

HIPERTRICOSE CUBITAL – APRESENTAÇÃO DE UM CASO

HAIRY ELBOW SYNDROME – A CASE REPORT

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Dear Editor:

Hypertrichosis cubiti or hairy elbow syndrome is a rare disorder with about 40 cases previously reported in medical literature. It is a circumscribed form of hypertrichosis restricted to the extensor aspect of upper limbs, usually developed along childhood and showing a regressive tendency in the puberty.

infancy, the facies and mental development were normal and the weight and height accompanied the percentile 50. No further identical cases were seen in the family, including the twin brother of the patient. Hairy elbow syndrome was the proposed diagnosis. According with the expected evolution, which consists in spontaneous regression during puberty, the abstinence of treatment was determined.

CASE REPORT

A 6-year-old boy was observed with a history of profuse hair growth in their upper limbs since the first year of life. Examination disclosed the presence of many long vellus hairs distributed symmetrically along the cubital aspects of upper limbs (Fig. 1). Despite a previous history of mild psychomotor development delay during

DISCUSSION

Hypertrichosis cubiti or hairy elbow syndrome was first described by Beighton in 1970 in an Amish family. Most of the 40 cases found in medical literature are sporadic, but there are references both to autosomal dominant and autosomal recessive inheritance. This particular distribution of long vellus hair was interpreted

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as a form of mosaicism, a nevoid abnormality or either an excessive physiologic distribution of hair.

The association with other anomalies is uncommon, but short stature or several physical defects were reported. Our case is associated with no further manifestations besides the psychomotor development delay in infancy.



Fig. 1

The rarity of this disorder and its possible role as a syndromic phenotypic manifestation are the facts emphasized by the authors.

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