

NEPHROTIC SYNDROME AND HEAVY PROTEINURIA

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NEPHROLOGIST

TUMS

Introduction

- Disease of glomerulus can result in two different disorder : nephritic and nephrotic
- Nephrotic syndrome: proteinuria and lipiduria , few cell or cast
- Heavy proteinuria(PROTEIN EXCRETION greater than 3.5g/24h) , hypoalbuminemia (less than 3.5 g/dl) and peripheral edema .
- Hyperlipidemia and thrombotic disease are also frequently observed

Etiology

- Heavy proteinuria with or without the nephrotic syndrome may occur in association with a wide variety of primary and systemic diseases.
- The etiology of nephrotic syndrome varies by race, ethnicity, and geographic
- Minimal change disease (MCD) is the predominant cause in children
- In adult approximately 30% have a systemic disease such as DM, Amyloidosis, or SLE
- The remaining cases are primary kidney disorders such as MCD, FSGS, MN

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

- Proteinuria are three type: glomerular , tubular , overflow
- Nephrotic syndrome : glomerular
- increased filtration of macromolecules across the glomerular capillary wall
- Electrical potential differences generated by transglomerular flow may modulate the flux of macromolecular across the glomerular capillary wall

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- Damage or dysfunction to component of glomerulus including in basement membrane ,the endothelial surface, epithelial cells(**podocytes**) leads to loss of proteinuria
 - Podocyte appears to be the major of injury in diseases that cause idiopathic nephrotic syndrome in adult and child
 - Antibodies that target the PLA2r on podocyte are most likely causes of primary membranous nephropathy and is thus considered renal –specific autoimmune disease
 - T cell and B cell activation likely play a role in MCD
 - FSGS can result from circulation factors and podocyte mutation

Edema

- Two major factors but lead to retention
- Primary sodium retention that is directly induced by the kidney disease (overflow hypothesis)
- Secondary sodium retention, albumin loss in urine, oncotic pressure decreases, thereby decreasing circulating volume. This volume change is sensed by the juxtaglomerular apparatus and stimulates the RAS leading to sodium and fluid retention (underfill hypothesis)

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- Hypoalbuminemia: mechanism is not understood
 - Urine excretion and catabolized

Hyperlipidemia and lipiduria

- The two most common lipid abnormalities: hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia
- Low oncotic pressure stimulate hepatic lipoprotein synthesis
- Decreased hepatic lipase activity and decreased lipoprotein activity in the endothelium and peripheral tissue which results in impaired clearance of lipoproteins
- Lipiduria : fatty cast , oval fat bodies ,maltese cross



complications

- Protein malnutrition: loss lean body mass
- Hypovolemia
- Acute kidney injury
- Thromboembolism
- Infection
- Fanconi syndrome
- Low synthesis erythropoietin

Diagnosis

- **Assessment proteinuria**: 24h urine collection
- Alternative to urine collection : protein to creatinine ratio(mg/mg) on urine random

Serology study

- Urinalysis with microscopy
- Spot urine protein: creatinine ratio
- CBC(diff)
- Comprehensive metabolic panel
- HbA1C
- Complement panel
- HIV
- Hepatitis panel
- Antinuclear antibody with titer
- Serum protein electrophoresis and urine
- Serum free light chain
- PLA2R



Kidney biopsy

- Gold standard procedure for determining the cause of proteinuria

Treatment

- Specific therapy for primary nephrotic syndrome
- Treatment edema: Diuretic therapy, loop diuretic



Treatment proteinuria

ACEIs

ARBs

SGLT2 inhibitors

Hyperlipidemia

- Optimal treatment of patient with persistent nephrosis is uncertain
- Dietary modification
- Lipid-lowering therapy

Hypercoagulopathy

- Membranous nephropathy
- If thrombosis occurs: heparin therapy follow by warfarin for as long as the patient remains nephrotic