

Authors' Reply: Primary Neonatal Psoas Abscess

This correspondence is in relation to the dilemma regarding primary and secondary psoas abscess as pointed recently [1].

There remains no doubt that primary abscesses are due to a hematogenous spread due to bacteremia and secondary abscess occurs as a result of direct spread of infection from an adjacent structure [2,3]. A case of primary psoas abscess with spondylodiscitis was published earlier by us [4]. Hernández-Ros, *et al.* commented that all authors must use the recent classification criteria and accordingly, that patient should have been diagnosed as secondary rather than primary psoas abscess.

We disagree because our patient, a 26 day-old neonate, presented with clinical features of septicemia and it was clearly mentioned that the isolates of methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) was detected in the blood culture. Hematogenous spread of infection following the bacteremia resulted in the psoas abscess. Discitis with vertebral body destruction

following primary abscess was a unique presentation in this age group. Referring to the new classification criteria, as also pointed out by Hernández-Ros *et al.*, the hematogenous spread of the infection in our case clearly established the diagnosis of primary psoas abscess beyond any doubt. Our diagnosis of primary was not on the basis of organism. It was not the local spread of infection from nearby structure; hence it cannot be labeled as secondary psoas abscess.

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Disulfiram Poisoning Causing Acute Encephalopathy

Disulfiram is used for the treatment of alcoholism, exerts its action when taken concomitantly with alcohol. The typical reaction is self-limited, with headache, flushing, dizziness, nausea, blurred vision, tremor and dyspnea [1]. When not associated with alcohol ingestion, its effects are scarce at usual daily doses. Acute intoxication at doses higher than 500 mg/d, may result in severe collateral effects, and can be lethal at doses between 10-30g/d [2]. The presence of this drug in the home makes it a potential agent for accidental poisoning. We report an unusual case of disulfiram poisoning.

A two-year-old healthy boy presented with lethargy, drowsiness and unresponsiveness of one day duration. No history of fever, trauma and parents denied any intoxication. His development was appropriate for age. There was no significant family history. Later the subject

developed convulsions, persistent encephalopathy and dystonia. On examination, his anthropometry was normal. He had acidotic breathing with hypotension (blood pressure-60/40mm). His Glasgow coma scale was 6/15. The pupils and fundus were normal. Dystonia was present. There were no signs of meningeal irritations. Differential diagnosis of metabolic encephalopathy, encephalitis and intoxication were considered.

Hematological and biochemical workup including serum electrolytes, serum lactate and ammonia levels were normal. Arterial blood gas was suggestive of severe metabolic acidosis (pH-7.02, PO₂-75, PCO₂-12, HCO₃⁻-6 BE- -16). Cerebrospinal fluid examination was normal. MRI of brain showed swollen and symmetrical hyperintense signal changes involving the globus pallidus and substantia nigra. Additionally both the structures are showing restricted diffusion on DWI images (**Fig. 1**). Tandem mass spectroscopy (TMS) and gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy (GC/MS) of urine were found to be normal. After 2 weeks the boy's father reported that 8-10 of the disulfiram tablets, that the