

Thyroid Hormone Resistance: Multicentrical Case Series Study

Authors

Maria Angeles Santos Mata¹, Ana Belen Ariza Jimenez² , Francisco Macias Lopez¹, Carmen de la Camara Moraño²

Affiliations

- 1 Hospital Maternoinfantil de Jerez, Cadiz, Spain
- 2 Hospital Universitario Reina Sofía, Córdoba, Spain

Key words

resistance to thyroid hormone, thyroid receptor, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment

received 25.08.2021 accepted after revision 14.12.2021

Bibliography

Horm Metab Res 2022; 54: 67–75

DOI 10.1055/a-1725-8533

ISSN 0018-5043
© 2022. Thieme. All rights reserved.

Georg Thieme Verlag, Rüdigerstraße 14,
70469 Stuttgart, Germany

Correspondence

Ana Belen Ariza Jimenez Avda Menendez Pidal s/n 14004 Cordoba Spain Tel.:+34/957/010 055, micodemas@hotmail.com

Maria Angeles Santos Mata Ronda de Circunvalación, s/n 11404 Jerez de la Frontera Cádiz Spain

masantosmata@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Resistance to thyroid hormone syndrome (RTHS) is defined as increased thyroxine and triiodothyronine associated with normal or increased thyrotropin. This is usually due to a pathogenic variant of the gene coding for thyroid hormone receptor B (THRB). THRB is a rare genetic disorder characterized by an altered response of target tissue to the thyroid hormone action. Retrospective cross-sectional observational study with diagnosis of RTHS evaluated in secondary and tertiary hospitals for 6 years, from 2014 to 2020, in order to describe variables including age, sex, anthropometric data, clinical and biochemical characteristics of patients, who were divided according to age, in a pediatric group from 0 to 14 years (index cases), and an adult group composed of adult relatives of index cases. A molecular analysis of the THRB gene was performed. The total retrospective cohort included 7 pediatric patients and 15 adults. We found 22 cases with a clear male predominance (14/22). Mean age is 24.8 years old (22 days-70 years). Patients were referred because of symptoms 18.2% (4/22), analysis results 22.7 % (5/22), or familial study 59.1 % (13/22). About 31.8 % (7/22) cases show goiter, 31.8 % (7/22) sympathetic symptoms and 13.6% (3/22) abnormalities in behavior. In most cases, 77.3%, (17/22) show familial background of thyroid abnormalities. It is important to remark that 18.2% (4/22) relatives received previous incorrect treatments such as thyroidectomy, because of wrong diagnosis. In conclusion, a better understanding of RTHS, its prompt molecular diagnosis and genetic counseling, could avoid unnecessary tests and inappropriate treatments.

Introduction

Resistance to thyroid hormone (RTH) [1] is a genetic disorder characterized by an impaired responsiveness of target tissues to the action of the thyroid hormone. There is an abnormal increase of serum thyroxine (T4) levels generally accompanied by elevated serum triiodothyronine (T3), with non-suppressed (normal, or even elevated) serum thyroid-stimulating hormone (T5H) levels.

Resistance to thyroid hormone is rare, with an estimated incidence of 1:40 000 births [2], although accurate data is difficult to obtain. The classic form is, in most cases, due to mutations in the Thyroid Hormone Receptor β (THRB) gene, although there are also

alterations in the cellular transport of T4 and T3, and in the conversion from T4 to T3 mediated by deiodinases [3, 4].

The effects of the thyroid hormone are mediated by a receptor encoded by separate genes: THRA (thyroid hormone receptor α) gene, coding for thyroid hormone receptor alpha (TR α), isoforms 1 and 2, located in 17q11.2; and the THRB gene, isoforms 1 and 2, located in 3p24.2 [5].

