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A new diagnostic test for VLCAD deficiency using immunohistochemistry

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Abstract—Background: Muscle pathology is often unhelpful in elucidating the specific underlying abnormality in patients with metabolic myopathy with rhabdomyolysis, including very-long chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (VLCAD) deficiency. Biochemical analyses require large amounts of biopsy samples for each enzyme assay. Objective: To develop a more efficient diagnostic method for VLCAD deficiency. Methods: The authors performed immunohistochemical analysis using an antibody to VLCAD on muscles from 344 patients (226 men and 118 women) without a specific diagnosis who had at least one of the following symptoms: myoglobinuria, high CK level, muscle pain, muscle stiffness, sudden infant death syndrome, and Reye-like syndrome. Results: Immunoreactivity to VLCAD was absent or markedly reduced in 13 patients. Biochemical analyses confirmed that all these patients had low enzymatic activity and reduced amount of protein. They all had the myopathic phenotype. The authors identified homozygous or compound heterozygous mutations in all of them. All recombinant proteins had reduced enzymatic activity except for 128G>A (G43D) and 796C>G (P266A) mutants, indicating that they are neutral polymorphisms. Conclusions: The new screening method for the detection of VLCAD deficiency using an immunohistochemical technique identified 13 new Japanese patients with VLCAD deficiency.

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Muscle biopsies are often performed to look for the underlying metabolic abnormalities in patients with rhabdomyolysis. However, pathologic findings are frequently nonspecific and extensive biochemical analyses are necessary to make a specific diagnosis of metabolic myopathy including glycogenosis, β -oxidation enzyme defects, and carnitine palmityl transferase (CPT) deficiency. Because large amounts of muscle tissue are required for each enzyme assay, biochemical screening is sometimes incomplete.

Mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation is carried out by the integrated action of the carnitine-dependent transport of long-chain fatty acids across the mitochondrial membrane and the intramitochondrial β -oxidation cycle. The first step of this cycle is catalyzed by four fatty acyl-CoA dehydrogenases, which have different substrate chain-length specificities. Short-chain, mediumchain, and long-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenases are matrix proteins with specificity for C₄-C₆, C₄-C₁₂, and C₁₀-C₁₈ fatty acyl-CoAs, while very-long chain acyl-

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CoA dehydrogenase (VLCAD) is associated with the mitochondrial inner membrane and is specific for C₁₄-C₂₄ fatty acyl-CoAs.¹² In 1999, 54 cases of genetically confirmed VLCAD deficiency were reviewed and 19 cases have been reported thereafter in the English language literature (table 1).³

VLCAD deficiency is clinically classified into three forms: severe form, or severe childhood form, with early onset, high mortality, and a high incidence of cardiomyopathy; an intermediate form, or milder childhood form, with later onset, usually with hypoketotic hypoglycemia as the main presenting feature in which cardiac involvement is rare and outcome is more favorable; and a myopathic form, or adult form, with isolated skeletal muscle involvement, rhabdomyolysis, and myoglobinuria, usually triggered by exercise or fasting.³ Their muscle biopsies usually show nonspecific changes.

We therefore thought that there may be patients with VLCAD deficiency among our cases with such symptoms whose muscle biopsies were not diagnostic. To identify patients with VLCAD deficiency and also to develop an efficient screening method, we

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Table 1 Clinical classification and number of genetically confirmed patients

			Number (%) of genetically confirmed patients		
Form	Onset	Main manifestation	Previous reports	This report	
Severe	Neonatal to early childhood	Cardiomyopathy	34 (47)	0	
Intermediate	Childhood	Hypoketotic hypoglycemia	24 (33)	0	
Myopathic	Adolescence to adulthood	Rhabdomyolysis	15 (20)	13	
Total			73	13	

performed immunohistochemistry for VLCAD on sections of skeletal muscle from such patients.

Methods. Patients. As candidates, we selected muscle biopsies from 344 patients (226 men and 118 women) with one or more of the following: myoglobinuria, high CK level, muscle pain, muscle stiffness, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and Reye-like syndrome which showed no diagnostic change after microscopic examinations with a full battery of histochemical and immunohistochemical stains against a variety of sarcolemmal proteins, including dystrophin, sarcoglycans, dystroglycans, merosin, and collagen VI. Biopsy specimens were frozen in liquid nitrogencooled isopentane. We performed indirect immunohistochemical staining with the rabbit polyclonal antibody to VLCAD on 7 μm cryosections of the skeletal muscle. All sections were stained using an automated immunohistochemical stainer (Nex, Bentana Medical Systems, Tucson, AZ). As disease control, we used muscle from a patient with genetically confirmed VLCAD deficiency reported previously.

Enzyme assay. Acyl-CoA dehydrogenase activities toward octanoyl-CoA (C8-DH) and palmitoyl-CoA (C16-DH), as substrates, were measured according to the ferricenium method described by

Lehman et al.⁶

Immunoblot analysis. Thirty micrograms of protein from muscle extracts was applied to a 10% SDS-PAGE gel, and Western blotting was performed on a nitrocellulose sheet using an anti-human VLCAD antibody. Protein was detected with antirabbit antibody HRP-linked IgG (Cell Signaling, Beverly, MA) and ECL Western blotting detection reagents (Amersham, Buckinghamshire, UK). Anti-human trifunctional protein (TP) antibody served as positive controls, and we compared the amount of

VLCAD protein with TP-α.1

Mutation analysis. Human VLCAD gene is located on the short arm of chromosome 17, spanning a 5.3 kb region, and contains 20 exons. 8,9 To identify mutations, we sequenced the VLCAD gene in DNA from patients with VLCAD deficiency identified in this study. Genomic DNA was extracted from the muscle biopsies by a standard method. 10 We designed intron-based oligonucleotide primers and amplified two overlapping fragments which cover the entire VLCAD gene region. PCR conditions were as follows: the first fragment, denaturation at 94 °C for 1 minute; annealing at 63 °C for 2 minutes; and extension at 72 °C for 2 minutes, and 30 cycles of PCR, and the other, denaturation at 94 °C for 1 minute; annealing at 67 °C for 2 minutes; and extension at 72 °C for 2 minutes, and 30 cycles of PCR. LA Taq polymerase (Takara, Tokyo, Japan) was used throughout our study. We directly sequenced the amplified fragments using 13 primers on an automated DNA sequencer (Applied Biosystems 3100, Foster, CA) by the Big Dye cycle sequencing kits (Applied Biosystems) by following the manufacturer's protocol. Nucleotide and amino acid numbering were carried out according to the VLCAD cDNA sequence deposited in GenBank.

Enzymatic assay of recombinant proteins. To determine which missense mutations are actually pathogenic in patients with more than two identified "mutations," we measured the enzyme activity of recombinant proteins with those mutations. We extracted total muscle RNA from patients who had three or four mutations using ISOGEN (Nippon Gene, Tokyo, Japan), synthesized first-strand cDNA by Super Script III First-Strand Synthesis System (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA), and PCR amplified the VLCAD cDNA using exon-based oligonucleotide primers. PCR

products were then cloned into the pGEM-T easy vector (Promega, Madison, WI).

Seven mutant VLCAD cDNAs, 128G>A, 790A>G, 1748C>T, 796C>G, 1153C>T, 128G>A + 790A>G, and 796C>G + 1153C>T, as well as the wild type of the VLCAD cDNA were prepared by in vitro mutagenesis, using QuickChange Site-Directed mutagenesis kits (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). These cDNAs were inserted separately into a pCAGGS expression vector. We used the LipofectAMINE PLUS Reagent according to the protocol. Briefly, 3.5 μg of the expression vectors were transfected into 5 \times 10 5 COS 7 transformed fibroblasts. One point five micrograms of pCAGGS expression vector for human cytosolic thiolase cDNA was cotransfected to monitor transfection efficiency. The cells were harvested after 48 hours incubation at 37 °C, and the enzyme activities of C16-dehydrogenase and acetoacetyl-CoA thiolase were assayed.

