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Objective: Intestinal lymphangiectasia (IL, primary or secondary) is an important cause of protein-losing enteropathy. We evaluated the clinico-laboratory profile, response to therapy, complications and outcome of children with primary IL (PIL).

Methods: Consecutive children (< 18 years) diagnosed with PIL (clinical setting, typical small bowel histopathology and exclusion of secondary causes) from 2007 to 2017 were evaluated.

Results: 28 children with PIL (16 boys, age at symptom onset-12 months and at diagnosis 8 years) were studied. Pedal edema (93%), chronic diarrhea (78.6%) and recurrent anasarca (64%) were the common presentations. Ascites, pleural and pericardial effusion was seen in 64% (n-18; chylous-5, non-chylous-13), 18% and 18% cases respectively. Hypoproteinemia, hypoalbuminemia, hypocalcaemia and lymphopenia were present in 82%, 82%, 75% and 39% cases respectively. Duodenal biopsy established the diagnosis in 86% cases, while 14% required distal small bowel biopsies. Dietary therapy was given in all and 6 cases required additional therapy (octreotide-3, tranexamic acid-3 and total parenteral nutrition-1). Lymphedema (3/5 vs. 1/23), pleural effusion (4/5 vs. 1/23) and