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CASE REPORT

# A CASE WITH EMANUEL SYNDROME: EXTRA DERIVATIVE 22 CHROMOSOME INHERITED FROM THE MOTHER

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## ABSTRACT

Emanuel syndrome (ES) is a rare chromosomal disorder that is characterized by multiple congenital anomalies and developmental disabilities. Affected children are usually identified in the newborn period as the offspring of balanced (11;22) translocation carriers. Carriers of this balanced translocation usually have no clinical symptoms and are often identified after the birth of offspring with an unbalanced form of the translocation, the supernumerary der(22)t(11;22) syndrome. We report a 3-year-old boy with the t(11;22)(q23;q11) chromosome, transmitted in an unbalanced fashion from his mother. He has several developmental delays; he is not independently ambulatory and language is significantly impaired. Using his peripheral blood, karyotyping was performed to define his multiple congenital anomalies, revealing the following chromosomal abnormality: 47,XY,+der(22)t(11;22)(q23.3;q11.2). To ascertain the origin and trait of this supernumerary marker chromosome [der(22)t(11;22)(q23.3;q11.2)], karyotyping of his parents was performed. The mother was found to be a balanced carrier: 46,XX,t(11;22) (q23.3; q11.2).

**Keywords:** Emanuel syndrome (ES); Karyotyping; Supernumerary; Translocation.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Emanuel syndrome (ES) is an unbalanced translocation syndrome, usually arising through a 3:1 meiosis I malsegregation during gametogenesis in a phenotypically balanced translocation normal carrier. While the true mortality rate in Emanuel syndrome is unknown, long-term survival is possible [1]. Emanuel syndrome is also referred to as derivative 22 syndrome, derivative 11;22 syndrome, partial trisomy 11;22, or supernumerary der(22)t(11;22) syndrome [2]. In this partial duplication, 11(q23-qter) and 22(pter-q11) complex, congenital diaphragmatic hernia has been observed [3]. There is growth retardation, mental retardation (severe), cardiovascular malformation, craniofacial anomalies (including pre auricular tags or sinuses, micrognathia, ear anomalies, cleft or high-arched palate), microcephaly, kidney abnormalities and genital abnormalities in males [1,4].

## **CASE REPORT**

We report a 3-year-old boy with the t(11;22) (q23;q11) chromosome, transmitted in an unbalanced fashion from his mother. It was her first pregnancy; the patient's mother and grandmother have no history of the disease (Figure 1). The prenatal period of the infant was uneventful. The infant was delivered at full-term by vaginal delivery. His birth weight was 3.25 kg, length 52 cm. At birth, he was found to have a cleft palate, micrognathia, undescended testis, in-

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Figure 1. Pedigree of patient

guinal hernia, and surgery was performed to correct these anomalies (Figure 2).

He is now 3 years old and echocardiography revealed a secundum atrial septal defect of about 10 mm. He also has central nervous system (CNS) and skeletal anomalies, mental retardation, hypotonia, white matter abnormalities, cerebral atrophy, scoliosis, kyphosis and glaucoma. On hearing assessment, he has bilateral hearing loss. He has gallstones and feeding problems. He was admitted to our hospital repeatedly due to respiratory infections and recurrent ear infections. His head circumference is 48 cm and he has a short neck with low posterior hairline. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed lateral ventricles are enlarged to approximately 22mm (Figure 3). He has several developmental delays; he is not independently ambulatory and language is significantly impaired.

Using his peripheral blood, karyotyping was performed to define his multiple congenital anomalies, revealing the chromosomal abnormality 47,XY,+der(22)t(11;22) (q23.3; q11.2) (Figure 4). To ascertain the origin and trait of this supernumerary marker chromosome [der(22) t(11; 22)(q23.3;q11.2)] karyotyping of his parents was performed. The mother was found to be a balanced carrier: 46,XX, t(11;22)(q23.3;q11.2) (Figure 5). We used fluorescent in situ hybridization (FISH) probes for the 22q11.2 and 22q13.3 deletions and identified the supernumerary chromosome der(22)t(11;22) (Figure 6)/maternal



**Figure 2.** The photograph shows the facial and head features of the patient.



Figure 3. Cranial MRI image of case





Figure 4. Karyotype of case + der(22)t(11;22) (arrowheads)



**Figure 6.** Fluorescent *in situ* hybridization image of the patient with der(22)t(11;22); green signals the 22q13.3 and red signals the 22q11.21 region.

t(11;22) (q23.3;q11.2) (Figure 7). We used Aquarius® Microdeletion Syndrome probes, DiGeorge/ VCFS TUPLE 1 and 22q13.3 Deletion Syndrome Probe Combination (Cytocell Ltd., Cambridge, UK).