Results. Immunochemical analysis. Immunoreactivity was markedly reduced in five patients and absent in nine patients (see supplementary figure E-1 at www.neurology.org, table 2), including the patient previously reported.

Enzyme assay. The C16-DH activity in all 13 patients identified by immunohistochemistry as well as the disease control was reduced compared to normal controls, whereas the C8-DH activity was all within the normal range (see table 2), confirming that all 13 patients had VLCAD deficiency. There was no correlation between the residual activity of the long chain acyl-CoA esters and the immunostaining pattern.

Immunoblot analysis. All 13 patients had decreased amounts of VLCAD as compared with TP- α (see table 2). There was no significant correlation between the amount of VLCAD protein and the immunostaining pattern.

Mutation analysis. Sequence analysis of the entire VLCAD gene revealed homozygous or compound heterozygous mutations in all 13 patients (see table 2). Among them, 997insG, 419G>A (G140E), 1800A>C (K600N), 796C>G (P266A), 1748C>T (S583L), 1153C>T (R385W), 1801delA, and 642-643delCT have not been previously reported. These mutations were absent in 100 genomic DNA samples from control Japanese individuals, suggesting that these mutations were pathogenic. An unexpected finding was the presence of the 128G>A (G43D) in addition to other homozygous or compound heterozygous mutations in six patients, raising the possibility of a polymorphism. Among them, Patient 10 had four missense mutations and Patients 2, 11, 16, and 17 had three mutations. By cloning the PCR products, we confirmed that 128G>A and 790A>G were present in the same allele, as were 128G>A and 1801delA. We also confirmed that 796C>G and 1153C>T were in the same allele.

Enzymatic assay of recombinant proteins. Each transfection gave similar levels of acetoacetyl-CoA thiolase ac-

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Table 2 Enzyme activities, protein amount, and identified mutations

Patient	Immunohistochemistry	Enzyme activities C16/C8	Relative protein amount VLCAD/TP-α	Nucleotide change	Location (exon)	Amino acid change	Zygosity
1	A	0.89	2.00	128G>A*	2	G43D	Hetero
				790A>G	9	K264E	Hetero
				1349G>A	14	R450H	Hetero
2	· A	0.68	0.91	419G>A	6	G140E	Hetero
				1800A>C	19	K600N	Hetero
3	A	0.77	1.24	128G>A*	2	G43D	Homo
				790A>G	9	K264E	Homo
4	R	0.80	2.55	128G>A*	2	G43D	Hetero
	•			790A>G	9	K264E	Hetero
				1246G>A	12	A416T	Hetero
5	A	0.69	1.30	1144A>C	11	K382Q	Homo
6	A	0.67	1.47	128G>A*	2	G43D	Hetero
				790A>G	9	K264E	Hetero
				1748C>T	18	S583L	Hetero
7	A	0.48	0.75	644-647 del GTCT	8	Frame shift	Hetero
				1144A>C	11	K382Q	Hetero
8	R	0.46	0.83	1144A>C	. 11	K382Q	Homo
9	R	0.67	1.65	128G>A*	2	G43D	Hetero
				1801 del A	19	Frame shift	Hetero
				1246G>A	12	A416T	Hetero
10	R	0.69	1.70	128G>A*	2	G43D	Hetero
				790A>G	9	K264E	Hetero
				796C>G*	9	P266A	Hetero
				1153C>T	11	R385W	Hetero
11	A	0.43	2.40	642–64 del CT	8	Frame shift	Hetero
				1349G>A	14	R450H	Hetero
12	Α	0.79	1.10	1349G>A	14	R450H	Homo
13	R	0.72	3.05	1246G>A	12	A416T	Hetero
				997 ins G	10	Frame shift	Hetero
DC†	A	0.61	2.24	1246G>A	12	A416T	Hetero
				1349G>A	14	R450H	Hetero
NC		2.23 ± 0.17	5.05 ± 1.56				
		(n = 8)	(n=8)				

^{*} Neutral polymorphism based on enzymatic assay of recombinant proteins.

A = completely absent; R = reduced; DC = disease control; NC = normal control.

tivity, thereby confirming the transfection efficiency to be similar among each transfection (data not shown). All recombinant proteins showed reduced enzymatic activity except for 128G>A (G43D) and 796C>G (P266A) mutants (see supplementary figure E-2 at www.neurology.org), clearly demonstrating that they are neutral polymorphisms. The recombinant proteins with two mutations, 128G>A (G43D) and 790A>G (K264E), and 796C>G (P266A) and 1153C>T (R385W), also demonstrated similar reduction in enzymatic activity as in 790A>G and 1153C>T single mutants, confirming that 128G>A and 796C>G have no effect on enzymatic activity.

Clinicopathologic features. The clinical features of the 13 patients with VLCAD deficiency identified in this study and the one used as a disease control are summarized in table 3. There were six men and eight women. Ages at onset varied from 3 to 29 years. The mean age at biopsy was 23 years with a range of 8 to 40 years. The main clinical features at presentation were muscle pain, muscle stiffness, muscle weakness, and general fatigue, usually with triggers such as exercise, infection, and cold temperature, but sometimes without any trigger. Although one patient had no trigger, all patients had had more than one episode. Ten patients had myoglobinuria, and two of them

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[†] Previously reported case.17

Table 3 Clinical features

Patient	Sex	Age at onset, y	Age at biopsy, y	Trigger	Main symptoms	Myoglobin uria	CK level	Forearm exercise test	Hemodialysis	Family history
1	М	Adolescence	32	E	P	+	50,000	No lactate increase	+	~
2	M	Adolescence	34	E	P, G	+	Unknown	Not done	+	_
3	M	Adolescence	33	E, I	P	+	10,000	Not done	_	-
4 '	M	Adolescence	27	E, C	P, S	+	44,000	Normal	-	_
5	M	16	16	E	P	+	100,000	Not done	-	+
6	M	16	34	E	S	+	77,000	No lactate increase	_	+
7	F	8	20	F	P, W	+	10,000	No lactate increase	-	_
8	F	3	22	E	P, S	+	130,000	No lactate increase	-	_
9	F	10	19	E	P, G	+	26,000	Normal	-	_
10	F	14	17	None	P, W	+	25,000	Not done	·	+
11	F	15	16	E	P	<u> </u>	19,000	No lactate increase	-	-
12	F	29	40	\mathbf{E}	P, G		90,000	Normal	_	_
13	F	13	14	E, I, C	P, W	_	44,000	Not done	_	_
DC	F	6	8	E, F	P, G		10,000	Not done	-	_

E = exercise; P = muscle pain; G = general fatigue; I = infection; C = cold temperature; S = muscle stiffness; W = muscle weakness; F = fatigue; DC = disease control.

needed hemodialysis for acute renal failure. None had cardiomyopathy or hypoglycemia. All 14 patients had the myopathic form with normal development and normal intelligence.

Laboratory tests showed markedly elevated serum CK levels from 10,000 to 130,000 IU/L (normal range: <220) during the attacks. However, CK levels normalized within 2 weeks. Blood glucose, ammonium, and lactate levels were within the normal range. Forearm exercise test was performed in eight patients, and five patients showed no elevation in the lactate level.

Three patients had a positive family history. Patient 5 had a younger brother with similar muscle pain. The older sister of Patient 6 had died of heart failure at the age of 23 years. Patient 11 had an older sister with repeated episodes of rhabdomyolysis.

