

Serum Interferon Gamma Induced Protein-10 in Atopic and Non Atopic Infants with Wheezy Chest

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master Degree
In Pediatrics

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2017

Abstract

Introduction: Wheezing is common throughout infancy and childhood except in the neonatal period when it is relatively rare. About 19% of 10-year-old children experience wheezing with an average age of onset of 3 years. Bronchiolitis and preschool recurrent wheeze (PSRW) are common pediatric problems causing significant morbidity and mortality in the first years of life. Infants and toddlers with atopy and recurrent wheeze early in life are at greater risk for childhood asthma than non-atopic subjects who wheeze.

Aim of the Work: We sought to investigate serum levels of IP-10 among infants presenting with wheezy chest to anticipate its role in infant wheezes, relation to severity of wheezing illness, presence of signs of respiratory infection or evidence of atopy.

Methodology: This is a cross-sectional controlled study that was carried out in the emergency department and the outpatient clinic of the Children's Hospital, Ain Shams university, Cairo, Egypt during the period from December 2014 to March 2015. Informed consent was obtained from parents or care giver of patients before enrolment in the study and the study protocol gained approval from the Ethics' Committee of the Pediatric Department, Ain Shams University.

Results: The study enrolled 90 infants as a stratified non-random sample that is divided into three groups. Each group recruited its sample consecutively. Group A: (n=40): This group included 40 infants who were presented with wheezy chest. Group B (n=25): This group included 25 infants with clinical features suggestive of upper or lower respiratory tract infections (as low grade fever, cough, rhinorrhea, conjunctivitis or croup) within 3 days before presentation, and without patient or family history suggestive of allergy. Group C (n=25): This group included 25 healthy infants without history of wheezes and without symptoms of infection or allergic manifestations at time of enrolment. They were enrolled from the outpatient clinic while presenting for nutritional assessment or for circumcision in males.

Conclusion: our data suggest a possible link of serum IP-10 levels to infant wheezes which were not explained exclusively by the association with viral infection. These data might denote a possible future therapeutic role for IP-10 antagonist in severe cases of infant wheezing that are resistant to conventional therapy.

Recommendations: Further wider scale studies are recommended for better elucidation of the IP-10 expression and role in wheezing illness at different age groups.

Investigating various respiratory viral, bacterial, and fungal pathogens in relation to serum IP-10 levels could be worthwhile.

Future studies may be required to investigate the impact of targeting IP-10 in severe cases of pediatric asthma or other wheezing illnesses.

Keywords: Serum Interferon Gamma, Protein-10, Atopic and Non Atopic Infants,h Wheezy Chest

List of Contents

Title	Page
▪ List of Abbreviations	I
▪ List of Tables.....	V
▪ List of Figures	VII
▪ Introduction and Aim of the Work	1
▪ Review of Literature	
- Infant Wheezing	3
- Interferon gamma inducible protein of 10 (IP-10)	22
▪ Subjects and Methods	38
▪ Results	47
▪ Discussion	59
▪ Recommendations	68
▪ Summary	69
▪ References.....	72
▪ Arabic Summary	--

List of Abbreviations

AEC	Absolute Eosinophilic Count
ALC	Absolute Lymphocytic Count
ALSPAC	Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children
ANC	Absolute Neutrophilic Count
API	Asthma Predictive Index
BALF	Bronchial Alveolar Lavage Fluid
BEC	Bronchial Epithelial Cell
CBC	Complete Blood Count
CCL	CC Chemokine Ligand
CCL24	Eotaxin-2
CCL5	RANTES
CL11	Eotaxin
CNS	Central Nervous System
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CoV	Coronavirus
CRP	C Reactive Protein
CT	Computed Topography
CTLs	cytotoxic T lymphocyte
CXCL	CXC Chemokine Ligand
CXCL-9	CXC Ligand 9
CXCL10	IFN- γ -Inducible Protein 10
CXCR3	C-X-C Motif Receptor 3
CXCR4	C-X-C Motif Receptor 4
CXCR8	C-X-C Motif Receptor 8
DC	Dendritic Cell
ECG	Electrocardiography

