

WT1 사구체병증 소아환자에서 유전자형 및 표현형 분석

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Genotype-phenotype Analysis in Pediatric Patients with WT1 Glomerulopathy

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Objectives: WT1 gene mutation is important cause of congenital/infantile nephrotic syndrome typically showing diffuse mesangial sclerosis, often found in Deny-Drash syndrome (DDS). WT1 also causes focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), comprising Frasier syndrome (FS). Mutations in exon 8 or 9 of WT1 result in DDS, characterized by infantile nephrotic syndrome (NS), ambiguous genitalia, and high incidence of Wilms tumor. Intronic mutation of donor splice-site at intron 9 causes FS, with FSGS, XY sex reversal, and high incidence of gonadoblastoma. In this study we investigate genotype-phenotype correlation in Korean pediatric patients with WT1 gene mutations.

Methods: Pediatric patients with steroid resistant NS (SRNS) were screened for WT1 gene mutations. In four patients, WT1 mutations were found unexpectedly during investigating genetic cause of CKD without known etiology. Medical records were reviewed for a total of 24 patients with WT1 gene mutations.

Results: The initial manifestations of the patients were infantile NS (n=9), isolated SRNS (n=8), Wilms tumor (n=3), and end-stage renal disease (ESRD) of unknown etiology (n=4, all phenotype female). Median onset age of SRNS was 1.25 (0.03-12.3) years for 18 patients (M:F 4:14, phenotype) who presented with SRNS. Sixteen patients attained ESRD at median age of 1.13 (0.07-20.4) years. Six patients developed Wilms tumor (n=4), gonadoblastoma (n=1), and lymphoma after kidney transplantation (n=1). Nine patients were phenotypically females with karyotype 46, XY. Three patients had diaphragmatic hernia, and 11 patients had genital abnormalities. Genetic analysis revealed intronic mutations in 12 patients and exonic mutations in 12 patients. Patients with intronic mutations presented as isolated SRNS at a significantly older age and with a slower progression to ESRD, compared with patients with missense mutations. Renal histopathology revealed diffuse mesangial sclerosis in 6 (100%) patients with exonic mutations and FSGS in 7 (87.5%) patients with intronic mutations.

Conclusions: WT1 mutations constitute an important genetic cause of SRNS, with a wide spectrum of renal and extrarenal phenotypes. The genetic diagnosis appears important for WT1 disease in view of risk of cancers. We suggest that pediatric patients with SRNS and female patients with chronic kidney disease of unknown origin need WT1 gene screening.

Key Words: 신증후군, WT1 유전자 돌연변이, 말기신부전

Nephrotic syndrome, WT1 gene mutation, End-stage renal disease