

A Case of Lipomyelomeningocele Complicated by Neurogenic Bladder

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Lipomyelomeningocele is a rare congenital condition and an abnormal fat accumulation that starts below the skin and extends through an opening in the spine to the spinal cord. It forms a mass under skin and damage to adjacent spinal cord, which may have neurological consequences, such as muscle weakness or loss of sensation of the lower extremities, and bowel or bladder incontinence. A 19-year-old male visited our hospital due to urinary incontinence. The laboratory findings were as follows, blood urea nitrogen 45.3 mg/dL, serum creatinine 5.1 mg/dL and WBC >100/HPF on urine analysis. Kidney ultrasonography revealed both hydronephrosis and cortical thinning, and urodynamic study showed neurogenic bladder. Pelvic MRI showed 7cm sized fatty mass in sacrum with tethered spinal cord indicating lipomyelomeningocele. He was transferred to neurosurgery for operation. We report a case of chronic kidney disease caused by neurogenic bladder, which was induced by lipomyelomeningocele. We suggest that evaluation for congenital abnormalities of the spine and spinal cord, such as lipomyelomeningocele, will be needed for early diagnosis and treatment in young-aged patients with urinary incontinence and decreased renal function.

Key Words: Lipomyelomeningocele, Neurogenic bladder