List of Abbreviations

EDTA	Ethylene Diamine tetra Acetic Acid
ELISA	Enzyme - Linked Immunosorbent Assay
ELR motif	Amino acid sequence Glu-Leu-Arg
EPW	Early-Onset Persistent Wheezers
ETS	Environmental Tobacco Smoke
ETW	Early-Onset Transient Wheezers
FGF	Fibroblast Growth factor
GAGs	Glycosaminoglycans
GM-CSF	Granulocyte - Macrophage Colony-Stimulating Factor
HAART	Highly Active Anti-retroviral Therapy
HCV	Hepatitis C Virus
HDM	House Dust Mite
HEV	Human Enterovirus
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMPV	Human MetapneumoVirus
HSV-2	Herpes Simplex Virus type 2
ICAM	Intercellular Adhesion Molecule
ICS	Inhaled Corticosteroids
IFN-γ	Interferon- γ
IFN-α	Interferon- α
IFN- β	Interferon- β
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
IL	Interleukin
IL-2	Interleukin2
IP-10	Interferon- γ Inducible Protein of 10 Kilodaltons

List of Abbreviations

IPW	Intermediate-Onset Persistent Wheezers
IQR	Interquartile Range
I-TAC/CXCL11	Interferon - Inducible T - cell Chemoattractant
iTregs	Induced T Regulatory Cell
ITW	Intermediate-Onset Transient Wheezers
kB	Nuclear Factor Kappa B
LOW	Late-Onset Wheezers
LTBI	Latent TB Infection
LTRA	Leukotriene Receptor Antagonists
LW	Late-Onset Wheezers
MDC	Myeloid Dendritic Cell
Mig/CXCL9	Interferon - Induced Angiostatic CXC Chemokines, Monokine Induced by Interferon
MS	Multiple Sclerosis
NK	Natural Killer
nTregs	Natural T Regulatory Cell
NW	Never Wheezed
OA	Osteoarthritis
OD	Optical Density
PDAC	Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma
pDC	Plasmacytoid Dendritic Cell
PIAMA	Prevention and Incidence of Asthma and Mite Allergy
PSCs	Pancreatic Stellate Cells
PSRW	Preschool Recurrent Wheeze
PW	Persistent Wheezers

List of Abbreviations

QF	QuantiFERON-TB
R	Spearman rank correlation
RA	Rheumatoid arthritis
RSV	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
RV	Rhinovirus
SABA	Short-Acting Beta2-Agonists
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
SF	Synovial Fluid
SIDRIA	Italian Studies of Respiratory Disorders in Childhood and the Environment
SLE	Systemic Lupus Erythromatosis
SPT	Skin Prick Testing
SS	Sjögren Syndrome
SSc	Systemic Scleroderma
ST	Synovial Tissue
Tc	T Cytotoxic
TCRS	Tucson Children's Respiratory Study
TEW	Transient Early Wheezers
TH1	T Helper1
TLR	Toll-Like Receptor
TNF-α	Tumour Necrosis Factor- α
Tregs	T Regulatory Cell
TSLP	Thymic Stromal lymphopoietin
URIs	Upper Respiratory Infections
VEGF	Vascular endothelial growth factor
WBC	White Blood Cells
x²	Kruskal-Wallis Test

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page
Table (1):	Differential diagnosis of wheezing illness in pre-school children.....	21
Table (2):	Clinical and epidemiological data of group A patients.....	47
Table (3):	Blood picture counts and serum IP-10 levels in group A patients	49
Table (4):	SPT results among group A patients	50
Table (5):	Serum IP-10 levels among enrolled subjects	51
Table (6):	Correlation between serum IP-10 level and studied parameters in group A patients.....	52
Table (7):	Variations of clinical data and CRP in patients according to their age.....	53
Table (8):	Variations of SPT in patients according to their age	54
Table (9):	Variations of serum IP-10 levels in group A patients according to age.....	55
Table (10):	Variations of serum IP-10 levels in group A patients with different clinical parameters.....	56
Table (11):	Area under the curve for predictive performance of IP-10 level for hospital admission among infants with wheezy chest	57

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page
Table (12):	Variation of serum IP-10 levels among enrolled infants with respiratory infections according to the presence of wheezes	58