Currently, according to the THRB gene, 120 mutation sites have been reported, most of which are located in the "hotspot" region. These are carboxyl terminal ligand binding regions of TRB encoded by exon 7 to 10 [6]. Mutated proteins provoke a reduced affinity for T3 and/or an impaired interaction with the cofactors involved in their transcriptional machinery. Thus, dominant negative inhibition of wild-type receptors by the mutant THRB form is the basis of the disorder [7]. Although some cases have been described as being caused by the mutation receptor $\alpha 1$ and $\alpha 2$ [1, 8], the majority of them (80–85%) are due to heterozygous mutation, although some homozygosis mutations have also been described [9].

RTH- β is an autosomal dominant disease, which has affected individuals who are heterozygous for mutant allele, although recessive heritance and 20–25% of novo mutations have also been described [10]. On the other hand, gene defects remain unknown in 15% of subjects with a phenotype similar to RTH- β , called "nonthyroid receptor-resistance to thyroid hormone (TR-RTH)". It is due to mutations in genes, which encode cofactors that interact with receptors [1, 10, 11].

The first description of RTH was made by Refetoff et al. [12] in a family with congenital deafness, stippled epiphyses, goiter, and abnormal high serum protein-bound iodine. The majority of patients maintain an almost normal serum level, although it is variable among people affected. The most common abnormality is the presence of diffuse goiter (66–95 %), followed by tachycardia 35 % [7]. However, patients with RTH- β show very heterogeneous clinical manifestations, being asymptomatic or presenting symptoms from hypothyroidism to hyperthyroidism. Even with the same mutation, due to the distribution of receptor expression, compensatory mechanisms and the effect of previous and/or current treatment, different degrees of peripheral resistance are observed in patients, as well as variable resistance in different tissues of the same individual [9].

Some common symptoms are described in children: short stature, delayed bone age, deafness, language delay, school delay and even intellectual delay. An amount of 70 % show Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) [4, 13].

Thyroid antibodies may be present in 20% of these patients [14, 15]. Clinical presentation needs to be differentiated with TSH secreting adenoma, familial hypertyrosinemia, hypalbuminemia, abnormalities in proteins such as albumin and thyroglobulin [10].

The present review was prepared for the purpose of expanding knowledge of RTH-β in order to reduce the rate of misdiagnosis.

Ethics Approval

All procedures followed in both centers were in accordance with the ethical standards of Virgen del Rocio Hospital´s Ethics committee (code 12011966). Informed consents before the inclusion of patients were not necessary because of the retrospective design.

Patients and Methods

Retrospective cross-sectional observational study with diagnosis of RTH evaluated in secondary and tertiary hospitals for 6 years (Jerez Hospital and Reina Sofia University Hospital) from 2014 to 2020, in order to describe clinical and biochemical characteristics of patients, who were divided according to age, in a pediatric group from 0 to 14 years (index cases), and an adult group composed of adult relatives of index cases. Exclusion criteria were: Alteration of

transporter proteins, dysalbuminemia, adenoma, and other genetic etiologies different to RTH- β , RTH- α , or TR-RTH.

In all patients, the diagnosis was based on two biochemical analyses after 12-hour fasting {T4, T3, TSH; autoimmunity, sex hormone-biding globulin (SHBG), thyroglobulin], thyroid ultrasound, echocardiogram, sellar magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), TRH test, and genetics.

Genetic studies were done through peripheral blood samples collected in ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) tubes. DNA was extracted using Qiagen technology. Structural analysis of THRB gene exons 3–10 and intronic regions were studied by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification. Sequences were analyzed by Termofisher Scientific's SeqScape V3 Software.

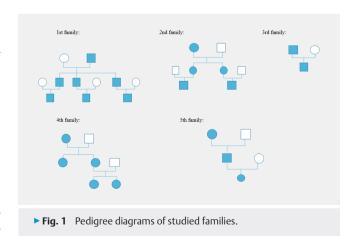
During the study, the following variables were collected: sex, age at diagnosis, anthropometric data at birth and at diagnosis, clinical symptoms, biochemical and imaging results, and genetics. Descriptive analysis was done using statistical package R, version 4.0.3, through percentages, ranges, and means.