# DISCUSSION

The recurrent constitutional t(11;22)(q23;q11) is the most frequent non Robertsonian translocation in humans. Similar to Robertsonian translocations and many other recurrent or non recurrent constitutional translocations, balanced carriers of the t(11;22) translocation usually have no clinical symptoms because this rearrangement does not disrupt functional genes. Balanced carriers, however, often have reproductive problems such as male infertility, recurrent pregnancy loss, and the birth of offspring with a chromosomal



Figure 5. Karyotype of the mother [t(11;22)(q23.3;q11.2)].



**Figure 7.** Fluorescent *in situ* hybridization image of the mother with t(11;22)(q23.3;q11.2); green signals the 22q13.3 and red signals the 22q11.21 region.

imbalance. Severely affected offspring have supernumerary der(22)t(11;22) syndrome [5] as a result of a 3:1 meiotic malsegregation of der(22)(4). The clinical features of ES arises from duplication of 22q10-22q11 and duplication of 11q23-qter on the supernumerary der(22) [2]. The exact incidence is unknown. This is a rare syndrome with reported cases of around 100. Male and female balanced carriers have a 0.7 and 3.7% risk of having children with supernumerary der(22), respectively. Clinical testing such as chromosomal analysis, FISH testing, whole chromosome paint (WCP), array genomic hybridization (aGH), or multiple ligation-dependent probe amplification (MLPA) (MRC-Holland, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) assay can be performed for the diagnosis of this syndrome. Highest mortality is in the first few months of life. While the true mortality

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rate in ES is unknown, long-term survival is possible, especially if the patient survives the infancy period. The reported case had all the classical features of ES [2] (Table 1).

Almost all children with ES have global developmental delays and intellectual disabilities. Table 2 shows the list of clinical features observed in Emanuel syndrome. Management involves a multi disciplinary team approach involving pedodontist, pediatrician, plastic surgeon, geneticist, gastrologist, speech therapist, urologist, cardiologist, ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgeon and ophthalmologist. Two issues are impor-

Table	1	I ist	of	reported	cases	of	Emanuel	synd	rome
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System Involved	Clinical Features	Our Case
1. Growth and development	Pre- and postnatal growth retardation, delayed speech and language development	Delayed speech and language development, feeding problems, not independently ambulatory
2. Craniofacial anomalies	Microbrachycephaly, prominent forehead, epicanthal folds, downslanting palpebral fissures, broad and flat nasal bridge, long pronounced philtrum, abnormal auricles, preauricular ear pits and/or tags (76.0%), deafness and otitis media	Otitis media, preauricular tags or sinuses, bilateral hearing loss, lateral ventricles are enlarged by ~22 mm, short neck, low posterior hairline, glaucoma
3. Central nervous system	Most commonly, microcephaly present seizures, failure to thrive and delayed psychomotor development	Delayed psychomotor development, white matter abnormalities, cerebral atrophy, microcephaly
4. Cardiac defects	Sixty percent of individuals with congenital heart defects such as atrial septal defect, ventricular septal defect, Tetralogy of Fallot and patent ductus arteriosus	Secundum atrial septal defect
5. Genitointestinal defects	Diaphragmatic hernia, anal atresia, inguinal hernias, biliary atresia, small penis (64.0%) and cryptorchidism (46.0%)	Complex congenital diaphragmatic hernia, inguinal hernias, undescended testes, gallstones
6. Musculoskeletal defects	Most commonly, centrally based hypotonia, congenital hip dislocation, arachnodactyly, club foot and joint, syndactyly of the toes, delayed bone age and hyperextensibility of joints	Hypotonia, scoliosis, kyphosis
7. Oral findings	Cleft palate (50.0%), micrognathia (60.0%), angular mouth pits, bifid uvula and facial asymmetry	Micrognathia, cleft or high-arched palate
8. Immunological defects	Congenital immunological deficiency	Congenital immunological deficiency
9. Renal defects	Renal defects (36.0%)	Kidney abnormalities

Table 2. List of clinical features observed in Emanuel syndrome.

tant in terms of genetic counseling of these families. First, when one parent is a carrier of t(11;22), future pregnancies are at an increased risk for either ES, balanced t(11;22), or another meiotic malsegregation, thus, prenatal cytogenetic testing should be offered for future pregnancies. Secondly, carrier testing of the unaffected siblings should normally be offered when they have reached adulthood and are able to understand the reproductive implications of being a carrier [2].

**Declaration of Interest.** The authors report no conflicts of interest. The authors alone are responsible for the content and writing of this article.

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