In most patients muscle biopsy showed mild fiber size variation, especially of type1 fibers (see supplementary table E-1 at www.neurology.org). In more than 50% of the patients there were type 2C fibers. A few necrotic and regenerating fibers were found in only three patients.

Discussion. We identified 13 new patients with VLCAD deficiency by immunohistochemistry. All 13 patients had various homozygous or compound heterozygous mutations, including 8 novel mutations. Among them, 128G>A (G43D) and 796C>G (P266A) were neutral polymorphisms, as evidenced by the preserved enzymatic activities in recombinant proteins. Point mutations were frequently found in exon 9 (790A>G, 21.4%), exon 11 (1144A>C, 17.9%), and exon 14 (1349G>A 17.9%). Because five of six patients with 128G>A had 790A>G and since they existed in the same allele, 128G>A should be considered to be a polymorphism tightly linked to 790A>G, suggesting the presence of a common founder effect.

Previous reports indicated that severe and inter-

mediate forms are frequent while the myopathic form is rare. To our knowledge, 73 patients with genetically confirmed VLCAD deficiency have been reported in the English literature, with severe, intermediate, and myopathic forms comprising 47%, 33%, and 20% (see table 1). Interestingly, all 13 patients as well as the disease control who was identified before this study had the myopathic form, suggesting that the myopathic form may be more prevalent in Japan. Alternatively, a substantial number of patients with the myopathic form may have been unrecognized.

Five patients had no lactate increase on ischemic forearm exercise test even though β -oxidation disorders theoretically should have a normal response. This was most likely due to improper test procedure.

The older sister of Patient 6 had died of heart failure at age 23. Although there is a report of a 5-year-old boy with VLCAD deficiency with acute cardiomyopathy, 11 she may not have had VLCAD deficiency because cardiomyopathy in adults with VLCAD deficiency is very rare.

Immunoblot analysis showed that the VLCAD protein was reduced, but not absent in any patient. In the severe phenotype, no VLCAD protein or only a trace amount, if any, is present, indicating the inverse correlation between the residual amount of the VLCAD protein and clinical severity. ^{12,13} Our patients may have sufficient residual VLCAD activity to maintain metabolic status when receiving adequate nourishment without any stress. Most likely during exercise, infection, fasting, or exposure to cold, the residual VLCAD activity is insufficient to sustain the demands of muscle fatty acid oxidation, causing rhabdomyolysis.

Immunostaining pattern did not show clear corre-

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lation either with the residual protein amount on immunoblot or to residual enzymatic activity. This may be attributed to the non-quantitative nature of indirect immunohistochemical methods. Although we did not find any equivocal case, the sensitivity and specificity of our method should be investigated further.

Biochemical examination, organic acid analysis in urine, and acyl-carnitine analysis in dried blood spots or serum using tandem mass spectrometry are useful for initial screening.14 VLCAD deficiency can be diagnosed by enzyme activity in fibroblasts, lymphocytes, or muscle. 15 Muscle biopsy is not necessary for the diagnosis when VLCAD deficiency is specifically suspected. However, since symptoms of VLCAD deficiency resemble those in other metabolic myopathies including glycogenosis and CPT deficiency and because muscle biopsy is a safe procedure, albeit more invasive than blood sampling, muscle biopsies are frequently performed in such patients. Therefore, our immunohistochemical method is useful to make a specific diagnosis of VLCAD deficiency. In addition, our method requires only a single section of frozen muscle in contrast to biochemical enzymatic assays. According to previous reports, muscle biopsy sometimes shows lipid storage. 12,16 However, our patients did not show any specific changes on muscle pathology, but they were not completely normal. This may be because all our patients had the myopathic form and, therefore, milder symptoms. Absence of specific histopathologic findings emphasizes the importance of our immunohistochemical method in identifying the possibly unrecognized patients with VLCAD deficiency.

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多発性硬化症のinterferon-β1b治療導入における クリティカルパスの検討

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[要約] 多発性硬化症にinterferon- β 1b(IFN β)治療の導入を目的に,医師,看護師,薬剤師からなる医療チームでクリティカルパス(CP)を作成した。アウトカムは予定期間内の治療導入,有害事象への対応,注射手技の習得と定め,期待通りのアウトカムを得られなかったバリアンスを検討し,患者の満足度からCPを評価した。手技習得が困難であったバリアンスは家族が患者に注射することで治療を導入でき,予定期間を超過するバリアンスは有害事象に対処することで管理できることが示唆された.退院後の調査では,すべての患者が治療導入の入院は必要であったと答え.多くの患者が退院後も習得した注射手技を守り,IFN β 治療を継続していた.われわれのCPはIFN β 治療の導入に有用であると考えた.

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Key Words: multiple sclerosis, interferon- β 1b, critical path, variance, outcome

はじめに

クリティカルパス(CP)は「医療チームが共同で作り上げた、患者の最良の管理だと信ずるところを示した仮説」と定義され 1 、チーム医療の推進、患者の満足度の向上、医療の標準化の必要性から普及しはじめている。しかし、慢性疾患が多い神経疾患では、評価すべき項目が多いため CPの実施は困難とされている $^{2.5}$ 、多発性硬化症(MS)の interferon- β 1b(IFN β)治療の導入においては、有害事象の管理や手技の習得など、さまざまな問題に対処しなければならない $^{4-n}$ が、対象、目

的、要求される成果(アウトカム)が明確であることから CPの作成に適していることが予想される $^{2.8}$. われわれは MS 患者に IFN β 治療を導入するための CPを作成し、有用性を検討した.

対象と方法

当院でclinically definite MSと診断[®] し,2001年1月から2003年3月の間にIFNβ治療の導入を目的に入院したMS 32人(男性11人、女性21人)を対象とした. 再発寛解型MS 29人、二次性進行型MS 3人であった. MRIで脳、脊髄のいずれかの部位に病変があることを確認した. CPの導入を試みた患者の順に、背景、治療開始前のexpanded disability status scale ¹⁰⁾ をTable 1に示す.

医師,看護師,薬剤師で構成されるチームによりCP を作成した (Table 2). CPの目的はIFNβ治療の導入

MSのIFNβ治療導入のクリティカルパス 1

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Table 1 Patients profile

P	atient	Age (year)	Sex	Onset (year)	MS type	EDSS	Duration of hospitalization (day)	Variance type	Treatment period (months)
	1	40	М	31	RR	7.0	16		31
	2	41	M	35	RR	6.0	15	·	30
	3	37	F	29	RR	3.5	15		3*
	4	51	M	40	RR	7.0	14		30
	5	40	M	37	RR	2.5	16		29
	6	30	F	19	RR	9.0	18	Self-injection procedure	23*
	7	29	F	21	RR	2.0	16		28
	8	54	F	40	SP	7.5	· _	Prick test positive	· -
	9	39	M	29	RR	2.0	13		12*
	10	46	M	35	RR	3.0	14		25
	11	22	F	18	RR	3.5	12	1	25
	12	29	F	24	RR	2.5	13		24
	13	.31	F	17	RR	2.0	15	,	24
	14	21	F	18	RR	2.0	15		23
	15	29	F	21	RR	4.0	23	Symptom exacerbation	22
	16	52	M	44	RR	1.5	15	·	21
	17	40	F	23	SP	3.5	18	Self-injection procedure	20
	18	34	M	31	RR	2.0	11	·	17
	19	49	F	40	SP	7.0	11		19
	20	49	F	43	SP	8.0	-	Depression	· _
٠	21	29	F	22	RR	6.0	13		18
	22	27	F	23	RR	2.0	13		17
	23	32	F	20	RR	6.0	15		17
	24	37	F	33	RR	2.5	15		17
	25	56	F	29	RR	9.0	57	Self-injection procedure Relapse	14
	26	50	M	44	RR	2.0	12		13
	27	20	F	16	RR	5.0	24	Liver dysfunction	12
	28	39	M	35	RR	1.5	24	Cutaneous pain	11
	29	44	F	42	RR	1.5	15		5
	30	33	M	26	RR	2.0	14		3
	31	45	M	33	SP	3.0	15		2
	32	33	F	30	RR	7.0	_	Self-injection procedure	_

M: male, F: female, MS: multiple sclerosis, EDSS: expanded disability status scale, RR: relapsing-remitting type, SP: secondary progressive type, (-): patients in whom IFN β treatment cannot be introduced, (*): patients in whom treatment was discontinued after the start of IFN β treatment.