Results

In the pediatrics group, we found 7 cases with a clear male predominance (5/7), which represents 71.4% of the sample. Mean age is 5.58 years old (22 days–14 years). In the adults group, we found 15 patients with a mean age of 44 years old (19–70 years), and male predominance (9/15).

Patients were referred for different reasons: 18.2 % (4/22) were referred because of clinical suspicion of RTH (goiter, tachycardia), 22.7 % (5/22) were referred after abnormal T4 and/or T5H levels in biochemical analysis performed due to clinical symptoms not related to RTH (analytical finding), and 59.1 % (13/22) were studied because they were relatives of a patient with a known mutation in the THRB gene (familial study) (► Fig. 1). They showed low T5H/alpha subunit ratio and negative TRH test.

An amount of 31.8% (7/22) of cases show goiter, 31.8% (7/22) sympathetic symptoms and 13.6% (3/22) abnormalities in behavior. Most cases, 77.3%, (17/22) show familial background of thyroid abnormalities, and some of them, which represents 31.8% (7/22) of the sample, were diagnosed with thyroid hormone resistance through the study of their children. It is important to remark



that 18.2 (4/22) of relatives received previous incorrect treatments such as thyroidectomy, because of a wrong diagnosis.

Around 4.5% (1/22) of cases show a low weight at birth. At the time of writing, genetic results for one last family were pending, but they were treated with antithyroid with bad response. They have shown lab tests compatible with thyroid hormone resistance, and the index case is having a good evolution with tetraiodothyroacetic acid treatment. So, nowadays they are compatible with TR-RTH (> Table 1 and 2).

Discussion

We found 7 pediatric cases and 15 adults diagnosed with resistance to thyroid hormone, a bigger sample than most publications, especially regarding children [16–18]. In our sample, most reasons for study were in the context of a family study or after obtaining an altered T4 and/or T5H level in a biochemical analysis, as well as in published studies. Although, they referred to biochemical analysis performed due to clinical symptoms unrelated to RTH- β [17], while most cases in our sample were performed for clinical symptoms compatible with thyroid abnormalities.

As we can see in our series, as well as in the literature, depending on the tissue, features of thyroid hormone excess and deficiency may coexist, although most individuals have a euthyroid, normal metabolic state at the expense of high thyroid levels [7]. In fact, the syndrome is often misdiagnosed as hyperthyroidism and unnecessarily treated with antithyroid drugs, as occurred with one of our cases, and some patients receive l-thyroxine treatment for apparent hypothyroidism [19]. So, due to their nonspecific symptomatic presentation, these patients can be misdiagnosed if the physician is not familiar with the condition. This can result in frustration for the patient and sometimes unnecessary invasive treatment, such as radioactive iodine ablation or thyroidectomy [20, 21], as in our familial cases. Routine neonatal screening based on the TSH assay has a limited role in detecting resistance to thyroid hormone, although it could facilitate the early diagnosis of RTH-β in newborns in some cases [16, 17]. Therefore, genetic testing of the candidate genes THRB should be performed for diagnosis of resistance to the thyroid hormone in patients with the suggestive clinical phenotype [16] or familial antecedents, because prompt molecular diagnosis and genetic counseling could prevent unnecessary tests and inappropriate treatments such as iodine or surgery [22].

It is important to highlight that we found some pathogenic variants in our sample, which have not been described before, such as c.1348 C>T; p. (Leu450Phe). These pathogenic variants were defined by experimented geneticians according to known databases and experience.

Fetuses born to RTH- β mothers without diagnosis and treatment have poor intrauterine and postnatal growth due to gestational hypertension and exposure to an excess of the thyroid hormone, with low birth weight and suppressed postnatal thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH) [21, 23]. Probably, this is the situation with our case 3, who showed low neonatal anthropometry. In fact, adult humans and mice without resistance to the thyroid hormone- β exposed in utero to high maternal thyroid hormone levels have persistent central resistance to the thyroid hormone. This is likely mediated by

the increased expression of D3 in the anterior pituitary, enhancing local T3 degradation [24]. So, it is important that maternal fT4 levels are not above 50% of the upper limit of normal in RTH- β mothers carrying fetuses. This seems to be a prudent approach that prevents the otherwise expected low birth weight and postnatal TSH suppression [23].

