

## ABSTRACT

Background: Infantile systemic hyalinosis (ISH) is a rare autosomal recessive disease that happens within the first weeks of life. It is present in Saudi Arabia due to positive parental consanguinity. A suggestive diagnostic criterion was proposed which would be helpful in determining ISH.

Case Presentation: Seven children were diagnosed with ISH based on clinical pictures and histopathological examination. A prospective consecutive and observational study was designed to determine the diagnostic criteria of ISH. On clinical examination, all patients had joint contractures which led to frog-like position, hyperpigmentation overlying the distal joints, in addition to failure to thrive. Only five patients of seven (71.42%) had erythematous papules coalesce to form plaque on the posterior neck. Out of seven, four patients (57.14%) had nodules (perianal and subcutaneous), and gingival hypertrophy. Three patients of seven (42.85%) had intractable diarrhea. Just one patient (14.28%) had small pearly skin papules on the face. Hyaline deposits were evident in histopathological examination of the skin biopsies for all the patients. Although, the severity index and genetic study were unavailable.

Conclusion: ISH is a congenital disease characterized by excessive hyaline deposits. Diagnostic criterion was evaluated for the seven patients as three major criteria and five minor criteria. It was suggested that the presence of all three major criteria or two major and two minor criteria is essential for the diagnosis of ISH.

The diagnostic criterion would help in the early evaluation of the disease prognosis and would enhance early intervention.

.Keywords: Infantile systemic hyalinosis, autosomal recessive, joint contracture