で、アウトカムは予定した入院期間内でのIFNβ治療の 導入、有害事象への対処、注射手技の習得とした、期待 したアウトカムが順調に得られない患者をバリアンスと した、すなわち、IFNβ治療を導入できなかった患者、 注射手技を習得できなかった患者、有害事象に対処しき れなかった患者、予定よりも入院期間が超過した患者で ある、バリアンスを分析し、CPは適宜改良した。 IFNβ治療は、プリックテスト施行後、IFNβ 800万国際単位を隔日で皮下注射した、初回の皮下注射は医師が実施し、2~3回目は看護師が実施した、自己注射は4回目(入院8日目)以降、看護師の看視下で行い、注射手技の行程を看護師が指導し評価した(Table 3)、薬剤師はIFNβセットの保管や廃棄法の指導、治療薬の説明、退院後に患者がIFNβ注射薬を購入する予定の院

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Table 2 Critical path for interferon β 1b treatment

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3~6	Day 7	Day 8~12	Day 13~16
Purpose	To properly understand IFN β treatment.	To introduce safe IFNβ treatment.	To learn the injection procedure.	To assess the neurological examination.	To practice and learn the self-injection method.	To introduce treatment into daily life.
Patient	Given explanation and agrees to IFNβ treatment.	Evaluates intracutaneous reaction. Begins IFNβ treatment.	Given subcutaneous injection by nurse. Trained in the injection procedure.	Given neuro- logical evalua- tion by doctor.	Introduced to self-injection under super- vision of nurse.	Informed of the day of discharge from the hospital.
Doctor	Obtains informed consent for IFN\$\beta\$ treatment. Evaluates the neurological examination (EDSS). Prescribes therapeutic medicine.	Instructs IFN β treatment. Begins to monitor for adverse effects.	Checks for adverse events.	Verifies any changes in neurological examination (EDSS).	Select treat- ment medi- cine.	Confirms any changes in neurological examination (EDSS). Determines the time of self-injection according to the time of onset of adverse effects.
Examination	Blood test. Chest X-ray. ECG. Psychological test (SDS).	Prick test.		Blood test.		Blood test before hospi- tal discharge.
Nurse	Explains the critical path.	Begins to monitor for adverse effects.	Teaches the injection procedures.		Teaches the injection method.	Evaluates the injection method.
Pharmacist	Provides instruction on IFNβ treat- ment using video tape. Confirms the patient's current medications.		Provides guidance on preparing injections. Explains prescribed medicine.		Teaches the vial storage and disposal method.	Confirms the prescribed medicine. Forwards the prescription of IFN β to a pharmacy outside the hospital.

 $IFN\beta$: interferon- β 1b, EDSS: expanded disability status scale, SDS: self-rating depression scale.

Table 3 Evaluation items for the injection procedure

- 1. Preparation of necessary articles
 - 1) wash hands thoroughly
 - 2) prepare a set of injections utilizing underlay
- 2. Aspiration of solvent
 - 1) handle vial while observing sanitary precautions
 - 2) handling injection syringe
 - a) draw 1.2ml air into injection syringe and aspirate solvent
 - b) confirm that the tip of the needle is in the fluid
 - c) evacuate extra air from the injection syringe
 - d) read calibration of injection syringe correctly
- 3. Lysis of IFN/
 - 1) title the injection syringe and depress solvent into the vial
 - 2) rotate vial and lysis of IFN β
 - 3) check the degree of clarity of the injection solution
- 4. Aspiration of solution
 - 1) aspirate 1ml of the injection solution
 - 2) evacuate air in the injection syringe
 - 3) recap the needle and keep in sterilized state
- 5. Subcutaneous injections
 - 1) disinfect with alcohol
 - 2) uncap the needle
 - 3) pinch up the skin and inject at a right angle to the injection site
 - 4) wipe the injection site gently
 - 5) throw syringe into disposal box

外薬局への連絡などを行った。予想された有害事象の対処は以下のように設定した cn . 患者が熱感を訴え,体温 37.5 c 以上の発熱があった場合,非ステロイド性消炎鎮痛薬(NSAID)(ibuprofen 100mg)を頓服 n . 頭痛を訴え治療を希望した場合,NSAID(ibuprofen 100mg)を頓服 n . 可痛を訴え治療を希望した場合,NSAID(ibuprofen 100mg)を頓服 n . 神経内科医が再発と診断した場合,IFN $^{\rho}$ 治療を継続しながらステロイドパルス治療(methylprednisolone succinate 1,000mgを 3 日間点滴静注) in . IFN $^{\rho}$ 治療導入前に施行した self-rating depression scale (SDS) で抑うつ症状がある場合,治療導入を中止.IFN $^{\rho}$ 治療中に抑うつ症状出現した場合,SDSを再検し,治療継続可能であるかを判断.白血球が2,000/mm o 未満に減少した場合,IFN $^{\rho}$ 治療を中止.トランスアミナーゼや血糖の異常は,IFN $^{\rho}$ 治療前,および治療1週後と2週後

(退院前)に血液検査をして、治療が可能であるか判断、 臨床症状、胸部X線写真、胸部CTから間質性肺炎が疑 われた場合、IFNB治療を中止とした。

IFNβ治療を導入した患者には退院3ヵ月後にアンケートを実施し、IFNβ治療導入で入院する必要性、入院で満足であった点、入院で不満であった点、期間内に注射手技を習得できたか、退院後も習得した注射手技を守れているかを調査した。また、IFNβ治療を継続できているかについて追跡調査した。

結 果

IFNβ治療は32人中29人(91%)に導入した(Fig. 1). CPの予定どおりに自己注射が可能であったのは22 人(69%)であった。注射手技の習得が困難であった3 人中2人(患者6、患者25)は家族が注射手技を習得し IFNβ治療を導入したが、予定期間を超過するバリアン スになった. 有害事象の経過をFig. 2に示す. 発熱し た患者はすべて初回注射後に発熱が出現し、多くは初回 注射の2~3時間後から発熱した。また、発熱した23人 中20人(87%)が痙性麻痺、視力の異常などの既存の 障害が一時的に増悪した、患者15~32のIFNβ治療の 導入では、初回から3回目までの注射は、注射後3時間 は30分おきに、その後は1時間おきに体温をモニタリ ングし、本人の訴えによらず体温37℃以上で必ず NSAIDを内服するように発熱の対処を変更した. NSAID は8時間以上間隔をあけて内服し、1日3回まで とした. 変更後は発熱が原因のバリアンスは出現しなか った、退院時に発熱のためNSAIDの頓服が必要であっ たのは29人中7人(24%)であった. 頭痛はNSAIDの 頓服で改善し、退院時にNSAIDの頓服が必要であった のは29人中3人(10%)であった. 全身倦怠感は自然 軽快か自制内であることが多かった. IFNβ注射を施行 後、有害事象出現までの時間は患者ごとに予測できるこ とが多く、退院後の生活環境に合わせ、注射実施時刻を 決定した、注射部位の皮膚の痛みは29人中10人(34%) に出現し、初回注射の2~4日後から出現し遷延する患 者が多かった. あらかじめIFNβのバイアルを体温まで 温めたり、注射部位を冷やしたり、注射部位の発赤や痛 みが強い患者はalclometasone dipropionateを塗布した が8, 必ずしも有効ではなかった。皮膚の痛みは自制内 である患者が多く、皮下脂肪が薄い男性1人(患者28) は皮膚の硬結、痛みに対処しきれずバリアンスになっ た. 抑うつ症状の出現, 間質性肺炎を疑わせる症状の出 現はなかった. 血液検査では1人(患者27)がIFNβ治 療前に肝機能障害があり、IFNβ治療導入の開始が遅れ たが、導入後に重篤な肝機能障害や血糖の異常を認めた