On the other hand, we found one case with thyroid hormone resistance and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. The cognitive phenotype of resistance to thyroid hormone has been reported to be similar to attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. In fact, there were no significant differences with regard to behavior or electrophysiological phenotype, so it is impossible to determine the real cause of that behavior [13].

Regarding the diagnosis, it would be recommendable to conduct a second thyroid function test (TSH, free T4, and free T3) with a different assay, and then screening for a genetic variant by sequencing the genes involved in thyroid hormone regulation, action and transport (THRB,THRA, SECISBP2, SLC16A, ALB, TTR, SERPINA7) [3, 10].

Dieu et al. obtained mutation in THRB in 26% of cases (15/58), while it is the cause that was evident in all our patients and the most frequent cause in the literature [25, 26]. Furthermore, they found biological interference due to a thyroid hormone serum transport protein variant in 24% (14/58). On the other hand, biological interference was suspected in 26% of cases without genetic variant, in which the biological discrepancy was not confirmed by a second analytical technique (15/58). Finally, no etiology for the biological discrepancy could be found in 24% of cases (14/58) [10], as it occurred in one of our cases. They stated that patients in whom biological discrepancy was due to analytic interference were more often asymptomatic, and patients with no identified etiology tended to be older [10], whilst we show one young patient with this condition.

Xiao et al. also included somatostatin suppression test, electro-cardiography (ECG), thyroid ultrasonography, magnet resonance imaging (MRI) of the sellar region, vision and hearing at diagnosis [18]. The reason for this is differential diagnoses with TSH-producing pituitary adenoma (TPA) and Familial Dysalbuminemic Hypertyrosinemia (FDH) [26], and that is why we decided to perform an MRI in some of our cases.

RTH should be suspected in both adults and children with elevated thyroid hormone and not suppressed TSH [27], so we could diagnose adults due to diagnostic in children, as it occurred in our family cases. It is interesting that higher serum TSH levels in RTH β patients have been described when compared to those without mutations in beta isoform of the thyroid hormone receptor, but this difference did not extend to free T4 level [26].

According to treatment, compounds with thyromimetic potency but with different biochemical properties compared to T3 may hold therapeutic potential in these syndromes by bypassing defective transporters or binding to mutant T3-receptors. Such thyroid hormone analogues have the potential to rescue thyroid hormone signaling. So, the application of 3,3',5-triiodothyroacetic acid (Triac) in resistance to thyroid hormone due to defective TR β and the role of 3,5-diiodothyropropionic acid (DITPA), 3,3',5,5'-tetraiodothyroacetic acid (Tetrac) and Triac in MCT8 deficiency are really useful [3,28], as we have shown in our cases.

This document was downloaded for personal use only. Unauthorized distribution is strictly prohibited.

► **Table 1** Pediatric patients with Thyroid Hormone Resistance in our sample.

Family	Age	Relation	Sex	Background	Symptoms	Labs	Imaging	Genetics	Treatment
-	14 years	index	Σ	No interest	АРНБ	TSH 6.33 mUI/l	Ultrasound: Enlarged thyroid, heterogene- ous echogenicity, and increased vascularity	c.1348>T; p. (Leu450Phe) in heterozygosity in exon 10 of THRB gene	o Z
					Goiter II	T4 2.2 ng/ml	Scintigraphy: Diffuse hyper-uptake goiter		
						T3 6pg/ml	MRI and EKG normal		
						Tg 18 ng/ml			
						Autoimmunity against Tg: 405 ng/ml			
						a Subunit<0.3 mUI/ml			
						SHBG 28 nmol/l			
						Prealbumin 28 mg/l			
						Albumin 4.4 g/dl			
	6 years	Cousin	Σ	No interest	No	TSH 2.16 mUI/I	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal.		No
						T4 1.5 ng/ml			
						T3 5pg/ml			
						Autoimmunity against Tg: 64 ng/ml			
						α Subunit<0.3 mUI/ml			
						SHBG 29 nmol/l			
						Prealbumin 22 mg/l			
7	10 months	index	Σ	No interest	ON	TSH 6 mUI/I	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal.	c.1348>T; p. (Leu450Phe) in heterozygosity in exon 10 of THRB gene	O N
						T4 2.3 ng/ml			
						T3 5pg/ml			
						Autoimmunity against Tg: 29 ng/ml			
						α Subunit 0.1 mUI/mI			
						SHBG 29 nmol/l			
						Prealbumin 22 mg/l			

