Chorionic gonadotropin/menotropins/ triptorelin

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Internal jugular vein thrombosis secondary to ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome: case report

A 28-year-old woman developed internal jugular vein thrombosis secondary to ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome following her second cycle of in vitro fertilisation therapy.

The woman was prepared for follicle aspiration using a gonadotrophin-releasing hormone agonist triptorelin ['Decapeptyl'; stated dosage unclear] and menotropins ['Metrodin'; dosage not stated]. Follicle stimulation was performed 34 hours after the administration of chorionic gonadotropin ['Chorigon'] 10 000 µg. Ten days after the transferral of embryos, she was hospitalised because of ovarian enlargement, ascites and pleural effusion. Tests showed haemoconcentration, severe hypoalbuminaemia and increasing β-chorionic gonadotropin levels. She was treated with IV fluids and abdominal paracenteses. Her condition improved and she was discharged after 5 days.

After a further 10 days, the woman was hospitalised because of pain and bilateral fullness in her neck and left axilla. A Doppler examination showed occlusion of her right and left internal jugular veins. A test for activated protein C resistance was positive and DNA testing revealed a factor V Leiden mutation. She was treated with IV unfractionated heparin and her symptoms improved. After 3 days, treatment was changed to SC enoxaparin sodium and she continued to feel well. At 37 weeks' gestation, the woman delivered healthy twin boys. At follow-up after 3 months, repeat Doppler examination of her jugular veins showed recanalisation and normal flow.

Author comment: This woman was found to have an hereditary abnormality, the factor V leiden mutation, this may have contributed to the unusual venous thrombosis that occurred.

Ellis MH, et al. Internal jugular vein thrombosis in patients with ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome. Fertility and Sterility 69: 140-142, Jan 1998 -Israel 800640671