

# GAD ANTIBODIES NEGATIVE TYPE 1 DIABETES AND DRAVET SYNDROME

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## BACKGROUND

- An association between T1DM and idiopathic generalized epilepsy is reported. Some authors suggest an autoimmune mechanism mediated by antibodies to glutamic-acid-decarboxylase (GAD), that is an enzyme involved in the synthesis of the neurotransmitter GABA.
- Dravet syndrome (DS) is a rare, severe epilepsy disorder characterized by febrile hemiclonic seizures or generalized status epilepticus starting at 6 months of age. In classical DS, a delayed development and a motor impairment are often described. Mutation or deletions of SCN1A account for 85% of DS cases. SCN1a mutations alter sodium channel activity that can predispose the SNC to abnormal excitability.

## CASE REPORT

- We report the case of a 9-year-old boy with T1DM and DS.
- No familial history of epilepsy or diabetes. First-born at the 37<sup>th</sup> week from a normal pregnancy, with a normal adaptation at birth.
- At 8 months, he developed febrile seizures, then at 2.5 years he presented afebrile generalized tonic-clonic seizures. A **DRAVET SYNDROME** was clinically diagnosed, confirmed by a positive test for a SCN1A gene mutation (heterozygous c.560\_563inv). Epilepsy has proved to be drug-resistant (valproate, gardenal, topiramate, levetiracetam and then stiripentol). A mild improvement of seizures was reported with stiripentol treatment.
- At the age of 7, the boy developed a **T1DM**.

Serum glucose 536 mg/dl, HbA1c 86 mmol/mol (n.v.20-38), venous pH 7,29, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 10.7 mmol/l, BE -17,1 mmol/l;

PHOSPHOTYROSINE ANTIBODIES +  
ANTI-GAD AND ANTI-INSULIN ANTIBODIES -  
(CONFIRMED AFTER 2 YEARS)

## CONCLUSION

- A concordance between GAD-antibody titres and clinical manifestations of myoclonic encephalopathy was reported in some patients, in whom a pathogenetic role of GAD autoimmunity was suggested.
- In the presented case, we can hypothesize an autoimmune etiology but not GAD-antibodies mediated.

## REFERENCES

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