INHERITED METABOLIC DISEASES

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Inherited Metabolic Diseases (IMDs)

- The former term: Inborn errors of metabolism
- Definition: heterogeneous group of diseases, genetically conditioned change of protein
- In the early 20th century the conception of IMD was formulated by British physician sir Archibald Garrod
- He is known for his work that prefigured the "one gene-one enzyme" hypothesis
- He also described the first four IMD: alkaptonuria, albinismus, pentosuria, cystinuria

PATHOGENESIS

- IMDs are diseases based on molecular level
- IMDs are caused by a change in the genetic information
- Mutation in DNA → fault transcription to mRNA → fault syntesis protein → protein with a modified structure
- Mutation → defective transcription → defective translation
- 1 gene encodes synthesis of 1 molecule of protein

FUNCTION OF THE PROTEIN IN THE INTERMEDIARY METABOLISM

• Enzyme

- Transport protein
- Structural protein
- Regulatory protein



FORMS OF GENETIC TRANSMISSION

NUCLEAR DNA

- Autosomal recessive inheritance
- Autosomal dominant inheritance
- Gonosomal dominant inheritance
- Gonosomal recessive inheritance

MITOCHONDRIAL (extranuclear) DNA

• Maternal type inheritance

INHERITANCE <u>AR</u>

- Most IMDs are inherited **autosomal recessive**
- Disease only affects individuals with two defective copies of the gene – one from each parent (recessive homozygotes)
- Heterozygot is healthy individual, he is only "carrier" of the defect gene



INCIDENCE OF IMD

- Individual incidence is quite rare (1:15 000 – 200 000)
- **Collective** all together is **frequent** (1:1000 or higher)

CLASSIFICATION OF IMDs

- 1. According to the **speed of the onset** of clinical symptoms
- 2. According to the **metabolic systems**
- 3. According to the **subcellular localization** of modified protein
- 4. According to the **analytical method** used for the detection of IMD

1.According to the speed of the onset of clinical symptoms:

- Acute metabolic
- With intermittent course
- Chronically progressive

2. According to the metabolic system

Disorders of:

- amino acid metabolism
- carbohydrate metabolism
- organic acid metabolism
- **storage** diseases

3. According to the subcelullar localization of modified protein:

- cytosolic
- mitochondrial
- lysosomal
- peroxisomal
- Golgi apparatus
- ion channels etc.

MANIFESTATIONS OF IMDs

- Symptoms may appear at any age from birth to adulthood
- They may be brought on by foods, medications, dehydratation, minor illnesses, or other factors
- Symptoms may come on suddenly or progress slowly
- Severity of the disease depends on the degree of disability

CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF IMD

- <u>Non specific symptoms</u> lethargy, coma, muscular hypo or hypertonia, convulsions, poor appetite, vomiting, abdominal pain, weight loss, jaundice, developmental delay...
- <u>Specific symptoms</u> abnormal odor of urine, sweat or saliva...,ectopia of lens,trombembolic events

NONSPECIFIC LABORATORY FINDINGS

- Acidosis (for example accumulation of lactic acid disorders of pyruvate dehydrogenase)
- Alkalosis
- Hypoglycaemia
- Hyperammonaemia (disorders of urea cycle enzymes)
- Hypoketosis (mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation disorders)
- Hyperketosis (some types of organic aciduria)
- Hypouricemia/hyperuricemia (disorders of purine metabolism)
- Hypocholesterolemia/hypercholesterolemia (7dehydrocholesterol reductase deficiency - Smith-Lemli-Opitz syndrom)

Strategy of the investigation of IMDs



LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS OF IMD

- 1. At the level of **metabolites**
- 2. At the level of **enzymes**
- 3. At the molecular level (mutations)

1. LEVEL OF METABOLITES

- <u>Characteristic</u>: quantitative measurement of metabolites such as amino acids, carbohydrates, mucopolysaccharides, purine, pyrimidine, lipids, steroids...or various abnormal metabolites
- <u>Material</u>: serum or plasma, urine, cerebrospinal fluid, whole blood as dry blood spot on the filter paper...

