PARTIAL TRISOMY FOR 7p DUE TO MATERNAL BALANCED TRANSLOCATION

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Summary A patient with the karyotype of 46,XY,der(11), (7;11) (p15; q25)mat is reported. The major clinical findings of the present case included psychomotor retardation, growth retardation after birth, wide anterior fontanel, left esotropia, sacral dimple, bilateral undescended testis, whorls on six fingers, unilateral palmar transverse crease, and bilateral high axial triradius.

Prenatal diagnosis was carried out on the fetus conceived subsequent to the birth of the proband. The karyotype of the fetus proved to be 46,XX,der(11), t(7;11)(p15;q25)mat, so that induced abortion was performed. Only micrognathia was a conspicuous finding in the fetus.

INTRODUCTION

Among the seven cases with trisomy for 7p reported previously, clinical findings were described in six cases, in addition dermatoglyphic findings were described in two cases. We examined consistent findings of the clinical features of these cases and the present case.

CASE REPORTS

Case 1.

The proband was delivered on December 24, 1981, to a 25 years old primigravida woman after normal pregnancy, by cesarean section due to her contracted pelvis. His parents were healthy and unrelated, the father being 30 years old. He was 3,230 g in weight, 49.2 cm in height and 33.6 cm in head circumference when delivered. No asphyxia was noted.

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On June 23, 1982, he was referred to our outpatient-clinic for feeding difficulty and retardation in somatic development. On physical examination at five months after birth (Fig. 1), height was 60.0 cm (-2.8 SD), weight was 5,530 g (-3.1 SD) and head circumference was 42.1 cm (-1.0 SD). The anterior fontanel was widely open (6×6 cm), and the metopic suture and the sagittal suture were separated. Left esotropia, sacral dimple and bilateral undescended testis were observed. Although high-arched palate was noted, it corresponded to his age. No abnormalities of auricles were found. Heart murmur was not heard.

Dermatoglyphic study showed finger patterns consisting of six whorls and four ulnar loops both on the first and second fingers. On the palms, right palmar transverse crease and bilateral high axial triradius (65° on both palms) were observed.

Routine blood investigations, including serum electrolyte, protein and immunoglobulin level, and urinalysis were all normal.

Chest X-ray, ECG and EEG findings were within normal limits. The CT scan of the brain revealed mild dilatation of lateral ventricles.

Leukocyte cultures from the peripheral blood showed an extra band on the terminal region of the long arm of chromosome 11. While the karyotype of the father was normal, that of the mother was 46,XX,rcp(7;11)(p15;q25). Accordingly,

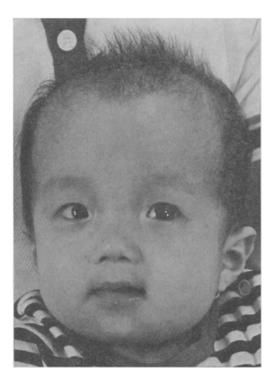


Fig. 1. Facial appearance of proband at the time of eight months after birth. His facial appearance was indistinctive, except for esotropia.

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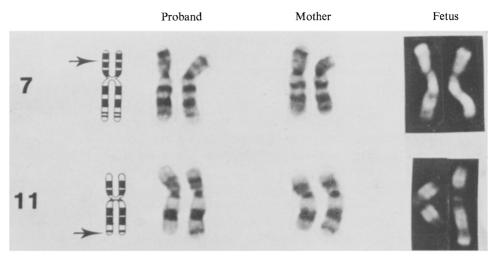


Fig. 2. Partial karyotype of proband (G-band), his mother (G-band) and subsequent fetus (Q-band).

the karyotype of the patient proved to be 46,XY,der(11), t(7;11)(p15;q25)mat (Fig. 2).

At the time of 13 months after birth, his height was 69.0 cm (-2.8 SD), weight was 8,400 g (-1.4 SD) and head circumference was 46.2 cm (nearly the standard level). The size of the anterior fontanel was 5×5 cm, and the developmental quotient was about 45.

Case 2.

When the mother of the proband subsequently conceived, prenatal diagnosis of the fetus was carried out in January 1983. The result indicated the karyotype of 46,XX,der(11), t(7;11) (p15;q25) (Fig. 2). Upon the request of the parents, induced abortion was performed. No marked abnormalities, except for micrognathia, were found in the fetus.

DISCUSSION

Seven cases with trisomy for 7p, partial or complete, were confirmed by chromosome analysis (Larson, 1977; Carnevale *et al.*, 1978; Berry *et al.*, 1979; Miller *et al.*, 1979; Moore *et al.*, 1982). The case dealt with in this paper is the eighth to be reported.

Chromosomal aberrations found in all these eight patients resulted from balanced translocations in their fathers (Larson, 1977; Berry *et al.*, 1979; Moore *et al.*, 1982), or in their mothers (Carnevale *et al.*, 1978; Miller *et al.*, 1979; Moore *et al.*, 1982 and present case). Segments of duplication are mostly found from 7p15 to 7pter. This was true in four cases, including one case in this paper (Berry *et al.*, 1979; Moore *et al.*, 1982).

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We analyzed the clinical findings of the seven cases. Since the clinical findings of Miller's case were not described, we have not included it in our analysis. It was found that the only clinical features common to all seven cases were severe developmental retardation and growth retardation after birth. Other consistent findings were cardiovascular abnormalities (five of the seven. Larson, 1977; Carnevale et al., 1978; Berry et al., 1979; Moore et al., 1982), wide anterior fontanel (five cases. Carnevale et al., 1978; Berry et al., 1979; Moore et al., 1982 and present case), dolichocephaly or prominent occiput (three cases. Carnevale et al., 1978; Berry et al., 1979), and skeletal abnormalities (four cases. Carnevale et al., 1978; Berry et al., 1979: Moore et al., 1982).

Detailed description on dermatoglyphic findings was made only by Moore et al. (1982) and by the authors. In one case reported by Berry et al. (1979), only the existence of unilateral palmar transverse crease was described. In two cases reported by Moore et al. (1982), palmar transverse creases on both palms were found. Unilateral palmar transverse crease were observed in one case reported by Berry et al. (1979) and in the present case. In Moore's two cases and in our case an increase of whorls was noted. In one case reported by Moore et al. (1982) and in our case, bilateral high axial triradius were detected.

Birth weight ranged from 2,300 g (Berry et al., 1979) to 4,650 g (Carnevale et al., 1978), so that birth weight was not always low. As to the life expectancy, there have been only two reports of death (at eight months after birth by Berry et al., and at seven months by Carneyale et al.). However, since the number of reported cases is so small, no definite evaluation is possible as yet.

As mentioned above, clinical findings varied according to the cases, which might be attributable to the cytogenetic heterogeneity of patients. In the cases of Berry et al. (1979), however, although the conditions of the chromosomes were equal, the clinical features and life expectancy varied.

The authors could not find pathognomonic signs in cases with trisomy for 7p. It might be possible, however, that a combination of clinical findings such as growth retardation after birth, developmental retardation, wide anterior fontanel observed at infancy, cardiovascular abnormalities, dermatoglyphic findings including the increase of whorls and high axial triradius and palmar transverse creases, might suggest trisomy for 7p.

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