- 200	colleged.									
Family	Age	Relation	Sex	Background	Symptoms	Labs	Imaging	Genetics	Treatment	
	2 years	index	Σ	Low birth weight	No	TSH 3.7 mUI/l	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal.	C1313>A (pArg438His) in exon 7 of THRB gene	No	
						T4 2.44 ng/ml				
						T3 8.2 pg/ml				
						Autoimmunity against Tg: 42 ng/ml				
						a Subunit 0.2 mUI/mI				
						Prealbumin 27 mg/l				
	5 years	index	Σ	Learning difficulties	Learning difficulties	TSH 2.84mU/I	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal.	c.1357 C>T (p.Pro452Ser) in THRB gene	NO	
						T4 2.34 ng/dl				
						T3 10.36pg/ml				
						Autoimmunity negative				
	22 days	Sister	Ŀ	No interest	Nervousness, insomnia	TSH 3.67 mU/I	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal.		Propranolol	
						T4 2.97 ng/dl				
						T3 9.14 pg/ml				
						Tg 68.24 ng/ml				
						Autoimmunity negative				
	11 years	index	ш	No interest	Nervousness, insomnia, palpita- tions, behavior chang- es, weight stagnation, concentration problems, goiter II	TSH 12.17 mU/l	Ultrasound: Thyroid enlarged at the right lobe. Diffuse increased vascularization. Nonspecific lymphadenopathy.	THRB and THRA normal	Propranolol	
						T4 1.44 ng/ml	Cranial MRI: Plagiocephaly, ventricular asymmetry.	Cofactor pending	Melatonin	
						T3 5.41 pg/ml			Tetraiodothyro- acetic acid	
						Autoimmunity negative				

F: Female; M: Male; ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; THR: Thyroid Hormone Resistance; TSH: Thyroid Stimulation Hormone; T4: Thyroxine; T3: Triiodottironine; Tg: Tyroglobuline; SHBG: Sex hormone binding globulin; mU: Milli-international units; MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging; EKG: Electrocardiogram.

► **Table 1** continued.

► Table 2 Adult patients with thyroid hormone resistance in our sample.

Family	Age	Relation	Sex	Background	Symptoms	Labs	Imaging	Genetics	Treatment
-	67 years	Grandfather	Σ	Diagnosed with hyperthyroidism. Thyroidectomized	O Z		Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal	c.1348>T; p. (Leu450Phe) in heterozygosity in exon 10 of THRB gene	OZ
	41 years	Father	Σ	No interest	Goiter	TSH: 2.45 mUI/l	Ultrasound: Enlarged thyroid with a 7.6 mm cystic nodule	c1633:C>T (p.Leu450Phe)	No
						T4: 2.2 ng/ml	MRI and EKG normal	in exon 10 of THRB gene	
						T3: 5.5 pg/ml			
						Autoimmunity negative			
						α Subunit <0.3 mUI/mI			
						SHBG: 22 nmol/L Prealbumin 25 mg/l			
						Albumin 4.8g/dl			
	42 years	Paternal uncle	Σ	Diabetes	Tachycardia	TSH: 0.64 mUI/I	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal	c.1348> T; p. (Le-u450Phe) in heterozy-gosity in exon 10 of THRB gene	N _O
						T4: 2.35 ng/ml			
						T3: 4.97 pg/ml			
						a Subunit 0.28 mUI/ml			
						SHBG: 20nmol/l			
						prealbumin: 27 mg/l			
						albumin 4.8 g/dl			
	30 years	Paternal cousin	Σ	Diabetes	No	TSH: 4.8 mUI/L	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal		No
						T4: 2.42 ng/ml			
						t3 libre: 5.17pg/ml			
						α Subunit: 0.3 mUI/mI			
						SHBG: 34 nmol/l			
	43 years	Paternal uncle	Σ	Diabetes	Multinodu- lar goiter	TSH: 3.4 mUI/I	Ultrasound: Multinodular goiter		No
				Diagnosed with RTH		T4 libre: 2.5 ng/dl	MRI and EKG normal		
						T3l: 5.8pg/ml			
						Tg: 34 ng/ml			
						Autoimmunity negative			
						α Subunit: < 0.3 mUI/ml			
						SHBG: 29 nmol/l			
						Albumin: 5 mg/dl, Prealbumin: 25 mg/dl			
						i			

