

Takayasu Arteritis: A Report From South of Iran

Ajami G.H.(1), Kashef S.(2), Rafieei M.(3)

Department of Pediatrics, Division of Pediatric cardiology, Shiraz, Iran(1);

Division of Immunology, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran(2);

Division of Neurology, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran(3)

Introduction: Takayasu Arteritis (TA) is a chronic non-specific inflammatory disease of unknown etiology which affecting medium to large branches of aorta and occasionally the pulmonary and coronary arteries. While the disease mostly seen in Eastern Asian countries, world wide distribution among different ethnic groups reported.

Material and method: In a retrospective study we determined the hospital incidence of TA during last 15 years in our area for those who were admitted to Medical Centers of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iran.

Results: Out of 28 hospital records with diagnosis TA , 20 patients had the definite criteria for diagnosis of the disease as suggested by American College of Rheumatology (ACR) in 1990. The mean age was 27.3 years with female to male ratio of 4 to 1. The most common symptoms were generalized weakness and headache in (65%), easy fatigability and pain in upper extremities in (50%) and ophthalmological complaints in (30%) of the patients. High blood pressure and weak brachial pulses detected in (70%) of the patients. Sedimentation rate of more than 60 mm/hr reported in (38.5%), with reversed albumin globulin ratio in (50%) and microcytic anemia in (50%) of the cases. Angiography studies were done in 17 patients with subclavian arteries involvement in 13 patients (76.4%) and renal arteries narrowing in 5 cases. Steroid therapy was the main modality of treatment.

Conclusion: Takayasu arteritis is not a rare disease in our area and has hospital incidence of about 1.3 patients per year. The clinical presentation and findings are not different from what reported in literature.