DIAGNOSTICS TECHNIQUES

chromatography - paper

- thin layer
- liquid (ion exchange, high performance - HPLC)
- gas (with mass spectrometry GC/MS)

electromigration techniques

- classical electroforesis
- capillary electroforesis

tandem mass spectrometry MS/MS

THIN LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY

Pozitive result of fructose and galactose in urine



Pozitive result of galactose in serum and urine



LIQUID ION-EXCHANGE CHROMATOGRAPHY

High peak of plasma phenylalanine



2. LEVEL OF ENZYMES

- <u>Characteristic</u>: measurement of decreased activity of the enzyme
- <u>Material</u>: leukocytes, erytrocytes or plateles isolated from peripheral blood, serum or plasma, culture of skin fibroblasts, tissue from muscle or liver biopsy

3. MOLECULAR LEVEL

- <u>Characteristic</u>: specific **DNA tests** show defect of gene
- <u>Material</u>: leukocytes of periferal blood, amniotic fluid cells obtained by amniocentesis, chorionic villus cells obtained by biopsy of placenta

TREATMENT OF IMD

- 1. At the level of **metabolites**
- 2. At the level of **enzyme**
- 3. At the **molecular level** (experimental)
- The only causal treatment at the molecular level
- The symptomatic treatment reduces symptoms but does not remove the cause.

General principles in the treatment of IMD

- Reducing or eliminating of any food that can't be metabolized properly (special diets)
- Removing toxic products of metabolism that accumulate due to the metabolic disorder (for example by dialysis)
- **Replacing the enzyme** that is missing or inactive, where it is possible (ERT)
- **Replacing other supplements** that support metabolism (for example vitamin cofactors)

Other treatment options

- Organ transplantation (liver, kidneys, bone marrow)
- Treatment of symptoms and complictions
- Gene transfer treatment of the future

MAJOR CATEGORIES OF IMDs

- Disorders of **AMINO ACID METABOLISM** (phenylketonuria, maple syrup urine disease...)
- UREA CYCLE defects
- Disorders of **CARBOHYDRATE METABOLISM** (galactosemia, glycogen storage diseases...)
- Disorders of **ORGANIC ACID METABOLISM** (metylmalonic and propionic acidemia)
- Disorders of FATTY ACID OXIDATION and MITOCHONDRIAL METABOLISM (Medium-change acyl-coenzyme A dehydrogenase deficiency...)

Phenylalanine metabolic pathway



PHENYLKETONURIA (PKU)

- Phenylalanin aromatic amino acid
- PKU is an IMD due to a **deficiency of hepatic phenylalanin hydroxylase**.
- Deficiency of this enzyme results in **high levels of phenylalanine in the blood**.
- Accumulation of phenylalanin and its metabolites leads to mental retardation, if this condition is not recognized and the strict diet isn't observed.

1. Case report – baby with PKU

High peak of plasma phenylalanine



1. Case report - phenylketonuria

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1. Case report - PKU

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2. Case report – argininosuccinic aciduria

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Urea cycle



Aminogram of serum- report from AAA



3. Case report – SLOS - characteristic physical features

Mandibular hypoplasia



Genital malformations



3. Case report – SLOS - characteristic physical features

Polydactyly and syndactyly



SLOS - syntesis of cholesterol



3. Case report - SLOS

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9 S/P-AST	1.01	ukat/1	(0.27	0.97	н	(.)x
10 S/P-GGT	0.37	ukat/1	(0.37	3.00		(x.	.)
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18 S/P-Albumin	22.0	g/1	(38.0	54.0	L	x(.)
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221 S/P-1T4	13.6	pmol/1	(12.0	22.0		(x.	.)
275 S/P-Kortizol	396.1	nmol/1	(101.2	535.7		(.x	.)
563 S/P-PSH	0.37	0/1	(0.00	10.00		(x.	.)
564 S/P-LH	0.08	0/1	(0.00	6.00		(x.	.)
565 S/P-Prolaktin	402	mIU/1	(106	1270		(.x	.)
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3. Case report - SLOS



7-dehydrocholesterol – record (graph from HPLC)



41

7 dehydrocholesterol – absorption spectrum

Standard

Patient sample



RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

Literature:

- Hoffmann, G.F., Nyhan, W.L. et al., Inherited Metabolic Diseases
- Fernandes, J., Saudubray, J.M., et al., Inborn Metabolic Diseases: Diagnosis and Treatment (2006)
- Scriver Ch.R., Beaudet A.L. et al., The metabolic and molecular bases of inherited disease

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