Treatment	No									No										No							No							No	
Genetics	p.L450F(c.C1663T) in exon 10 of THRB gene																																	C1313>A (pArg438His) in exon 7 of THRB gene	
Imaging	Ultrasound: Diffuse goiter	MRI and EKG normal								Ultrasound, MRI and EKG										Ultrasound multinodular	goiter	MRI and EKG normal					Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal							Ultrasound, MRI and EKG normal	
Labs	TSH: 3.2 mUI/I	T4: 2.5 ng/dl	T3: 5.3pg/ml	Tg: 27 ng/ml	Autoimmunity negative.	a Subunit:<0.3 mUI/mI	SHBG: 31 nmol/l	albumin: 5mg/dl,	prealbumin: 28 mg/dl	TSH: 3.1 mUI/I	TA: 2 45 = 24	T2: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7: 7:	13: 3: 19g/IIII	Tg: 23 ng/ml	Autoimmunity negative.	α Subunit:<0.3 mUI/mI	SHBG: 29 nmol/l	albumin: 5.5 mg/dl,	prealbumin:26mg/dl	TSH 3.2mUI/mI		T4 2.29 ng/ml	T3 4.59 pg/ml	Autoimmunity negative.	α Subunit: 0,3 mUI/ml	SHBG: 26 nmol/l	TSH: 3.8mUI/ml	T4: 2.32ng/ml	T3 libre: 5.27 pg/ml	Tg: 24ng/ml	α Subunit: 0.3 mUI/ml, SHBG: 27 nmol/l	prealbumin: 28 mg/dl	albumin: 6 mg/dl	TSH: 3.5mUI/I	T4 libre: 2.56 ng/dl
Symptoms	No									No										No							No							No	
Background	Diagnosed with RTH									Diagnosed with RTH										No interest							No interest							No interest	
Sex	LL.									Σ										Œ.							L.							Σ	
Relation	Maternal aunt									Cousin										Mother							Grandmother							Father	
Age	48 years									19 years										27 years							60 years							33 years	
Family	2																																	m	

► Table 2 continued.

