

Primary Meningococcal-C Conjunctivitis in a Vaccinated Child

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Department of Pediatrics, Hospital Universitario Dr. Peset. Av. Gaspar Aguilar, Valencia, Spain

7cffYgdcX]b['Uih\cf. Breton-Martinez JR, Department of Pediatrics Hospital Universitario Dr. Peset. Av. Gaspar Aguilar, Valencia, Spain, Tel: +34961622300; E-mail: jbretonmar@gmail.com

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Meningococcal conjunctivitis is classified into primary (direct inoculation of the bacteria into the palpebral conjunctiva from an exogenous source) and secondary (as an unusual complication of systemic meningococcal disease). Primary meningococcal conjunctivitis (PMC) is an uncommon cause of bacterial conjunctivitis. It is important to establish an early diagnosis in view of the potential for invasive meningococcal disease. Vaccination with meningococcal serogroup C conjugate (MCC) vaccines reduces the carriage of serogroup C meningococci and protects against invasive infection. We report a case of a meningococcal C conjunctivitis in a vaccinated child.

Case report

A Spanish healthy 4-year-old boy properly vaccinated (with a 3-dose schedule of meningococcal C conjugate vaccine at ages 2, 4, and 6 months) came to the Emergency Room with marked bilateral eyelid edema, severe purulent discharge, moderate pain and a temperature of 38.5°C. The conjunctiva was red and edematous. His general condition was good, with no rash nor meningeal signs. He was diagnosed with

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by immunization of contacts. So it may be advisable administering both immunization and chemoprophylaxis if the conjunctivitis is caused by a serogroup included in the available vaccines.

References

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