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Flatbush diabetes

- Shari Liesch APN, CDE
- Conflict of interest
- None




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Objectives

1. Discuss presenting symptoms
2. Differential diagnosis
 1. Type 1 diabetes, type 2
 2. LADA
 3. MODY
 4. other
3. Explore Flatbush Diabetes: Atypical diabetes mellitus (ADM) or ketosis prone diabetes, (KPD)



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A New admission: Diagnostic criteria

- Late teen
- Thirst, weight loss, severe DKA
- Appeared at a local ED in full DKA, A1c 10, vomiting, very sick.
- After recovery of the DKA started on MDI
- Went into honeymoon!!
- A1c @ goal for several visits (<6)

ADA diagnostic criteria for diabetes:

- Symptoms + casual glucose >200
- Fasting >126
- 2 hr glucose >200 with OGTT

Impaired:

- Impaired 2hr post 140-200
- Impaired fasting 100-125



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	1-2013	4-2013 CV	7-2013 CV	10-2013 CV	1-2014 CV	
A1c	10	6.2	5.2	5.2	6.0	
Ketones	+				Off insulin	
Na	130*					
K	3.5					
Cl	87*					
CO2	31*					
pH	7.36					
C pep (0.8-3.1)	0.88					
GAD In AB	<1.0			<0.02 0		
Mg	1.6*					
Cholesterol	131			NL		
TG	308			63		

© Dx thyroid AB, function, & celiac normal

Summary post diagnosis

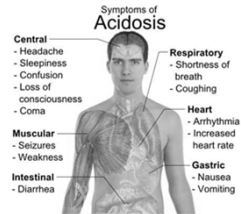
- At 10 month after Dx: type 1 diabetes
- Daily numbers great on 1.1 u/kg/day
- GAD, Insulin-auto, Islet cell 512 antibodies all negative.
- Due to lows, and most numbers in range, reduced doses
- Told to send numbers weekly for evaluation & adjustment

- At next visit: Jan. 2014
- 1 year post diagnosis,
 - totally off insulin,
 - with a normal A1c (<6),
 - he stopped all insulin 3 months earlier,
 - stated he was going low from BB, (but did not call for help).



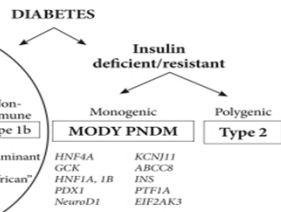
Differential Diagnosis

- Type 1 diabetes:
 - immune mediated, HLA specific
 - Ask to lean and athletic
 - adopted thus family Hx unknown;
- Type 2 diabetes:
 - Often in family, environment turns it "on"
- Idiopathic
- LADA latent autoimmune
 - (immune negative with a quick onset).
- MODY, maturity onset diabetes of the young,
 - monogenic gene causes the diabetes;
 - slower onset
 - often familial pattern of ancestors on low dose insulin for a long time;
- Atypical diabetes mellitus (ADM)
 - Many AA with T1d w/o evidence of autoimmunity have atypical diabetes mellitus ADM or Flatbush diabetes
 - Abrupt onset, recovery, with period of returned function of β cell secretion



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Current classification of diabetes.
 APS1, autoimmune poly endocrine syndromes 1; IPEX, immunodeficiency, poly endocrinopathy, enteropathy, X-linked syndrome;
 MODY, maturity-onset diabetes of the young.
 Rawsh, M. Diabetes Metabolism Journal. 2012 April; 36(2): 90-97

Types of diabetes in youth

type	type 1	ADM	MODY	type 2
age at onset	through out childhood	pubertal	pubertal	pubertal
predominant race	All	AA*	Caucasian	Hisp, AA, NA
onset	acute-severe	acute severe	subtle	subtle to severe
islet autoimmunity	present	absent	absent	unusual
insulin secretion	very low	Moderate/Low	variable	variable
insulin sensitivity	NL	NL	NL	decreased
Ketosis, DKA at onset	up to 40%	common	rare	up to 33%
obesity	as in population	as in population	uncommon	>90%
portion of pop. diabetes	70-80%	<10%	5%	20-25%
mode of inheritance	Not, sporadic	Auto. Dom.	Auto. Dom.	strong familial

classification of children with diabetes. Lightitz, F, page 59

The rest of the story

Spring 2014: had DKA with co-morbidity of pneumonia.

