Abstract: Introduction: Goodpasture syndrome is a rare autoimmune syndrome with alveolar hemorrhages and glomerulonephritis caused by circulating antibodies against the glomerular-basement-membrane. Anti-glomerular-basement-membrane were administered against a non-collagen (NC-1) α3 chain of collagen type IV, which was found at the highest concentration in the basal membrane of renal and pulmonary capillaries. The aim of case report is a clinical overview of this rare and severe syndrome.

Case report: The patient, 22-years-old was sent to Center of Urgent Medicine of Clinical Center Kragujevac from General Hospital of Paraćin because of blood poisoning, fever, symptoms and signs of renal and respiratory weakness, and suspected of Wegener’s disease. Antibodies were taken on the basement membrane of the glomerulus were resulted of enormously high. After due to the clinical and immunology diagnosis of Goodpasture syndrome, plasmapheresis treatment was initiated. The standard hemodialysis was continued. Following the guidelines protocols, patient received pulse dozes of cytostatics, corticosteroids, etc.

Conclusion: The case report of our patient points to the necessity of multidisciplinary approach of the expert team, consisting of a nephrologist, pulmonologist, clinical pharmacologist and other specialists. The prognosis is good, if treatment is started before irreversible pulmonary and/or renal changes (respiratory and/or renal insufficiency). Goodpasture syndrome often progresses rapidly, so it can be fatal if it’s delayed with the diagnosis and the treatment. Patients with Goodpasture’s syndrome require an adequate socio-medical care as a rare and severe syndrome.

Key words: Goodpasture’s syndrome, autoimmune diseases, anti-glomerular basement disease and antibody, pulmonary hemorrhage, glomerulonephritis.
sufficiency), the kidney biopsy is indicated. Progressive focal segmental necrotic glomerulonephritis with sickle (crescentic) creatures was found in the biopate. The immunofluorescence coloring of lung and kidney samples shows diffusely distributed immunoglobulin deposits of IgG, sometimes IgA and IgM, along the basal membrane of alveoli capsules and glomeruli. In addition to the insufficiency of pulmonary function of the restrictive type with hypoxemia, the diffuse capacity for carbon monoxide has been increased due to the presence of blood in alveoli. It was treated with plasmapheresis, corticosteroids and immunosuppressants. It was treated daily or every other day by plasmapheresis 2 to 3 weeks to eliminate circulating anti-GBM antibodies, in combination with iv pulse dozes of corticosteroids (usually methylprednisolone 1 g for 20 min every other day in 3 doses, and then 1 mg/kg of prednisone 1 ×/day) and cyclophosphamide (in bolus and than 2 mg/kg 1 x/day) for 6 to 12 months to prevent the formation of new antibodies (1). After renal transplantation for renal insufficiency, this disease can be recidivated. The prognosis is good if treatment is started before irreversible pulmonary and/or renal changes, i.e. respiratory or renal insufficiency. Goodpasture syndrome often progresses rapidly, so it can be fatal if it’s delayed with the diagnosis and the treatment. The aim of this case report is a clinical overview of this rare and severe syndrome.

