Clinical features of pregnancy in multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and type 1 diabetes mellitus comorbidities (a case report)

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Abstract. Clinical features of pregnancy in multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and type 1 diabetes mellitus comorbidities (a case report). Raznatovska O.M., Fedorec A.V., Shalmina M.O., Grekova T.A. Objective – to update the literature data with the clinical features of pregnancy in multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MRD-TB) and type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) comorbidities based on an example from own clinical experience. A clinical case of pregnancy course in MRD-TB and T1DM comorbidities was described based on our own clinical experience. We report the clinical case of newly diagnosed MRD-TB in a 38-year-old woman suffering from T1DM. Her general condition was unstable from satisfactory to moderately severe despite an adequate treatment of MRD-TB and T1DM with manifestations of intoxication syndrome and nephropathy. Adenomyosis with periodic bloody vaginal discharge was diagnosed. There was no clinical-radiological dynamics and sputum culture conversion. After an intensive phase of antituberculosis therapy within 3 months, the patient got pregnant. Based on the medical indications (MRD-TB, absence of sputum culture conversion and clinical-radiological dynamics, moderate severity of T1DM, nephropathy) and adenomyosis with bloody vaginal dischage, the patient was requested to induce the pregnancy termination, and she consented. On month 7 of antituberculosis therapy, an extensive drug-resistance of Mycobacterium tuberculosis...
to antituberculosis drugs and negative dynamics by follow-up chest X-ray were diagnosed. The feature of pregnancy course in MRD-TB and T1DM comorbidities was an unfavorable coexistence of both these diseases simultaneously resulting in an induced abortion. In this case, doctors working with patients suffering from both MRD-TB and T1DM are recommended to advise patients the use of contraception in order to prevent pregnancy during treatment of active MRD-TB.

To date, pulmonary multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MRD-TB) remains one of the top causes of death among chronic communicable diseases [8] and diabetes mellitus (DM) – among chronic non-communicable diseases [7].

Type 1 DM is characterized by a deficiency in insulin production, and people with this type of DM require lifelong administration of exogenous insulin [7] and optimal glycemic control [9]. It has been found that in the vast majority of pregnant women, DM is associated with an increased risk of both diabetic and obstetric complications [2] and this risk is doubled in the case of T1DM [3]. Poorly controlled DM in pregnant women is related to dramatically adverse effect on both maternal and fetal health outcomes increasing the risk of fetal loss, stillbirth, perinatal and maternal mortality as well as developing birth defects which are the most common cause of perinatal mortality [7].

In T1DM pregnant women, the frequency of preterm labor is 60% [7]. There is strong evidence that T1DM pregnant women are at high risk for hypoglycemia occurring early in gestation which can cause intrauterine growth retardation [4]. At the same time, MRD-TB pregnant women also demonstrate a higher incidence of adverse treatment and childbirth outcomes as compared to pregnant women with sensitive causative agents of tuberculosis [1] together with serious maternal and fetal health risks [10].

All this is conducive to the growth of the number of patients with a combined course of these two diseases which mutually and adversely affect each other. It has long been known that tuberculosis complications, a prolonged time of sputum culture conversion, high rate of treatment failure are DM-associated [12]. Relatedly, tuberculosis activates a range of pathways associated with diabetic complications. A specific process leads to DM decomposition due to worse glycemic control, causing glucose intolerance [6]. Gadallah M. A. et al. [11] indicate that the predictors of MRD-TB unsuccessful treatment are the delay in sputum culture conversion, moderate or extensive lung affection and DM.

Combined course of MRD-TB and T1DM becomes especially unfavorable for pregnant women.

Objective – to update the literature data with the clinical features of pregnancy in MRD-TB and T1DM comorbidities based on an example from own clinical experience.

MATERIALS AND METHODS OF RESEARCH

We report the clinical case of pregnancy course in MRD-TB and T1DM comorbidities based on our own clinical experience. A patient received inpatient treatment in the Department of Pulmonary Tuberculosis No 3 of the Clinical base of Phthisiologo and Pulmonology Department of ZSMU at the Municipal Institution "Zaporizhzhia Regional Tuberculosis Clinical Dispensary" (ZRTBDC).
Clinical case presentation and discussion

A 38-year-old woman G. was admitted to the ZRTBCD with newly diagnosed tuberculosis (NTDB), right lung infiltration. Destruction (+), Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MBT) +, microscopy (M) +, Category 1. T1DM, moderate severity. Antimycobacterial therapy (AMBT) by category 1 was prescribed according to the Unified Clinical Protocol (UCP) "Tuberculosis" [5].