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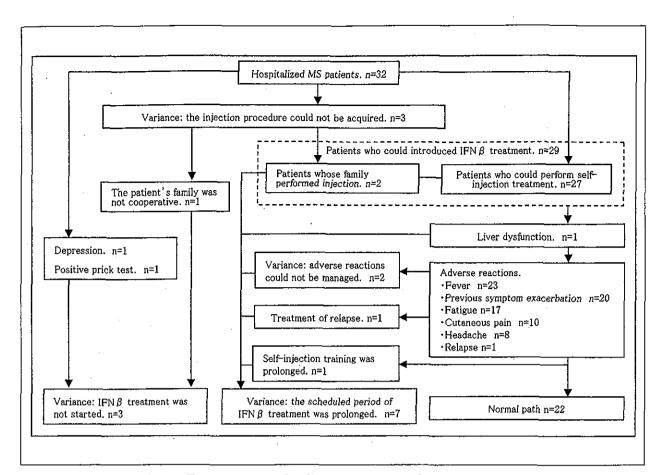


Fig. 1 Chart of variance development after critical path. (n: number)

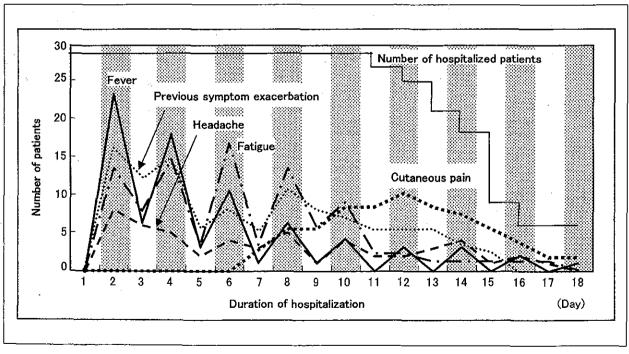


Fig. 2 Incidence and course of adverse reaction. Half-tone mesh: the day of IFN β administration

患者はいなかった。29人中22人(76%)は1週後に初回検査より軽度白血球が減少したが、2週後の検査では白血球、血小板の異常はなかった。

注射手技では、本人もしくは家族が注射を実施した1回目(入院8日目)から正確な手技で実施できたのは29人中7人(24%)であった。平均して3回目(入院12日目)の注射実施で手技を習得した。予定を超過して注射指導したバリアンスは、既存の小脳症状が増悪し訓練を延長した1人(患者15)、既存の巧緻動作障害のため訓練を延長した1人(患者17)であった。看護師による注射手技の評価では、「シリンジ内のエア抜きができていない」が29人中17人(59%)、「注射液を必要量入れていない」が29人中3人(10%)であったため、手技の指導はこれらを重点的に指導した。

患者および注射手技を習得した家族へのアンケート評 価では、IFNβ治療導入の入院について、「入院は必要 であり、入院して良かった」が29人中24人(83%)。 「入院が必要ではあったが、入院したくなかった」が29 人中5人(17%),「入院の必要性を感じなかった」と答 えた患者はいなかった、満足であった点として、「副作 用がでても入院していると安心だった」が29人中16人 (55%),「短期間の入院で済んだ」が29人中11人 (38%) であった. 不満であった点は個人差があり. 病 院のアメニティ、皮下注射の痛みなどであった。注射手 技の習得は、「入院期間内に完全に手技を覚えることが できた」が29人中21人(72%),「だいたい手技を覚え ることができた」が29人中8人(28%)であった。ま た、退院後も「入院中に習得した自己注射手技を変えて いない」と答えたのは29人中26人(90%)であった。 IFNβ治療導入から平均18.4 ± 8.4 ヵ月 (2~31 ヵ月) の間, 経過を追って観察し, 29人中26人 (90%) が IFNβ治療を継続していた (Table 1). 患者自身の都合 による退薬や患者の自己判断でIFNβ治療を中止した例 はなかった.

考 察

本研究はIFNβ治療導入を目的とし、医療チームでCPを作成していく過程を報告した。CPは複数の患者情報を集積するのに適しているが^{a, a}, IFNβ治療導入での医療従事者、患者の役割をCPとして示した報告¹²⁾はあるものの、本研究のように複数の患者にCPを実施し、バリアンス、患者の満足度、退院後の治療継続の有無を検討した報告はない。CPを実施して得られた情報を分析することは、根拠に基づいて医療を提供できるという利点があった。また、発生しうるバリアンスとその経過

をあらかじめ患者に説明でき、患者に安心感を与え、医療側と患者側の良好な信頼関係を築ける点で有用であった.

本研究からIFNβ治療導入時の有害事象は発熱がもっ とも多く、治療開始早期から出現することが明らかにな った、発熱時はしばしば既存のMS症状が増悪するが、 NSAIDで解熱することにより既存のMS症状の増悪に よる入院期間の超過を回避できる可能性が示された。一 方、皮膚の硬結、痛みは初回注射数日後から出現し、こ の有害事象に対処できない患者は予定期間を超過するバ リアンスになりえることが示された. 倦怠感. 頭痛も多 かったが、自然軽快やNSAIDの頓服で改善し、バリア ンスは発生しなかった。これらの結果から、IFNβ治療 導入のCPでは、有害事象の対処がバリアンス管理に重 要であることが示唆された、本研究では重篤な血液検査 の異常を認めなかったが、IFNβ治療中はリンパ球数の 減少やトランスアミナーゼの上昇などが報告されてお り⁴,対応を検討する必要があると考えられた. IFNβ 治療の継続に不可欠な注射手技の習得は、間違いやすい 注射手技を分析して指導した結果,90%が退院後も習 得した注射手技を変えずに継続できていた、複数の患者 が決められた注射手技を実施できたということは、CP によって均一で良質な医療を提供できたと考えた. ま た、自己注射が困難なバリアンスでは家族が患者に注射 し、注射手技の習得が困難なバリアンスでは指導期間を 延長することで、IFNβ治療を導入できることが示され た、アンケート調査はバリアンスも含めて調査したにも かかわらず、入院によるIFNβ治療の導入が必要と答え た患者が多く、われわれのCPで満足できる医療を提供 できたと考えた. またIFNβ治療導入後の追跡調査では. 退薬や自己判断での休薬はなく、IFNβ治療導入のCP がうまく実施された場合、治療を継続していける可能性 が示唆された.