CASE REPORT

The patient, 22-years-old was sent to the Center of Urgent Medicine of Clinical Center Kragujevac from General Hospital of Paraćin because of blood poisoning, fever, symptoms and signs of renal and respiratory weakness and suspected of Wegener’s disease. After the examination in Internist Clinic, patient was immediately admitted to the Stationary Section of Urgent Medicine Clinic of Clinical Centre of Kragujevac due to the extremely low saturation values measured by the pulse oximeter in the room air. The patient’s report had occurred suddenly, by coughing up blood and elevated body temperature. The auscultator findings of the lungs were dominated by inspiratory fractures, both in the middle and lower lungs. The computerized tomography of chest, with the protocol for pulmoangiography excluded the presence of pulmonary thromboembolism. The confluent murmur, alveolar infiltrates with larger consolidations in the lower lobe posterobazal was observed diffusely. Both sides of the lower part of lungs had the pleural effusion. The heart action was tachyarrhythmia and the sounds were good with no noise. The echocardiographic examination was a neat. The radiographic examination of the heart and lungs were record alveolar infiltrations in the middle and lower lung fields on both sides, and more on the left. The upper echo abdominal was tidy. The echo of urinary tract showed an unclear medullocorticular boundary and brighter kidney parenchyma. The pANCA and cANCA antibodies were negative as well as other standard immunological analyzes, that were made due to suspicion of Wegener’s disease. Goodpasture’s syndrome was suspicion after the consultative review of pulmonologist, nephrologist, infectollogist, clinical pharmacologist, ophthalmologist, etc. Antibodies were taken on the basement membrane of glomeruli. The result of the required antibodies was enormously high. Until the arrival of the immunological confirmation, patient with Goodpasture syndrome was treated with antibioties and symptomatic therapy, as well as standard hemodialysis. After the arrival of high GBM-titer, and due to the clinical diagnosis of Goodpasture’s syndrome, the plasma-treatment was initiated. The standard hemodialysis was continued. Following the standard protocols, patient received pulse dozed of cytostatics, corticosteroids, etc. At beginning of the illness, the die- resis was low at level of oliguria, and after two weeks of baking over 2000 ml. Due to respiratory weakness, the patient was attached to the device for non-invasive mechanical ventilation for five days, shortly afterwards on oxygen catheter (Figure 1). In biochemical analyzes, leucocytosis, lower hemoglobin levels, hypoproteinaemia, hypoalbyminemia, hyperasotheinia and elevated parameters of inflammation were recorded (Table 1). The control antibody determined by ELISA was significantly reduced with 200 U/mL, 160 U/mL, 110 U/mL, 34 U/mL and10 U/mL compared to the first analysis (Table 2). The computerized tomography of chest reveals the reticulonodular lung infiltrate and extensive bilateral consolidations (Figure 2). Echo of urinary tract showed the unclear medullocorticular boundary and brighter kidney parenchyma in Figure 3.

Figure 1. Patient attached device for noninvasive mechanical ventilation and oxygen catheter
The Social history of our patient wasn’t notable. The kidneys of young man were saved.

**DISCUSSION**

Our case report illustrates the complex nature of Goodpasture’s syndrome. Antibodies from our patient were taken on the basal membrane of glomerulus, and the desired antibody result was extremely high. Due to clinical and immunological diagnosis of Goodpasture syndrome, plasma treatment has begun and standard hemodialysis has been continued. By using follow-up clinical standard protocols, patient received pulse doses of cytostatics, corticosteroids, and other therapies. Timely diagnosis and adequate therapy saved the “lost kidney” of this young person, which the active life is preserved. The disease of the anti glomerical basal membrane is a rare, and an antibody-mediated disease. Consecutive severe changes are deposited which arise depending on the localization where these antibodies.

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**Table 1. Biochemical analyzes (erythrocytes, leucocytosis, hemoglobin, hypoproteinaemia, hypoalbuminemia, hyperasothemia, parameters of inflammation, etc)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biochemical analyzes</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erytrocytes</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>4.34 – 5.72 x10^12/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemoglobin</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>138 – 175 g/G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCV</td>
<td>87.6</td>
<td>80 – 97.2 (fL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leucocytes</td>
<td>15.54</td>
<td>3.7 – 10.0 x10^9/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trombocytes</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>135 – 450 x10^9/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creatinine</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>49 -106 mol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urea</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>3.0-8.0 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRP</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>0.0 – 5.0 mg/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total serum protein</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>64 - 83 g/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serum albumin</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>35 – 52 g/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-hour-proteinuria</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>0.04 - 0.15 g/24h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MCV - Mean Corpuscular Volume  
CRP - C-Reactive Protein

