Measles Emergence at Adulthood after Implementation of Routine Vaccinations for Infants and Children

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Childhood infectious diseases started to emerge at adulthood as a result of fading vaccine protection after long period of time, ineffective vaccine, or unvaccinated individuals. The vulnerability to infection at adult age group is due to decline or absence of protective immunoglobulin (seronegatives group). Many reports indicate outbreaks of mumps, measles, and whooping cough, at adults who were vaccinated at childhood. It was suggested that the reason for re-emergence of mumps or measles was poor efficacy of MMR vaccine. In Europe there is an increase in the incidence of measles among young adult age group in recent years that indicates a shift of the illness from childhood to adulthood [1]. Recent outbreaks registered in Europe confirmed an increase in cases among young adults who have had no previous vaccination against measles [2,3]. Half of the cases in 2011 in Europe occurred among people aged ≥15 years, indicating in a high proportion of adult cases [2]. It has been noticed that in spite of long-standing two-dose measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccination, measles outbreaks still occur in highly vaccinated populations [4]. Although most measles cases affect unvaccinated individuals, cases with vaccinated persons are also reported. In vitro study for immune response to measles virus, the investigators found a difference in immune reaction of measles infected subjects. Pol J Microbiol 63: 203-209.

In conclusion, measles vaccination unlike natural infection might not confer long life immunity against infection. Therefore, there should be high level of suspicion of measles for any adult patient with intractable fever and unresponsive to treatment with negative laboratory tests of endemic diseases such as typhoid fever. The possibility of the disease is highly suspected during measles outbreak or when there is a recent contact with measles patient. With limited laboratory facilities, the most significant diagnostic aid at early stage of illness, before development of characteristic skin rash, is by the finding pathognomonic sign known as “Koplik’s spots” on the buccal mucosa.

References

Curriculum Vitae

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Personal profile

Specialist Physician with over 27 years of substantial experience leading providers of superior patient care. Obtaining Bachelor degree in Medicine and Surgery on 1987 in which the rank of graduation was within the top ten out of the 138 graduated students of the Medical College, Basrah, Iraq. House Officer for 15 months at Babylon Teaching Hospitals, Ministry of Health, Iraq, including duties in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Orthopedics with scheduled Emergency Department duties at all these five medical branches. Demonstrator, general practitioner, Assistant lecturer, and lecturer at the college of Medicine, University of Basrah, Iraq, for 10 years. Specialist physician of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at Ministry of Health, Tripoli, Libya, for two years. Consultant physician at Industrial Corporation’s clinics for 16 years. Assigned as Editor, Guest Chief Editor, Member of Editorial Board, and Reviewer at several international medical journals.

Qualifications

1. Currently studying a ‘Postgraduate PhD degree in Occupational Medicine’ with The Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.
2. M.Sc. (Master) degree in Medical Microbiology-Infectious Diseases; from September 20, 1991 to January 31, 1994, from College of Medicine, University of Basrah, Iraq.

Employment history

1. Consultant physician, at Oil SERV company, Basrah, Iraq, from March 17, 2015 to date.
2. Specialist physician of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, at Waha Oil Company, Tripoli, Libya, from February 28, 2000 to date.
3. Specialist physician of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, at Libyan Red Crescent, Tripoli Branch, Tripoli, Libya, from February 1, 1999 to February 27, 2000.
5. Lecturer, from February 22, 1997 to February 19, 1998, College of Medicine, University of Basrah, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Iraq.
6. Assistant Lecturer, from March 31, 1994 to February 21, 1997, College of Medicine, University of Basrah, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Iraq.
7. General Physician and Demonstrator at the College of Medicine, University of Basrah, and Basrah University Teaching Hospital, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Iraq, from December 1, 1988 to October 20, 1991.
Professional Memberships of Societies

1. Member of Iraqi Medical Association
2. Member of Pan-Arab Society of Trauma & Emergency Medicine
3. Member of the International Society for Infectious Diseases
4. Member of the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE)
5. Member of Index Copernicus Scientists
6. Member of The Science Advisory Board.
7. Member of International Society of Iraqi Scientists
8. Member of Genetics Society of Malaysia
9. Member of BiomedExperts

Member of the Editorial Board at the following International Scientific Medical Journals:

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