神経疾患は、療養のサービスや生活の質などが重視され、生存率や治癒率などの単一の指標で評価しにくいなどの理由でCPの導入はむずかしいとされる^{2 3)}. しかし、MSのIFNβ治療の導入は、目的が明確であり、アウトカムを設定しやすく、CPを作成しやすいと考えられた、本研究はCP実施後に得られた情報を分析し、CPにフィードバックすることで、(1)提供する医療内容を標準化、(2)計画性のある医療を提供、(3)可能な限り有害事象やバリアンスに対処、(4)患者への満足感と安心感の提供などの点で有用なCPを作成できたと考えた、CPには「個々の患者に対応しきれない」という難点"があり、病巣部位によって症状に個人差があるMS患者では、巧緻動作障害や視力障害といった注射実

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施にかかわる問題や高次脳機能障害, 抑うつ症状の出現 といった治療継続にかかわる問題など、CPで網羅しき れないバリアンスが発生していくと予想される。CPの 作成にあたっては平均在院日数の短縮やコストの低減だ けを求めて定型化したガイドラインを作るのではなく, 根拠に基づき個々の患者に対応させながら、効率の良い 形にしていくことが必須である". 今後. 平均在院日数 の短縮とともにIFNβ治療導入のための入院日数も減少 していかなければならない可能性があり、われわれが作 成したCPを引き続き改良する必要はあると考える.そ のときに、現在の成績を基準に、医療の質としてのアウ トカムを落とさず、より効率的なCPを作成していくこ とが大切であろう.

結

MSのIFNβ治療の導入にはCPが適していた. CP実 施後に得られた情報を解析し、CPを改良することで、 根拠に基づいて医療内容を標準化し、適切なバリアンス 管理と計画性のある医療を提供することができ, 医療側 と患者側の信頼関係を築くことができた. IFNβ治療導 入がうまく行えた場合,その後もIFNβ治療を継続して いける可能性が示唆され、MSのIFNβ治療にCPは有用 であると考えた.

[註]

(一般名)

(商品名)

interferon-β1b

ベタフェロン

ibuprofen

ブルフェン

methylprednisolone succinate

ソル・メドロール

alclometasone dipropionate

アルメタ軟膏

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Investigation on Critical path of the Introduction of Interferon β 1b Treatment for Multiple Sclerosis

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A medical team consisting of physicians, nurses, and pharmacists prepared a critical path (CP) to introduce interferon β 1b (IFN β) treatment to patients with multiple sclerosis (MS). The outcomes were established as: (1) the introduction of IFN β treatment; (2) the management of adverse reactions; and (3) learning the injection procedure during a 2 week period. Screening was performed for variance under which the above procedures could not be performed favorably. The patients were 32 individuals who were diagnosed as having clinically or definitely MS. IFN β treatment was introduced to 29 of the 32 patients. Self-injection was possible in 22 patients as scheduled in the CP. IFN β treatment could not be introduced to patients with depression, patients with positive findings on a prick test, or to patients for whom it was difficult to learn the self-injection procedure and whose family was not cooperative.

Variances occurred in the CP schedule with the following patients exceeding the timeframe: two patients for whom injections were performed by family members, a patient who suffered a relapse during IFN β treatment, a patient in whom liver dysfunction was detected on hospitalization, a patient in whom ataxia exacerbated, a patient with marked cutaneous pain at the injection site, and a patient in whom selfinjection training was prolonged. The most common adverse effect was fever, during which previous MS symptoms were often exacerbated. Fever management led to a decrease in the incidence of variance. In a questionnaire survey after discharge, all patients reported that hospitalization was necessary to introduce IFN\(\beta\) treatment; 26 of 29 patients continued IFN β treatment and complied with the injection procedure learned during hospitalization. Our CP may be useful for introducing IFN β treatment.

症例報告

ディスプロソディを主徴とし環境音失認を ともなった右側頭葉血流低下の1例

山本 敏之 菊池 猛 永江 順子* 尾方 克久 小川 雅文 川井 充

要旨:プロソディの障害を主徴とした経過3年の60歳右きき男性に環境音失認をみとめた。発声発語器官の異常,喚語障害,言語理解の異常,書字,読字の障害はなく,発話で韻律の異常と軽度の助詞の欠落,音韻性錯語をみとめ,あたかも「外国人のようなしゃべり方」であった。また,聴覚は正常で,言語音の認知は保たれたが,無自覚に非言語音の認知障害が観察された。痴呆や高次脳機能障害をみとめなかった。MRIでは軽度の右側頭葉の萎縮をみとめ、脳血流 SPECT は,正常対照と比較して右側頭葉の上側頭回から弓状束周辺に軽度の血流低下をみとめた。緩徐にディスプロソディが進行し,環境音失認をともなう変性疾患の初期像である可能性が考えられた。

(臨床神経, 44:28-33,2004)

Key words:ディスプロソディ、環境音失認、右侧頭葉、SPECT、MRI

はじめに

文、単語、音節などの言語表現には、速度、リズム、アクセントからなる韻律的な要素、プロソディが存在する。ディスプロソディでは母国語を話しているのに外国人が話すようなしゃべり方になり¹¹、日本人では、しばしば軽度の失文法、音韻性錯語をともなう^{21~1}. 一方、環境音失認は、聴覚失認の中でも非言語音の認知障害である⁵¹. われわれは、ディスプロソディを主徴とした症例において環境音失認を観察した. MRI、SPECTで、右側頭葉に萎縮と血流低下をみとめたので報告する.

症 例

患者:60歳 男性. 生来, 右きき.

主訴:外国人のようなしゃべり方になった.

既往歴:57歳 大腸ポリープ切除術.

家族歴:同様の症状を呈するものなし.

社会歴:大学卒業後,大手企業に勤め,会社役員を務める. 30歳で1年半ブラジルに出張したが,外国語は話せず,会話は日本語であった.

現病歴:57歳,「ポリーブ」といおうとして,「ポリ…」で止まり,スムーズに言葉が出てこないことがあった。相手のいっていることが聞き取りにくく,近医で聴力検査をおこなったが異常なかった。しだいに話し言葉の抑揚がおかしくなり,し

ばしば助詞を抜かし、周りの人から中国語を母国語とする人が日本語を話しているようだと指摘されるようになった. 58歳,言葉が詰まる感じがあり、耳鼻科で経鼻喉頭鏡で検査したが異常なかった. 頭部 MRI にも異常なく、経過観察した. 60歳,会話の抑揚はさらにおかしくなったが、初対面の人にも理解可能で、意思の疎通に不自由はなかった.テレビドラマの音声は聴き取りにくく、同じ音量でもニュースは聴き取りやすかった. 日常生活では、後ろから接近してきた自転車のブレーキ音に無反応で避けることができず、一緒にいた妻が不審に思ったエピソードがあった. 仕事でのワードプロセッサーの使用や書字、読字には問題なかった.

現症:一般身体所見に特記事項なし.意識は清明で,記銘力低下,性格の変化もなかった.検査には協力的であったが,歌だけは「下手だから」という理由で絶対に歌おうとしなかった.音で提示した2拍子や3拍子の簡単なリズムは模倣できた.脳神経系は,軟口蓋反射,咽頭反射に異常なく,口輪筋,咬筋,舌に異常なかった.随意での開口や頬の膨らませ,舌の動きなども異常なかった.明らかな聴力の異常をみとめなかった.運動系,感覚系,協調運動,自律神経,深部反射に異常なく,病的反射もなかった.

