal or moderately elevated in 13 (57%) and severely elevated in the remaining 10 (43%) cases, pointing out that, in immunoglobulin A vasculitis, posterior reversible encephalopathy syndrome may result from cerebral vasculitis, from severe rapid increase in blood pressure or from both.

Conflict of interest

All authors have no conflict of interest to report.

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Authors' Contributions

All authors equally contributed to the preparation of this letter.

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Gregorio P. Milani[a]
Mario G. Bianchetti[b,*]
Sebastiano A.G. Lava[c]
[a]*Foundation IRCCS Ca' Granda, Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, University of Milan, Pediatric Emergency Department, Milan, Italy*
[b]*Università della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Switzerland*
[c]*University Children's Hospital, Inselspital, and University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland*

*Corresponding author
E-mail address: mario.bianchetti@usi.ch (M.G. Bianchetti)

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