ģ.
nu
ınti
ö
e 2
9
œ
A

Treatment							Levotiroxine. Tetraiodothy-		No			Levotyroxine				ON .				Propranolol		
Genetics							c.1357 C>T (p.Pro452Ser) in THRB									c.1357 C>T (p.Pro452Ser) in THRB gene						
Imaging							Ultrasound and EKG normal	MRI: Enlarged pituitary gland	Ultrasound: Gland minimally enlarged	MRI and EKG normal		Ultrasound: Diffuse goiter				Scintigraphy: Right lobe hyperactivity	Ultrasound, MRI and EKG			Ultrasound and EKG normal	MRI: The pituitary stalk and anterior pituitary are displaced to the left. Neurohypophysis in posterior location	
Labs	T3: 6pg/ml	Tg: 27 ng/ml	Autoimmunity negative.	a Subunit:<0.3 mUI/mI	SHBG: 31	albumin: 5 mg/dl, prealbumin: 27 mg/dl	TSH 8.03 mU/I	T4L 2.07 ng/dl	TSH 1.69mUI/ml	T4 2.24ng/dl	Albumin 4.6g/dl	TSH 5.69 mUI/I	T4 3.15 ng/ml	Tg 165.7 ng/ml	Autoimmunity negative	TSH 2.12mU/I	T4 1.88 ng/dl	Albumin 4.4 q/dl	Autoimmunity negative	TSH 0.98 mU/I	T41.81ng/dl	
Symptoms							Palpitations, diarrhea		Diarrhea			Goiter				Nervous- ness, tachycardia				Nervousness, sweating		
Background							Thyroidectomized		Diagnosed with RTH			Diagnosed with hypothyroidism				Diagnosed with hyperthyroidism treated with antithyroids and radioiodine				Hypercholesterolemia		
Sex							ш		Σ			L.				L				Σ		
Relation							Mother		Maternal uncle			Maternal grandmother				Paternal Grandmother				Father		
Age							39 years		36 years			64 years				70 years				42 years		
Family							4									ro.						

F. Female; M. Male; ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; THR: Thyroid Hormone Resistance; TSH: Thyroid Stimulation Hormone; T4: Thyroxine; T3: Triiodotironine; Tg: Tyroglobuline; SHBG: Sex hormone binding globulin; mU: Milli-international units; MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging; EKG: Electrocardiogram.

In conclusion, it is necessary to think about resistance to thyroid syndrome in cases of patients with elevated free T4 and T3 concentrations, with normal or inadequately elevated T5H, in the absence of acute illness or drugs, to diagnose it. Prompt molecular diagnosis and genetic counseling could prevent unnecessary tests and inappropriate treatments.

Author Contributions

M. Angeles Santos Mata has concepted the idea, reviewed literature, and written part of the article. Ana B. Ariza Jimenez has analyzed the data, reviewed literature, written part of the article, and checked final article. Francisco Macias Lopez and Carmen de la Camara Moraño have collected patients.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge Ben Nickless and Barbara Samo for their help in translation into English.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

References

- [1] Refetoff S, Bassett JHD, Beck-peccoz P et al. Classification and proposed nomenclature for transport, and metabolism. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2014; 99: 768–770
- [2] LaFranchi SH, Snyder DB, Sesser DE et al. Follow-up of newborns with elevated screening T4 concentrations. | Pediatr 2003; 143: 296–301
- [3] Williams GR, Boelen A, Refetoff S. 13th International workshop on resistance to thyroid hormone and thyroid hormone action. Thyroid 2018: 28: 690–691
- [4] Bernal J. Sindromes de resistencia a las hormonas tiroideas. Endocrinol y Nutr 2011; 58: 185–196. Available from: http://www.elsevier.es/es/linksolver/ft/pii/S1575092211000702
- [5] Lazar MA. Thyroid hormone receptors: multiple forms, multiple possibilities. Endocr Rev 1993; 14: 184–193
- [6] Agrawal NK, Goyal R, Rastogi A et al. Thyroid hormone resistance. Postgrad Med | 2008; 84: 473–477
- [7] Pappa T, Refetoff S. Human genetics of thyroid hormone receptor beta:resistance to thyroid hormone beta (RTHβ). Methods Mol Biol 2018; 1801: 225–240
- [8] Moran C, Agostini M, Visser WE et al. Resistance to thyroid hormone caused by a mutation in thyroid hormone receptor (TR)α1 and TRα2: clinical, biochemical, and genetic analyses of three related patients. Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol 2014; 2: 619–626
- [9] Ferrara AM, Onigata K, Ercan O et al. Homozygous thyroid hormone receptor β-gene mutations in resistance to thyroid hormone: three new cases and review of the literature. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2012; 97: 1328–1336
- [10] Dieu X, Sueur G, Moal V et al. Apparent resistance to thyroid hormones: From biological interference to genetics. Ann Endocrinol (Paris) 2019; 80: 280–285
- [11] Weiss RE, Hayashi Y, Nagaya T et al. Dominant inheritance of resistance to thyroid hormone not linked to defects in the thyroid hormone receptor alpha or beta genes may be due to a defective cofactor. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 1996; 81: 4196–4203