話し言葉:発話量の低下はなかった.語彙は豊富で、ときに助詞を抜かす以外、文法的な誤りはめだたなかった。30 分程度の会話の中で「小平市」を「コダライシ」、「結婚」を「ケッカン」という音韻性錯語が 2 回だけあった. 自発発話の速度は保たれ、22 文節からなる 8 つの短文を続けて音読すると 16 秒だった。ときに電文調に 1 音 1 音を分けて発音したが、失

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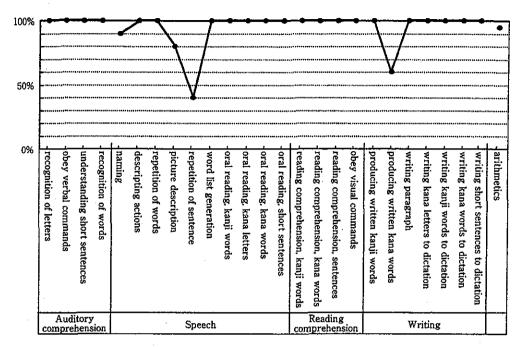


Fig. 1 Results of standard language test of aphasia (SLTA). There are no wrong answers in "hearing" or "reading". In "speaking", marked impairment in rhythm and a few syllable-stumblings and grammatical errors are observed. In "writing", grammatical errors similar to those in "speaking" are observed.

Table 1 Cognitive test of environmental sounds

	Sound sources	Patient's answer
1	Drip-drop	× (I cannot hear it well.)
. 2	Glass breaking	× (High-pitched sound. Something drops.)
3	Laughter of many persons	× (Vehicle starting)
4	Train starting	0
5	Cuckoo clock	× (Monk's preaching. I cannot hear it well.)
6	Car starting	× (Wind)
7	Water flowing from the tap	0
8	Army trumpet	ĺ.
9	Baby's cry	0
10	Yawn	× (Sigh)
11	Sneeze	× (Angry shout)
12	Cicada's voice	0
13	Dog "bowwow"	0
14	Cat "mew, mew"	× (Animal's voice)
15	Buzzing of cicadas	0
16	Female's scream	× (Mimetic sounds. I cannot understand)
17	Beating time with the hands (3-3-7 claps)	× (Claps hands)
18	Child's cry	0
19	Cow "moo, moo"	× (Groan)
20	Gas stove igniting sound	× (Vehicle)
21	Burst of thunder	× (I cannot hear it well.)

Correct answers are obtained for 8 of 21 types of sound sources. Even when the sound volume is increased for the sound sources for which wrong answers were obtained, correct answers still were not obtained. O; correct answer, ×: wrong answer and (): what our patient answered.

調性言語ではなかった. 単語や文章の最後にアクセントをおくことがあり、会話の最後に「ネェ」をつけることが多かった. 声量は正常からやや小さく、ほぼ一定していた. 「首相(シュ ショウ)」のような単語の発音は、わずかに不明瞭であったが、どの単語も音節をはっきりと発音した。一音節ずつの発音では、「ラァ」、「リィ」、「ルゥ」のように、母音が強調された。

心理検査:ウェクスラー成人知能評価尺度・改訂版は、言語性 IQ 131,動作性 IQ 116,全検査 IQ 126で、指示の理解は良好で、知的レベルは高かった.改訂版標準高次動作性検査のスクリーニングテストでは失行をみとめなかった。保続や半側空間無視もみとめなかった。標準失語症検査(SLTA)の結果を Fig.1 に示す。「呼称」では、「鉛筆」の絵を「ピンエツ」と答えるなど音韻性錯語があった。「まんがの説明」では、「II.話す」と「IV. 書く」の検査で「突然風が吹く。帽子がトバセル。それがころころトバセル」(下線部分はいずれも正しくは「トバサレル」)のように、絵の内容は理解していたが、文法的な誤りがあった。「文の復唱」では、助詞を抜かす、言葉の取り違えなどをみとめた。環境音認知の検査は「効果音」CD(日

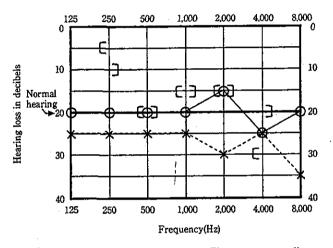


Fig. 2 Result of pure tone audiogram. The pure tone audiogram showed a slight hearing impairment at high frequencies in bilateral ears. O: right air conduction, ×: left air conduction, [: right bone conduction and]: left bone conduction.

本サウンド・エフェクト研究会)をもちい、21 種類の音源が何の音であるかを回答させた. 検査は静かな部屋で、十分な音量のスピーカーで提示した. 同一の再生装置をもちいて、聴力障害がない健常人 8 人 $(52.4\pm11.2$ 歳)に同じ検査をおこなったところ 21 音源のうち 20.5 ± 0.8 音源を正答した. 患者が正答できたのは 8 音源であった $(Table\ 1)$. 誤答した音源のいくつかは、「うまく聴き取れない」と訴えたため、音量を上げてふたが同じ音源を提示したが正答できなかった. また、認知できなかった音源でも 3 つの音源から同じ音を選ばせると、提示した音源と一致した音源を選ぶことができ、音源の弁別と再認は保たれていた. 音叉での 128Hz と 1.024Hz の C 音の提示では、音の高低の弁別もできた.

検査所見:血算,血液生化学,髓液検査に異常なく、TPHA も陰性であった.純音聴力検査では、両側に軽度の感音性難聴 をみとめた(Fig. 2). 聴性脳幹反応の潜時は正常であった. 嚥 下造影は異常なかった. 頭部 MRI は右側頭薬の軽度の萎縮を みとめた (Fig. 3). 患者の Ethyl cysteinate dimer (ECD) 脳 血流 SPECT は局所的な血流低下をみとめず、Patrak-松田法 による大脳平均血流量⁶は 46.6ml/100g/min と当院の基準値 範囲内であった (Fig. 4). しかし、当院で検査した 60~80 歳の正常対照 40人と対比させた easy Z-score 画像システム (eZIS)"では、右側頭業の上側頭回から弓状束近傍に相対的 血流低下をみとめた (Fig. 5).

考 察

本例は、痴呆、発声発語器官の運動障害、喚語障害、言語理解の障害をともなわず、発話でディスプロソディと音韻性錯語、発話と書字で軽度の錯文法をみとめた。また、無自覚に環境音失認をみとめた。MRIでは右側頭業に軽度の萎縮をみとめ、ECD-SPECTでは右上側頭回から弓状束の血流低下をみ

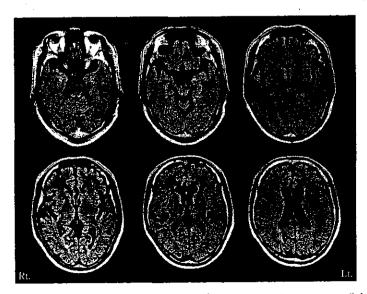


Fig. 3 Brain MRI (axial; FLAIR TR = 105, TE = 8,000). MRI finding demonstrates slight atrophy of the right temporal lobe, but there are no infarctions. Rt.: right, and Lt.: left.

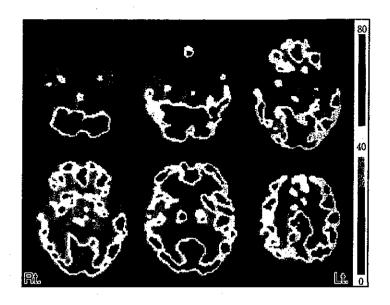


Fig. 4 Quantitative ECD-SPECT evaluation using modified Patlack method demonstrates there are no abnormalities in the bilateral hemispheres. (A) axial view, (B) coronal view, Rt.: right, and Lt.: left.

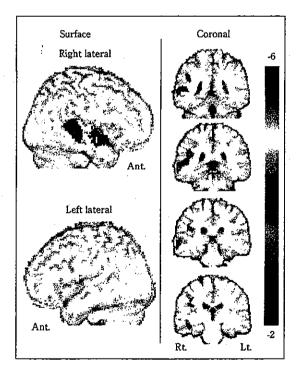


Fig. 5 Easy Z-score imaging system (eZIS) for comparing SPECT data for a patient with a database of normal subjects. The blood flow of our patient decreased in the right superior temporal gyrus and part of arcuate fasciculus. There are no abnormalities in the left hemisphere. Ant.: anterior, Rt.: right, and Lt.: left.