**Table 2. ELISA-control antibody reduced with compared to the first analysis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELISA - Immunology</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GBM antibody</td>
<td>200 U/mL</td>
<td>&lt;20.0</td>
<td>5th May 2019 (first analysis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBM antibody</td>
<td>163 U/mL</td>
<td>&lt;20.0</td>
<td>11th May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBM antibody</td>
<td>110 U/mL</td>
<td>&lt;20.0</td>
<td>18th May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBM antibody</td>
<td>34 U/mL</td>
<td>&lt;20.0</td>
<td>28th May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBM antibody</td>
<td>10 U/mL</td>
<td>&lt;20.0</td>
<td>3rd June 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GBM antibody - antibodies against Glomerular-Basement-Membrane
The most patients have joint pulmonary, kidney and other lesions. The renal system is the primary localization of damage with catastrophic exacerbation of acute glomerular inflammation of kidneys, from just a few days after diagnosis – Goodpasture’s syndrome. Goodpasture syndrome refers to the condition characterized by pulmonary haemorrhagia and glomerulonephritis. Clinicians can use several terms, including the disease against the glomerular basement membrane, as Goodpasture syndrome and as Goodpasture disease. This last term is the most specific term and refers to the presence of kidney and lung infections, together with antibodies to glomerular basement membrane (2). Goodpasture’s disease is an autoimmune disease that endangers life and can lead to kidney disease and death in the final phase. The diagnosis of anti-GBM-disease requires high clinical suspicion, necessary for early diagnosis and adequate treatment in order to improve survival rates (3). Antibodies initiate kidney glomeruli destruction, resulting in focal necrotizing glomerulitis, which can rapidly progress to renal failure. Damage to alveolar basal membranes mediated by autoantibodies leads to pulmonary hemorrhage, which causes respiratory failure. The immunofluorescence testing on anti-GBM antibodies on lung and kidney tissues confirms the diagnosis of Goodpasture syndrome. Tests can be falsely negative in 15% of patients with Goodpasture syndrome (4). The pathology is characterized by linear immunofluorescence coloring for immunoglobulin-G on glomerular base membrane, while bronchoscopy doesn’t show the obvious lesion. The kidney biopsy shows the fibrinoid necrosis. The research shows that early and aggressive therapy leads to improved disease forecasts (5). Patients may be twice as positive for anti-GBM and anti-proteinase-3 neutrophili cytoplasmic antibodies (p-ANCA). Other patients may be twice as positive for anti-GBM and anti-myeloperoxidase cytoplasmic antibodies (p-ANCA). The antibodies are associated with serum ANCA in 10-40% of patients and indicate a poor prognosis of this disease. The function of auto reactive T cells is poorly defined, but it may involve a change from \( T_{11} \) to \( T_{11} \) cytokine regulation, thus improving the antigenic specificity of the antibody response. Timely diagnosis and triple therapeutic regimen involving plasmapheresis, corticosteroids and immunosuppressive drugs significantly improve patient outcomes, resulting in a survival rate of 70-90% for one year (6). The common immunodeficiency variable is the primary immunodeficiency that is manifested by hypogammaglobulinemia, the inability to create functional antibodies, and recurrent infections. The clinical course may be complicated by hypertensive encephalopathy, meningoencephalitis, status epilepticus, the change in the retina, the cutaneous-vascylitis, etc (7, 8). Autoantibody stimulates local capillaritis, which is manifested as progressive glomerulonephritis in 80-90% of patients, with concurrent alveolar bleeding in 50%. A small number of cases can be isolated from progressive pulmonary disease. Alveolar bleeding usually responds to treatment, and long-term respiratory complications are rare. Kidney prognosis is variable, although with aggressive treatment, an independent kidney function is maintained for one year in more than 80% of patients who do not require renal replacement therapy. In the case of unusual anti-GBM disease, unless there is the accompanying anti-neutrophili cytoplasmic antibody (30-40%), maintenance of immunosuppression is also recommended (9). Hypertension may be present in 70% of cases, proteinuria (>3.5 g/24 h) in 42% of cases, nephrotic syndrome in 37%, microhematia in 95%, renal insufficiency in 63%, lung abnormalities and anemia in 16% of patients. The electron microscopy can detect sparse electronic deposits in glomeruli or globally remove the sub-cell (10, 11). A small number of cases have been reported with eye symptoms and visual disturbances in the context of this rare syndrome. Ophthalmoscopic, bilateral cotton wools deposits were detected bilaterally along the blood vessels and bilateral retinal bleeding predominantly on the back half of the eye. By intensifying the existing antihypertensive therapy, vision is significantly improved. Although it is seen more often in Goodpasture syndrome, it is important to be aware of eye pathology because it can refer to diagnosis of this syndrome (12). The pathophysiology of this condition is understood by molecular analysis of the interactions of antibodies and antigens and the use of human leukocyte antigen-transgenic animals, while the association of anti-GBM antibodies with anti-neutrophili antibodies to cytoplasm and their combined effect on the phenotype of the disease is increasingly recognized, providing some insights into the basis of glomerular damage and autoimmunity (13, 14). Tashiro et al points to pathological findings in autopsy with progressive glomerulonephritis, diffuse alveolar bleeding and fibroblast foci in the lungs. The cause of death is diagnosed as respiratory failure and the result of diffuse alveolar damage caused by a combination of diffuse alveolar bleeding and exacerbation of the interstitial pneumonia. Goodpasture syndrome with already existing chronic interstitial pneumonia and anti-neutrophili antibody against neutrophils is associated with poor prognosis (15).

