Diagnosis and treatment of Herlyn Werner Wunderlich syndrome: a case report

Abstract

Background: Herlyn Werner Wunderlich syndrome (HWWS) is a rare female urogenital tract abnormality, isolated by presenting a didelphous uterus, transverse vaginal septum and ipsilateral renal agenesis.

Objective: A case report of a patient with Werner Herlyn Wunderlich syndrome.

Case report: Female patient of 17 years of age, single, nubile, menarche at 14 years, infrequent menstrual cycles, normal volume, with dysmenorrhea EVA 7/10, attends to present disabling pelvic pain, ultrasound was found finding, hematocolpos and hematometra, is complemented with hysteroscopy, computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), a diagnosis of HWWS syndrome is integrated by confirming the presence of a didelpho uterus, obstructed right hemivagina and right renal agenesis, with distention of the vagina and cervix secondary to hematometra and hematocolpos, normal ovaries. The approach in this patient was by minimal invasion.

Conclusion: Herlyn Werner Wunderlich syndrome is a rare mullerian defect, it is often diagnosed late, the diagnosis is usually made after menarche, associated with chronic pelvic pain or palpable pelvic mass; 2D ultrasound along with physical examination performs the suspected diagnosis; This should be complemented with RM. The treatment of choice is vaginal septum resection assisted by minimally invasive techniques.

Keywords: herlyn werner wunderlich syndrome, uterus didelphys, renal agenesis

Abbreviations: HWWS, Herlyn Werner Wunderlich syndrome; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; CT, computed tomography; OHVIRA, hemivagina Obstructed and ipsilateral renal anomaly; ESHRE/ESGE, European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology/European Society of Gynecologic Endoscopy

Background

The Mullerian alterations represent a series of alterations in the uterine anatomy as a result of the poor development of the Mullerian ducts.1

From Mullerian duct fallopian tubes, uterus, cervix and upper vagina 2/3 develop.2

Herlyn Werner syndrome Wunderlich is an abnormality of the rare female genital tract which is characterized by a uterus didelphic hemivagina obstructed by a transverse vaginal septum and renal agenesis. Also called syndrome OHVIRA (hemivagina Obstructed and ipsilateral renal anomaly).3

The incidence of the syndrome Werner syndrome Herlyn Wunderlich not known accurately, it is estimated at 1: 6000 to 1: 28,000 cases of Mullerian malformations or 6% of patients with didelphic uterus.4

HWW syndrome is induced Mullerian anomaly by damage to the duct which originate Wolff's ipsilateral kidneys and induce adequate Mullerian duct in its flow portion, in the eighth week of gestation fusion. If the duct Wolff is absent, then the Mullerian duct is positioned laterally incorrectly. As a result of the move away from the midline, no fuses with the contralateral duct causing a didelphic uterus and not merged with the urogenital sinus centrally. The conduit not displaced form the vagina that connects to the outside while the displaced conduit form a blind pouch.5

Commonly diagnosed after menarche due to pelvic and abdominal pain. Often the diagnosis is late, which increases the risk of complications such as endometriosis, hematocolpos, hematometra and infertility.6 Ultrasound diagnostic suspicion and for preoperative evaluation is performed is complemented by CT or MRI; the latter is considered the gold standard (Figure 1) (Figure 2).6

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Figure 1 External Genital normal.

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Clinical case

MRI and CT diagnostic didelphic corroborates uterus with right renal agenesis (Figure 3), loosening of vagina and cervix secondary to hematometra and hematocolpos, normal ovaries. Hysteroscopy fails to go right cavity to present transverse vaginal septum, convex, left cavity with eutrophic cervix, endocervical canal, cavity and normal ipsilateral left ostium (Figure 4).

Balanced laparoscopy under general anesthesia was performed by examining pelvic organs where didelphic seen uterus entitled hemiuterus increased volume, endometriotic red, hematosalpinx and salpinge right attached to the ovary. Electrofulguration of endometriotic foci is performed with bipolar energy and salpingoovariolysis. Longitudinal 1cm incision at the level of insertion of the uterosacral ligaments right hemiuterus monopolar energy is introduced clamp grasper and used as a guide to locate the ideal site section vaginal septum under direct vision incision vaginal septum is made in it transverse direction with a length of 2cm, with vicryl marzapiliza 00 (Figure 5). Closure in two planes with vicryl of 1 backside uterine.

Adequate postoperative course, withdrawing the service at 48 hours, monitoring the outpatient gynecology, without presenting clinical picture recurrence, performing hysteroscopy control at 3 months cervix and achieving the right to observe normal uterine cavity.

Discussion

HWW syndrome is a very rare Mullerian defect. It occurs around the ninth week of pregnancy, by a failure in the fusion of the Mullerian ducts vertically and laterally. Its etiology is unknown and is characterized by the triad of didelphic uterus, obstructed hemivagina and unilateral renal agenesis.4

The clinical picture depends on the degree Mullerian altereacion. Diagnosis may occur as clinical symptoms in patients in the study of infertility or as an incidental finding.7

In this case the diagnosis was made later menarche, with the cardinal symptom chronic pelvic pain, which occurs in up to 90% of patients; Retrograde menstruation associated and complicated with hematocolpos, hematometra and hematosalpinx.1
Tong and his group reported an incidence of 17% and endometriosis Fedele Land collaborators 13.8%, in our case associated with endometriosis was reported.8

According to the classification proposed by Lan Zhu et al.9 A syndrome the classified into two types; Classification 1 with complete obstruction classification hemivagina and 2 with partial obstruction. These in turn are subdivided into 2. Classification 1.1 as in our case hemivagin is completely blocked, the uterus is no communication to contralateral side. Classification 1.2 hemivagina completely obstructed with atresia of the cervix. 2.1 classification there is little communication between the two hemivaginas through an incomplete communication of the vaginal septum. 2.2 Classification hemivagina completely obstructed with partial communication between the two cervix.9


(ESHRE/ESGE) (2013) HWW syndrome is in the class U3B uterine abnormality, C2 and V3 vaginal cervical abnormality anomaly.8

In this case the suspected diagnosis is performed with ultrasound, identifying hematocolpos, hematometra and Mullerian defect confirming the diagnosis with hysteroscopy, computed tomography and magnetic resonance; the latter considered the gold standard and essential for establishing a surgical plan.9,10

The ipsilateral renal agenesis presented here as is reported in 92 to 100% of patients with obstructed hemivagina didelphic uteri.4 However, renal duplication and multicystic dysplastic kidney have also been reported.7

Minimally invasive surgery for these patients is choice, in this case the approach and hysteroscopy laparoscopy was performed with resection of the transverse vaginal septum, electrofulguration of endometriotic foci and salpingoovarilosis.5,10–12

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Conflicts of interest
The authors declare there are no conflicts of interest.

References