



Genetic blood disorders during pregnancy

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Editorial

Hemophilia may be a genetic condition caused by a scarcity of or defective clotting factors during a person's blood. People with hemophilia bleed longer or more excessively, both externally and internally than people without the condition. Hemophilia is usually passed down from parents to their children, but the National Hemophilia Foundation estimate that approximately one-third of cases develops spontaneously. Hemophilia is one among the better-known blood conditions, but it's still quite rare, developing in an estimated 1 in 5,000 live births. Genetic blood disorders are a gaggle of diseases that are passed down from parents to their children. Certain blood disorders are caused by abnormalities within the composition and components of red blood cells thanks to genetic defects, leading to red blood cells that are unable to perform their normal functions.

The main sorts of genetic blood disorders are thalassemia, and red blood cell anemia. These disorders are passed down from parent to child through the genes carried on the chromosomes. When both parents have a genetic disease, there is a 25% chance that every child are going to be born with the disease. However, if one parent is healthy and therefore the other parent is carrying the trait, then it's possible for the disease to be passed right down to some children, making them carriers of the disease. If two alpha chain genes are defective, then the patient develops what's referred to as minor alpha thalassemia. An individual with this condition exhibits mild symptoms, and it's going to not be detected with a biopsy. If three alpha chain genes are defective, the patient develops severe anemia, and therefore the symptoms range from moderate to severe. This condition is named Hemoglobin H disease. A biopsy for this condition shows small deformed red blood cells. An individual with this condition may suffer from an enlarged spleen, bone deformities thanks to its increased activity to catch up on damaged red cells. The patient must have blood transfusions to be ready to live normally. If four alpha chain genes are defective, then the patient develops what's referred to as major alpha thalassemia which may end in fetal death before or after birth. A genetic disease may be ill health caused by one or more abnormalities within the genome. It is often caused by a mutation during a single gene (monogenic) or multiple genes (polygenic) or by a chromosomal abnormality. Although polygenic disorders are the foremost common, the term is usually used when discussing disorders with one genetic cause, either during a gene or chromosome.

The mutation responsible can occur spontaneously before embryonic development (a de novo mutation), or it are often inherited from two parents who are carriers of a faulty gene (autosomal recessive inheritance) or from a parent with the disorder (autosomal dominant inheritance). Some disorders are caused by a mutation on the X chromosome and have X-linked inheritance. Only a few disorders are inherited on the Y chromosome or mitochondrial DNA. There are over 6,000 known genetic disorders, and new genetic disorders are constantly being described in medical literature. Quite 600 of those disorders are treatable. Around 1 in 50 people are suffering from a known single-gene disorder, while around 1 in 263 are suffering from a chromosomal disorder. Around 65% of individuals have some quite ill health as results of congenital genetic mutations. Thanks to the significantly sizable amount of genetic disorders, approximately 1 in 21 people are suffering from a genetic disease classified as "rare" (usually defined as affecting but 1 in 2,000 people).

Most genetic disorders are rare in themselves. Most congenital metabolic disorders referred to as inborn errors of metabolism result from single-gene defects. Many such single-gene defects can decrease the fitness of affected people and are therefore present within the population in lower frequencies compared to what would be expected supported simple probabilistic calculations. The fetus can be at risk of abnormal bleeding due to the mother's inherited bleeding disorders or carrier state. A fetus can also develop severe thrombocytopenia due to the mother becoming sensitized to platelet antigens. Depending on the cause of the fetal bleeding problem, blood or platelet transfusion, replacement coagulation factors, or other treatments are effective. Heavy menstrual bleeding (also known as menorrhagia) is a very common problem. Symptoms include periods that last too long (more than 4 to 7 days), large amounts of blood and blood clots in the menstrual flow. Heavy periods may cause iron deficiency and anemia, as women lose blood faster than they can replace it. Women may also experience bleeding between periods (metorrhagia). Menorrhagia can be caused by a structural reason, such as uterine fibroids. Many women with heavy periods have an unrecognized bleeding disorder such as Von Wille brand disease or a condition such as immune thrombocytopenia. Obstetrical hematology represents challenges not only for the patient, but also for her progeny. In particular, bleeding disorders, both congenital and acquired, not only present problems both for delivery and in the immediate postpartum period, but also may have significant implications for the fetus and neonate. Women with congenital bleeding disorders or who are carriers of X-linked or autosomal disorders should be counseled prior to conception so that pregnancy can be safely undertaken with careful preparation. A treatment plan should be set up by a specialized care team that includes the hematologist, obstetrician, and anesthesiologist; the patient should be followed closely during pregnancy, through delivery, and in the immediate postpartum period. Acquired disorders of hemostasis that occur with pregnancy may present particular diagnostic difficulties and require rapid diagnosis and management.

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