List of Figures

Figure No.	Title	Page
Fig. (1):	The wheezing phenotypes	10
Fig. (2):	Human respiratory pathogens associated with asthma exacerbations.....	14
Fig. (3):	Modified Asthma Predictive Index (API)	17
Fig. (4):	The challenge of managing wheezing in infants	19
Fig. (5):	Sequential events involving Type I and Type II interferon induction of the CXCR3 ligands, CXCL9 and CXCL10, and their respective roles in the recruitment of effector T cell and NK cell populations into inflamed tissues	24
Fig. (6):	CXCL10 secretion in an amplification feedback loop	25
Fig. (7):	Mechanisms involved in rhinovirus (RV)-induced asthma exacerbations.....	32
Fig. (8):	Serum IP-10 levels among enrolled subjects	52
Fig. (9):	IP-10 serum levels among enrolled patients with wheezy chest according to requirement for hospital admission	57

Fig. (10): Sensitivity and specificity profile of serum IP-10 level for hospital admission among infants with wheezy chest..... 58

Introduction

Wheezing is common throughout infancy and childhood except in the neonatal period when it is relatively rare. About 19% of 10-year-old children experience wheezing with an average age of onset of 3 years (*Kurukulaaratchy et al., 2002*). Bronchiolitis and preschool recurrent wheeze (PSRW) are common pediatric problems causing significant morbidity and mortality in the first years of life. Infants and toddlers with atopy and recurrent wheeze early in life are at greater risk for childhood asthma than non-atopic subjects who wheeze (*Oddy et al., 2002*).

Chemokines are small chemotactic cytokines that modulate inflammatory processes and regulate migration of leucocytes and cell–cell signalling in the immune system. Interferon- γ inducible protein of 10 kilodaltons (IP-10), or CXC ligand 10 (CXCL-10), is one of the chemokine (C-X-C motif) receptor 3 (CXCR3) binding chemokines that exerts a stimulating effect on the directional migration of activated and memory Th1 cells and promotes the production of Th1 cytokines (*Romagnani, 2006*).

Serum IP-10 levels were clearly different in subjects with acute virus-induced asthma compared with those with non–virus-induced asthma and serum IP-10 at presentation

of subjects with acute asthma was strongly associated with more severe airflow obstruction and a reduced b2-agonist bronchodilator response during their initial emergency department presentation (*Peter et al., 2007*).

Aim of the Work:

We sought to investigate serum levels of IP-10 among infants presenting with wheezy chest to anticipate its role in infant wheezes, relation to severity of wheezing illness, presence of signs of respiratory infection or evidence of atopy.

Infant Wheezing

Wheezing is a common clinical finding in children, especially in the first years of life. Epidemiological studies have shown a high prevalence of wheezing in this age group. Studies in developed countries have shown prevalence between 20% and 30%, with high recurrence of episodes. In developing countries, prevalence rates appear to be higher (*Ferreira and Wandalsen, 2014*).

Wheezing in infants accounts for a high demand of medical consultations and emergency care services, with relatively high rates of hospitalization. Along with acute respiratory infections, it plays an important role in infant mortality (*De Jong et al., 2007*)

Definition of infant wheeze:-

Wheeze can be defined as a musical sound, high-pitched and continuous, emitting from the chest during breath exhalation resulting, irrespective of the underlying mechanism, from narrowing of intrathoracic airway and expiratory flow limitation. Although this definition is well known, it may be poorly understood and defined by parents and, therefore, if based only on parental report children may be considered as experiencing wheeze when they, actually, do not. It is important that a health professional

values the wheeze to confirm or reject the diagnosis, always considering that even not all physicians are equally precise in valuing the severity of wheeze (*Brand et al., 2008*).

Prevalence of infant wheeze:-

Wheezing is common throughout infancy and childhood except in the neonatal period when it is relatively rare. About 19% of 10 years old children experience wheezing with an average age of onset of 3 years (*Kurukulaaratchy et al., 2003*). In addition, several population-based birth cohort studies documented that 30% of children suffer from wheezing during respiratory infections before their third birthday. Incidence peaks in those aged 2-8 months. Annual incidence is 11.4% in infants younger than 1 year and 6% in those aged 1-2 years. The illness accounts for 4500 deaths and 90,000 hospital admissions per year. Prevalence may be higher in urban areas (*Willwerth et al., 2006*). Recurrent wheezing is common, but most patients outgrow their symptoms by school age. Infant wheezing is sometimes mixed with other causes of noisy breathing including all causes of nasal obstruction in the first 2 years of life. Adenoid hypertrophy is commonly misdiagnosed as bronchospasm on chest auscultation (*Piippo-Savolainen and Korppi, 2008*).