After being further examined with the help of molecular-genetic (MG) test, the patient presented MTB (+), MG (+), rifampicin (Rif) +. Based on the data obtained, the diagnosis was established: rifampicin resistant tuberculosis (RifTB), right lung infiltration. Destruction (+), MBT (+), M (+), MG (+), Rif (+), Category 4 (NDTB). T1DM, moderate severity.

AMBT by category 4 was prescribed taking into account the drug sensitivity test (DST) data according to the UCP "Tuberculosis" [5] and insulin therapy following the endocrinologist recommendations.

After 2 weeks of inpatient treatment, she presented rise in body temperature up to 38°C complaining of menstrual disorder and bloody vaginal discharge. Clinical blood analysis (CBA) was as follows: hemoglobin (Hb) – 115 g/l; erythrocytes (Er) – 4.92 x 10¹²/l, leukocytes (L) – 12.0 x 10⁹/l, erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) – 36 mm/h, banded (b) – 12%, segmented (s) – 75%, eosinophils (e) – 2%, lymphocytes (l) – 7%, monocytes (m) – 4%.

The patient was consulted by a gynecologist. Her past gynecological history was unremarkable and she was not under medical check-up. Two pregnancy tests were negative. Transvaginal ultrasound was performed demonstrating echo signs of adenomyosis, heterogenous structure and thickness of the endometrium (hypoplasia?), small amount of free fluid in the pelvic cavity (Fig.).

Based on these findings, the gynecologist established the diagnosis: menstrual disorder, adenomyosis. An appropriate treatment was prescribed.

In the treatment course, her general condition was unstable from satisfactory to moderately severe with intoxication syndrome manifestations. The follow-up chest X-ray revealed no changes. There was no sputum culture conversion. From the third month of inpatient treatment, the patient demonstrated an increase in serum creatinine level up to 110.0 μmol/L (upper reference limit: 97 μmol/L) and urea level up to 9.1 mmol/L (upper reference limit: 7.2 mmol/L).

In this context, after the intensive phase of AMBT within 4 months, the patient complained of: menstrual disorder, bloody vaginal discharge and intoxication syndrome manifestations again. The follow-up consultation of gynecologist. The pregnancy test appeared to be positive. Transabdominal pelvic US showed echo signs of pregnancy, 4-5 weeks of gestation.

Based on the medical indications, the patient was requested to terminate pregnancy, and she consented. The postoperative period was uneventful.

The DST data obtained after the intensive phase of AMBT within 7 months were indicative of the extensive drug-resistance of MBT to AMBD: resistance I (HRZ), resistance to second-line AMBD – ofloxacin (Ofx), kanamycin (Km) and capreomycin (Cm). The patient was prescribed the appropriate treatment regimen based on DST data according to the UCP "Tuberculosis" [5].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Currently, there is consensus that neither active MRD-TB nor DM requires termination of pregnancy.
Safe treatment in usual management regimens during pregnancy seems possible but needs appropriate individual decision-making to eliminate the possible risks of adverse effects due to teratogenicity [7, 8].

In the presented clinical case, the 38-year-old woman suffering from T1DM diabetes developed newly diagnosed MRD-TB. Despite the adequate treatment of MRD-TB and T1DM, her general condition was unstable from satisfactory to moderately severe with manifestations of intoxication syndrome and nephropathy. Adenomyosis with periodic bloody vaginal discharge was diagnosed. There was no clinical-radiological dynamics and sputum culture conversion. After the intensive phase of antimycobacterial therapy within 3 months, the patient got pregnant.

In Ukraine, severe clinical forms of tuberculosis (progressive, chemoresistant or severely complicated) and severe DM are among medical indications for pregnancy termination. Therefore, taking into account medical indications (MRD-TB, absence of sputum culture conversion and clinical-radiological dynamics, moderate severity of T1DM, nephropathy) and adenomyosis with bloody vaginal discharge, the patient was requested to terminate pregnancy, and she consented.

On month 7 of antimycobacterial therapy, an extensive drug-resistance of MBT to AMBD and negative dynamics by follow-up chest X-ray were diagnosed.

**CONCLUSIONS**

1. The feature of pregnancy course in MRD-TB and T1DM comorbidities was an unfavorable coexistence of both these diseases simultaneously resulting in an induced abortion.

2. In this case, doctors to working with patients suffering from both MRD-TB and T1DM are recommended to advise patients the use of contraception in order to prevent pregnancy during treatment of active MRD-TB.

**Conflicts of interest.** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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СПИСОК ЛІТЕРАТУРИ

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