**CONCLUSION**

The case report of our young patient (Goodpasture’s Syndrome) points to the necessity of a multidisciplinary approach in the treatment including medical team consisting of a nephrologist, pulmologist, clinical...
pharmacologist, ophthalmologist, and others. The prognosis is good, if treatment is started before irreversible pulmonary and/or renal changes, i.e. respiratory and/or renal insufficiency. Goodpasture syndrome often progresses rapidly, so it can be fatal if it’s delayed with the diagnosis and the treatment. Patients with Goodpasture syndrome require adequate the socio-medical care of the society, as a rare and severe syndrome. The kidneys of young man were saved.

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Sažetak

IZGUBLJEN BUBREG U GOODPASTURE-OVOM SINDROMU - PRIKAZ SLUČAJA

**Kovacevic Zoran,**¹ Janicijevic Katarina,² Janicijevic Petrovic A. Mirjana³

¹ Department of Urgent medicine, Clinical Centre of Kragujevac, Kragujevac, Serbia
² Department of Social medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Kragujevac, Serbia
³ Department of Ophthalmology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Kragujevac, Serbia

**Uvod:** Goodpasture sindrom je redak autoimun sindrom s alveolarnim hemoragijama i glomerulonefritisom, uzrokovanim cirkuliranjem antitelima na bazalne membrane glomerula. Antitela na bazalnu membranu glomerula usmerena su protiv nekolagenog dela (NC - 1) α3 lanca kolagena tipa IV, koji se nalazi u najvećoj koncentraciji u bazalnoj membrani bubrežnih i plućnih kapilara. Cilj prezentacije pacijenta je klinički osvrt na ovaj redak te težak sindrom.

**Prikaz slučaja:** 22-godišnji pacijent je zbog iskalanja krvi, groznice, simptoma i znakova bubrežne i respiratorne slabosti, a pod sumnjom na Wegener-ovu bolest, upućen je na Urgentnu medicinu Kliničkog centra Kragujevac iz Opšte bolnice Partizan. Uzeta su antitela na bazalnu membranu glomerula, a rezultat traženih antitela bio je izuzetno visok. Zbog kliničke i immunološke dijagnoze Goodpasturovog sindroma, započeto je lečenje plazmaferezom. Nastavljena je standardna hemodializa. Koristeći smernice protokola, pacijent je primio pulsne doze citostatika, kortikosteroida i dr.

**Zaključak:** Prikaz slučaja našeg pacijenta ukazuje na neophodnost multidisciplinarnog pristupa tima eksperta koji se sastoji od nefrologa, pulmologa, kliničkih farmakologa i drugih specijalista. Prognoza bolesti je dobra, ako se lečenje započne pre pojave irreversible plućnih i/ili bubrežnih promena, tj. respiratorne i/ili bubrežne insuficijencije. Goodpasture-ov sindrom često brzo napreduje i može biti fatalan ukoliko se sa dijagnozom i lečenjem zakasni. Pacijenti s Goodpastureovim sindromom zahtevaju adekvatnu društveno-medicinsku negu, kao redak i težak sindrom.

**Ključne reči:** Goodpasture-ov sindrom, autoimune bolesti, bolest glomerularne bazalne membrane i antitela, plućne hemoragije, glomerulonefritis.

**REFERENCES**


Correspondence to/Autor za korespondenciju
Mirjana A. Janicijevic Petrovic, full professor
Department of Ophthalmology, Faculty of Medical Sciences,
University of Kragujevac, Serbia
Svetozara Markovica 69, 34000 Kragujevac, Serbia
E-mail: mira.andreja@yahoo.com
Tel: +381 64 8065048