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### Severe hypercalcemia in a patient with subcutaneous fat necrosis: presentation, management and complications

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#### Abstract

**Background:** Subcutaneous fat necrosis (SCFN) is a rare, inflammatory disorder of the adipose tissue, usually complicates intrauterine or perinatal distress in full-term healthy infants. It is usually a self-limited condition; however, in some cases, it can lead to severe hypercalcemia that may be life-threatening.

**Objective:** This report details the clinical course and complications of a term infant who had a history of perinatal stress, complicated by meconium aspiration with a long course of NICU admission, and hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy. Subsequently, at the age of 9 weeks, this patient was diagnosed with Subcutaneous fat necrosis (SCFN) and treated for severe hypercalcaemia.

**Method:** We report and describe a classic presentation of SCFN that led to severe hypercalcemia responsive to standard treatment. The diagnosis of SCFN was made based on the finding of subcutaneous nodules and of hypercalcemia. The serum calcium level reached 4 mmol/l, and PTH was appropriately suppressed. Hypercalcemia was treated with intravenous infusions of fluids, furosemide and methylprednisolone.

**Results:** The standard treatment was effective; therefore, bisphosphanates were not required in the management of this patient. Nonetheless, due to the unawareness of this rare condition, and the delay in diagnosis and treatment, the patient developed nephrocalcinosis.

**Conclusion:** Early identification and treatment of this condition may improve outcome.

**Keywords:** Subcutaneous fat necrosis (SCFN), subcutaneous nodules, hypercalcemia.

#### Biography

I am a Pediatric Endocrinologist and Diabetologist, Assistant professor at the Hashemite University, Faculty of Medicine. I graduated from Jordan University of Science and technology and got Bachelor degree in medicine and surgery. I finished my higher specialization in pediatrics from the University of Jordan. I completed my clinical fellowship in Pediatric endocrinology, diabetology, and bone health from the Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney Australia in 2021. I have commneced my career in Prince Hamza Hospital where I see a bulk of patients of vaious endocrine disorders. Additionally, I teach my students and residents the processes to follow to provide appropriate levels of care for patients with endocrine disorders and diabetes.