



TITLE: COCHLEAR IMPLANT IN THALASSEMIA PATIENT - CASE REPORT

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ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

Beta-thalassemias are a group of hereditary blood disorders characterized by anomalies in the synthesis of the beta chains of hemoglobin. Iron overload occurs in thalassemia, with blood transfusion therapy being the major cause. Deferoxamine continues to be the mainstay of therapy to remove excess iron in patients requiring long-term transfusions. One of the most important complications of deferoxamine therapy is neurosensory toxicity, including sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL). Labyrinthine hemorrhage (LH) is thought to result from altered capillary hemodynamics or reperfusion injury. It is theorized that LH incites a reparative response that cascades from fibrosis to sclerosis and ultimately ossification of the inner ear structures.

We present a case of 3-year-old thalassemic child with bilateral profound sensorineural hearing loss. Patient was on regular blood transfusions with chelation therapy. HRCT temporal bone and MRI brain and temporal bone had features of labyrinthitis ossificans (LO). Child underwent unilateral cochlear implantation and postimplantation speech perception and production

outcomes were normal. This case illustrates the unique feature of labyrinthitis ossificans in a thalassemia patient which has not yet reported in the English literature.

Hearing screening of all thalassemia patients and therefore early diagnosis of SNHL prompts early intervention and improved quality of life.

BIOGRAPHY (upto 200 words)

Dr. Tanmaya Kataria has completed her Post Graduation at the age of 28 years from Sawai Man Singh Medical College, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Currently she is a 3rd year Senior Resident at Sawai Man Singh Medical College & attached hospitals. She is a part of a tertiary care institute and along with running independent OPD clinic, she is also active in teaching of under graduates and post graduates. She has assisted over 100 cases of cochlear implant. With assistance she also manages and counsels attendants of implant patients and keep a follow up of them. Because of her drawn interest in cochlear implant field, she has multiple publications in this area.

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