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**MX-LINKED CENTRONUCLEAR MYOPATHY: FROM CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS TO GENETIC COUNSELING**

Maria João Sá1,2, Ana Rita Soares1, Gabriela Soares1, Ana Maria Fortuna1, Ricardo Taipa1, Manuel Melo Pires1, Jorge Oliveira2, Rosário Santos3, Manuela Santos3, Cristina Garrido1

1 Unidade de Genética Médica, Centro de Genética Médica Doutor Jacinto Magalhães, Centro Hospitalar do Porto, E.P.E., Porto, Portugal;  
2 Unidade Multidisciplinar de Investigação Biomédica, ICBAS-UP;  
3 Consulta de Doenças Neuromusculares. Consulta de Neupediatría, Centro Hospitalar do Porto E.P.E., Porto, Portugal;  
4 Unidade de Neuropatologia, Centro Hospitalar do Porto E.P.E., Porto, Portugal;  
5 Unidade de Genética Molecular, Centro de Genética Médica Doutor Jacinto Magalhães, Centro Hospitalar do Porto E.P.E., Porto, Portugal  

m.joao.sa@chporto.min-saude.pt

**Background:** X-Linked Centronuclear Myopathy is a rare congenital myopathy characterized by hypotonia, muscle weakness and respiratory distress at birth, although the presentation may be delayed. It is the most severe and the most common of the three inheritance forms, which also include the autosomal dominant and the autosomal recessive centronuclear myopathies. While muscle biopsy is crucial to differentiate centronuclear myopathies from other congenital myopathies and muscular dystrophies, genetic testing is essential to establish a definitive diagnosis and to perform a precise genetic counseling.

**Clinical report:** We report a proband, first son of healthy non-consanguineous parents, who presented with severe congenital hypotonia, global muscle weakness and bilateral hand contractures. He was born prematurely, shortly after polyhydramnios diagnosis, at 30 gestational weeks. Ventilatory support was required since his birth. At examination, dolicocranium was evident and he had ptosis and ophthalmaparesis, facial diparesia, as well as a weak cry. Muscle biopsy revealed fibers with variable diameter, including round atrophic fibers, with centrally located nuclei, as well as central areas of increased oxidative activity surrounded by a bright halo, which was compatible with a centronuclear myopathy. The previously reported pathogenic missense variant c.566A>G (p.Asn189Ser) was detected in the MTM1 gene, in hemizygosity in the proband and heterozygosity in the mother, confirming the diagnosis of X-Linked Centronuclear Myopathy.

**Discussion:** The genetic testing of the X-linked form is warranted as a first-tier investigation in male infants with a severe phenotype and a characteristic muscle biopsy, since the autosomal forms of centronuclear myopathies present with a relatively mild phenotype in both males and females. The identification of a pathogenic MTM1 mutation will enable preimplantation genetic diagnosis or prenatal diagnosis, as additional reproductive options for this couple.

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**PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS: A CASE OF PARTIAL TRISOMY 6Q**

Rosário Pinto Leite1, Pedro Botelho1, Marta Souto1, Rosete Nogueira2,3, António Carvalho4, Osvaldo Moutinho4,5, Márcia Martins6  
1 Laboratório de Citogenética, Serviço de Genética, Centro Hospitalar Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Vila Real, Portugal;  
2 Pathology Laboratory CGC Genetics /Centro Genética Clinica, Porto, Portugal;  
3 Life and Health Sciences Research Institute (ICVS), School of Health Sciences, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal;  
4 Serviço de Ginecologia/Obstetrícia, Centro Hospitalar Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Vila Real, Portugal;  
5 Serviço de Genética, Centro Hospitalar Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Vila Real, Portugal  
milleite@chtmad.min-saude.pt

Partial distal trisomy 6q is a rare event and is characterized by a distinct phenotype which includes microcephaly, acrocephaly, joint contractures and profound psychomotor retardation. The authors present a case of a 30-year-old pregnant woman referred to prenatal diagnosis due to ultrasound anomalies. It was the first pregnancy of a non-consanguineous couple with no familial or personal story of anomalies. Parents karyotype was performed. Cytogenetic analysis revealed a chromosome 15 with an increase p arm similar to a variation in length of heterochromatic stalks on the short arm. Both parents presented a chromosome 15 with satellites but different from the one detect at the amniocytes. Subtelomeric FISH analysis revealed a trisomy of 6q27-qter present at p arm of chromosome 15 - it was a de novo rearrangement. The parents decided to terminate the pregnancy and foetal autopsy was required. Several polymorphic variants were described in human chromosome 15 including increased amounts of short arm heterochromatin (ph+), interpreted as a normal polymorphism. In the majority of cases partial trisomy 6q results from a balanced chromosomal rearrangement in one of the parents, usually of maternal origin. There have also been rare cases in which partial trisomy 6q has appeared from spontaneous (de novo) errors very early in embryonic development. The authors compared the cytogenetic and the foetal autopsy findings with those described in the literature. Every new case of a rare chromosomal alteration should be reported in order to establish a genotype/ phenotype correlation, improving risk evaluation and genetic counseling.