- Off insulin for 5 months,
- Now very ill
- A1c 10%
- Insulin re-started

Two weeks later: A1c 12.7%

- Played in ball tournament
- Had another episode of DKA needing IV fluids.
- **But he did not test/correct as recommended**
- He needed higher doses to fix the sugars, was very insulin resistant
- Activity caused stress made him more insulin resistant

	1-2013	4-2013 CV	7-2013 CV	10-2013 CV	1-2014 CV	Crash 3-2014	4-2014
A1c	10.0	6.2	5.2	5.2	6.0	BG 673 DKA	12.7 BG 352 Pneumonia
Ketones					Off Insulin	DKA Restart Insulin	DKA #2
Na	130*					128**	137
K	3.5					4.1	4.4
Cl	97*					93**	97*
CO2	31*					27	31
pH	7.36						
C pep (0.8-1.1)	0.88						

The stress of activity

Umpierrez et al studied AA with phenotype A-
B+ KPD

- Studied obese AA patients
- Looked at the role of gluco & lipotoxicity in causing severe but partially reversible B cell function defect
- Hyperglycemia, not hyperlipidemia caused severe blunting to C-peptide response to glucose stim.
- Chronic hyperglycemia was associated w/reduced expression & insulin stimulated threonine-308 phosphorylation of Akt2 in skeletal muscle
- Severe gluco-toxic **blunting** of an intracellular pathway which leads to insulin secretion may **blunt** to reversible B cell dysfunction

- This is characteristic of KPD:
 - AB neg, Beta cell + function, KPD
- Hyperglycemia may be exacerbated by defects in skeletal muscle glucose uptake as a result of Glucotoxic down regulation of skeletal muscle insulin signaling.
- One mechanism of this glucotoxic B cell dysfunction is from increased oxidant stress in the islet cells.
- They feel KPD has a genetic susceptibility
- Vaibhav, Mathai, & Gorman, 2013



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	1-2013	4-2013 CV	7-2013 CV	10-2013 CV	1-2014 CV	Crash 3-2014	4-2014	9-2014	5-2014	10-2014	11-2014	1-2015
A1c	10.0	6.2	5.2	5.2	6.0	BG 673 DKA	12.7 BG 352 Pneumonia	12.7	8.7	8.0	9.1	9.1 BG 438
Ketones					Off Insulin	DKA restart	DKA #2				none	
Na	130*						128**	137			134	134
K	3.5						4.1	4.4			3.5	4.2
Cl	97*						93**	95*			95	98
CO2	31*						27	31			32	30
pH	7.36											
C pep (0.8-1.1)	0.88											
GHG (0.8-1.1)	<1.0				<0.02							
Mg	1.6*											
Cholesterol TG	131/308				NL/63							158/87

Flatbush Diabetes

- Common in Africa
- Named after New York area where first described
- Other names:
 - atypical,
 - type 1B,
 - idiopathic,
 - type 1,
 - ketosis prone type 2B.
- Banerji, 2004
- Rewers, 2012
- Vaibhav, Mathai, & Gorman 2013

- The **hallmark for Flatbush:**
 - **Present with sudden onset, extremely high BG levels (DKA)** (levels of over 700)
 - Patients insulin resistant w/ **acute, severe defects in insulin secretion** w/o islet cell auto-antibodies
 - Following treatment, insulin secretion is recovered and keto-acidosis generally does not occur
 - If not obese, normal insulin sensitivity is not uncommon
 - A1c of 12-14 are not uncommon