- [12] Refetoff S, DeWind LT, DeGroot LJ. Familial syndrome combining deaf-mutism, stippled epiphyses, goiter and abnormally high PBI: possible target organ refractoriness to thyroid hormone12. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 1967; 27: 279–294
- [13] Uter J, Heldmann M, Rogge B et al. Patients with mutations of the thyroid hormone beta-receptor show an ADHD-like phenotype for performance monitoring: an electrophysiological study. NeuroImage Clin 2020; 26: 102250
- [14] Barkoff MS, Kocherginsky M, Anselmo J et al. Autoimmunity in patients with resistance to thyroid hormone. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2010; 95: 3189–3193
- [15] Guerra-argüero LM, Gutiérrez-saucedo JA, Gómez-coello A et al. Resistencia a hormonas tiroideas y tiroiditis de Hashimoto. Cir Cir 2011; 453–457
- [16] Choi J-H, Cho JH, Kim JH et al. Variable clinical characteristics and molecular spectrum of patients with syndromes of reduced sensitivity to thyroid hormone: genetic defects in the THRB and SLC16A2 genes. Horm Res Paediatr 2018; 90: 283–290
- [17] Vela A, Pérez-Nanclares G, Ríos I et al. Thyroid hormone resistance from newborns to adults: a Spanish experience. J Endocrinol Invest 2019; 42: 941–949
- [18] Xiao X, Lv C, Zhu T et al. Thyroid hormone resistance and the value of genetics: Three case reports. Medicine (Baltimore) 2019; 98: e14675
- [19] Jackowski T, Petriczko E, Horodnicka-Józwa A et al. Thyroid hormone resistance syndrome - own experiences. Pediatr Endocrinol Diabetes Metab 2017; 23: 209–214
- [20] Rivas AM, Lado-Abeal J. Thyroid hormone resistance and its management. Vol. 29, Proceedings (Baylor University. Medical Center) 2016; 209–211
- [21] Zaig E, Cohen-Ouaknine O, Tsur A et al. Clinical and molecular characteristics of eight Israeli families with thyroid hormone receptor beta mutations. Isr Med Assoc J 2018; 20: 679–686
- [22] Toumba M, Neocleous V, Fanis P et al. Phenotype variability and different genotype of four patients with thyroid hormone resistance syndrome due to variants in the THRB gene. Hippokratia 2019; 23: 135–139
- [23] Pappa T, Anselmo J, Mamanasiri S et al. Prenatal diagnosis of resistance to thyroid hormone and its clinical implications. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2017; 102: 3775–3782
- [24] Srichomkwun P, Anselmo J, Liao X-H et al. Fetal exposure to high maternal thyroid hormone levels causes central resistance to thyroid hormone in adult humans and mice. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2017; 102: 3234–3240
- [25] Concolino P, Costella A, Paragliola RM. Mutational landscape of resistance to thyroid hormone beta (RTH β). Mol Diagn Ther 2019; 23: 353–368
- [26] Ramos LS, Kizys MML, Kunii IS et al. Assessing the clinical and molecular diagnosis of inherited forms of impaired sensitivity to thyroid hormone from a single tertiary center. Endocrine 2018; 62: 628–638
- [27] Sun H, Cao L, Zheng R et al. Update on resistance to thyroid hormone syndromeβ. Ital | Pediatr 2020; 46: 168
- [28] Groeneweg S, Peeters RP, Visser TJ et al. Therapeutic applications of thyroid hormone analogues in resistance to thyroid hormone (RTH) syndromes. Mol Cell Endocrinol 2017; 458: 82–90

Notice

This article was changed according to the following Erratum on February 23rd 2022.

Erratum

In this article the authors names were not displayed correctly. Correct are: Maria Angeles Santos Mata, Ana Belen Ariza Jimenez, Francisco Macias Lopez and Carmen de la Camara Moraño.