Congenital Chloride Diarrhea in Two Yemeni Siblings

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Congenital chloride diarrhea (CCD) is a rare disorder caused by a genetic defect in the chloride/ bicarbonate exchange in the ileum and colon which manifests as a neonatal secretory diarrhea with electrolytes imbalance and predispose to long-term complications. The disease is highly prevalent in the Arabian Peninsula.

We report two Yemeni siblings with CCD. Family history was significant with two deaths at 3 months of age. Polyhydramnios, antenatal dilated bowels, prematurity and neonatal onset of watery diarrhea were found in both infants. As a result of inadequate electrolytes supplementation, both children had growth development retardation and one developed a chronic renal disease at 6 years of age.

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