とめた.

プロソディは、方言や語尾の変化に内在する固有プロソディ、意味を添えるための態度の変化である知的プロソディ、

感情表現をふくませる感情的プロソディに分類され8,本例 は固有プロソディの障害をみとめた、日本人でのディスプロ ソディは,市川ら²が報告した右きき女性が最初で,知的能力, 書字, 読字, 話し言葉の了解は保たれ, 発話において韻律の異 常と助詞の欠如, 音韻性錯語の症状があり, 脳波と脳血管写か ら左大脳半球前半部の異常が示唆された. この報告では非言 語音の失認は指摘されていなかった。Takayama ら³が、foreign accent syndrome (FAS) として報告した右きき日本人女 性は、「韓国人が話すようなしゃべり方」であったが、音韻性錯 語や失語をともなわず、CT, MRI で左頭頂葉脳回に脳梗塞を みとめた.この報告では環境音失認は指摘されていなかった. 中野ら"が報告した FAS の右きき日本人男性 2 例は、ともに 脳梗塞で, 失語をともなわず, 発話速度の低下や電文調変化, アクセント位置の異常などのディスプロソディと子音・母音 の構音の異常があり、CT、MRI から左前頭葉中心前回に脳梗 塞をみとめた、この報告でも非言語音の失認は指摘されてい なかった. われわれの報告例は右ききで、Broca 野は左大脳半 球にあると推測された、MRI、SPECT でとらえられない左大 脳半球の障害は否定できないが、脳血流低下部位からBroca 野とは対側の右側頭葉がディスプロソディの責任病巣の可能 性があった. 英語を母国語とする報告では, 右側頭葉の障害で のディスプロソディの報告は少なくなく, 右大脳半球の障害 では感情的プロソディの障害を呈する"、Ross らいは、右大 脳半球前方の病巣では感情的要素が欠如した単調な発話にな り、右大脳半球後方の病巣では他人の発話に込められた感情 的要素やジェスチャーの理解能力が障害されることを報告し た. そして, 感情的プロソディとジェスチャーの表現, 理解か ら, 右大脳半球によるプロソディの障害を運動性, 感覚性, 全 喪失, 超皮質性感覚, 超皮質性混合に分類した. しかし, 欧米 人にくらべて日本人は言語の抑揚やジェスチャーが控えめで

あり、Ross らの分類は必ずしも日本人に当てはまらないと考えた。本例はテレビドラマがニュースにくらべ、聞き取りづらいことを訴えており、感情的プロソディの理解、ジェスチャーの理解が障害されていた可能性はあったが、検索しなかった。

聴覚失認の責任病巣を考えるとき、認知経路の違いから言 語音と非言語音を分けて検討する必要がある". 言語音刺激 は、両側第一次聴覚野から左第二次聴覚野 (Wernicke 野) へ 入力され,この経路の障害ではしばしば純粋語聾が生じるⁿ. 一方、非言語音刺激は、右大脳半球で処理されると考えられ、 その過程には2つの見解がある. Motomura らの「右内側膝状 体から直接、右半球聴覚連合野へ投射される」という説12と Fujii らの [言語性, 非言語性を問わず両側第一次聴覚野に入 力され,言語性情報は左第二次聴覚野へ,非言語性情報は右第 二次聴覚野へ入り、最終的に左半球連合野で意味が喚起され る」という説はである. 失語をともなわない純粋な環境音失認 の報告は少ないが、いずれも右大脳半球をふくむ障害があっ たいい、本例は非言語性刺激がこの領域にいたる経路は不明 であったが、脳血流低下部位から右第二次聴覚野が環境音失 認の責任病巣と考えられた. 言語音の聴覚失認がないばあい, 日常生活で不便を感じることが少ないため自覚症状が少ない 可能性が指摘されているいように、本例も聴覚失認の自覚が なく、患者自身は環境音を認知できないのは聴力障害のため だと主張した点が興味深かった。

ディスプロソディが緩徐に進行した例として, Ghacibeh ら16は、4年の経過で発話での感情的プロソディの表現が障害 され、MRI で右前頭葉皮質の萎縮をみとめた右きき女性を報 告した. この症例は, 感情的プロソディの理解は保たれ, 失語 をともなわず, 表情での感情表現も乏しくなったが, 環境音失 認の指摘はなかった. 本例とは別の病態を示唆する. 本例は① 2年以上の進行する言語症状があり、②発話を主とした言語 機能が低下しているのに,他の知的機能が正常で,③日常生活 が自立しており、緩徐進行性失語 slowly progressive aphasia (SPA) の診断基準⁽⁷⁾⁽⁸⁾を満たした、しかし、SPA の MRI, SPECT の特徴は左側頭葉, 左頭頂葉の障害であり¹⁹, 本例の 画像所見とはことなった. 櫻井らは SPA の初期において左側 頭葉だけではなく、右側頭葉にも代謝・血流低下がおこりう ることを報告したうえで20,「SPAとは逆に右に強いシルビウ ス裂周辺領域の萎縮を呈するばあいが存在する」ことを予想 し、他の高次脳機能障害が出なければ看過される恐れがある。 と推測した型、本例は右側頭葉の障害を呈し、言語の障害が 進行していく病態を示唆する.しかし, 現時点では, 皮質基底 核変性症, Pick 病, Alzheimer 型老年痴呆のような変性疾患 であるか診断することは困難であろう. 経時的に神経心理学 的ならびに画像医学的検討をおこなうことで、本例の病態が 明らかになると考える.

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Abstract

Dysprosody associated with environmental auditory sound agnosia in right temporal lobe hypoperfusion—A case report

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A 60-year-old right-handed man showed dysprosody and agnosia for environmental sounds. His mother tongue was Japanese, and he could not speak foreign languages. He gradually developed difficulty in speaking from the age of 57 years, speaking non-native Japanese. In addition, he often complained of difficulty in hearing sounds, but audiometry showed no abnormalities. At the age of 60 years, the standard language test of aphasia showed no abnormalities in repetition, verbal comprehension, or reading, suggesting the absence of aphasia. However, in speaking, marked abnormality in rhythm, and occasional lack of postpositional particles and syllablestumblings were observed. Writing was almost accurate, but a few grammatical errors were observed in speaking were observed. There were no cerebellar symptoms, pyramidal signs, pathologic reflexes, or abnormalities in phonation-related organs. Though the recognition of verbal sounds was maintained, impairment in the recognition of non-verbal sounds was observed. An environmental sound perception test showed correct answers only in 8 of 21 non-verbal sound sources (such as a car starting, glass breaking and so on), suggesting agnosia for environmental sounds. He insisted that the difficulty in perception was due to hearing impairment. However, reexamination with an increase in the sound volume showed similar results. He had no inconvenience in daily life and was not aware of agnosia for environmental sounds. He could recognize and differentiate sounds he heard once. His intelligence was normal, and neither apraxia nor frontal lobe symptoms were observed. MRI of the brain revealed slight atrophy of the right temporal lobe. Cerebral blood flow SPECT showed decreased blood flow from the superior temporal gyrus to the area around the arcuate fasciculi in the right temporal lobe. We considered that the lesion responsible for environmental auditory sound agnosia was present in the area around the secondary auditory area of the right temporal lobe and this patient differed from slowly progressive aphasia characterized by decreased blood flow in the left temporal lobe. Although the pathological process occurring in the area of hypoperfusion remained unclear, early stage of some degenerative disorders was more likely than cerebrovascular disease.

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Key words: dysprosody, environmental auditory sound agnosia, right temporal lobe, SPECT, MRI