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- Flatbush diabetes seems to be somewhere between type 1 and type 2.
- Primarily in non white persons, especially those of sub-Saharan African descent.
 - but Asians, Hispanics and Caucasians can be diagnosed.
- Onset through childhood, rare past age 40 .
- Not associated with HLA typing.
- No antibodies against the beta cells;
- May be overweight
- Male prominence (Vaibhav et. Al)
- May have some insulin resistance

- Are not at risk for increased CV like insulin resistant persons (T2d) have
- Differences in visceral, not subcutaneous adipose tissue volume, seem to determine insulin sensitivity
- Can have spontaneous remission and long term insulin independence
- Management:
 - Acute: Usual DKA protocol
 - Test for AB
 - Treat with MDI
 - Chronic
 - Even if off insulin, may relapse and need insulin
 - May respond to metformin or low dose sulphonylurea




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Other features


- Major distinguishing feature:
 - when very high sugars are brought down with insulin, some do quite well on oral meds and/or lifestyle choices.
- Some Flatbush relapse and have other episodes of DKA.
- After 10 years, about 60% need insulin for good control, which is close to the type 2 rate of insulin use.
- Flatbush is becoming more common in Africa and the Americas, accounting for 50% of the cases among African Americans who first present with DKA.
- No one knows the cause,
- it appears they are sensitive to the temporary damage to the beta cells by glucotoxicity and lipotoxicity.
- When these conditions are reversed, the beta cells are able to recover
- Important for 2 reasons:
 - 30% if AA with BMI <30 kg/m2 are not insulin resistant (are insulin deficient) : less CV risk
 - In T2d- metabolic syndrome properties (increased CV risk, insulin resistance & declining insulin production)
 - Metabolic stability allows for critical recovery of B cell function and reversal of glucose or lipo toxicity (Banerji, 2004)




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Other



- There may be several sub types of Flatbush diabetes.
- Some need insulin for control.
- Poor control may be precipitated by an infection.
- Gretchen Becker, in Health Guide from 9-2008 suggests that absence of antibodies may be a clue if you suspect your patient may have Flatbush diabetes.
- If there are antibodies, they are probably type 1.
- Being aware of the other forms of diabetes helps us to spot cases, as correct diagnosis is important in the treatment plan design and prevention of future DKA episodes




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Flatbush characteristics

Underlying mechanism seems to be



- A combination of insensitivity to insulin
- And transient loss of ability to release adequate amounts of insulin.
- T2d gradually lose insulin resistance
- Flatbush:
 - do not have antibodies of t1d
 - they have a recovery of insulin secretion (rising C peptide)
 - Long term: can maybe maintain w/o injections (orals)



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Low vitamin D

- Vitamin D can enhance insulin release and insulin sensitivity
- Improved glucose once supplemented if low

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Learning points (Vaibhav, et al)

- It is assumed children need life long insulin replacement, this may not be the case
- Early Mgmt of AD similar to t1d
- Rapidly falling insulin needs over the first few weeks should alert to possibility of AD: pancreatic auto antibodies and function should be checked (predict insulin dependence)
- The natural history of AD or Flatbush is distinct from either t1d or t2d- being aware can facilitate dx and mgmt.
- Patients presenting in DKA with AD will have spontaneous resolution of diabetes within a few months: most will relapse within 2 years of dx and will require insulin and or oral agent



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In summary

- It is important to look for risk factors
- Management w/o insulin can have employment implications
- Reduced risk of hypoglycemia
- Separate the high risk from t1d
- Non Caucasian
- Family history of T2d, of African descent
- (also Korean) may be in Asian descent (12%)
- Suspect if absence of GAD, Insulin and Tyrosine phosphatase AB
- As well as healthy or elevated C peptide levels
- Most cases of T1d do not involve multiple cases of DKA
- Howath 2015



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