Abstract

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Nutritional fetal rickets. A case report

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BACKGROUND: We report the case of a newborn who showed typical signs of rickets at birth craniotabes and severe hypocalcemia. The diagnosis of fetal rickets was confirmed by radiography.

FINDINGS: Maternal deficiency was revealed by an excessively low vitamin D level. The multiparous Moroccan mother had suffered low back pain and paraesthesia for several years. She wore the veil and rarely left her home. Nutritional and vitamin D deficiency was demonstrated.

CONCLUSION: We report this exceptional case to recall the importance of vitamin D in the development of fetal calcium supply, the prevention of gravid osteomalacia and the prevention of neonatal hypocalcemia. Vitamin D supplementation (ideally 1000 IU per day during the third trimester or at least one 100,000 IU dose at the sixth and eighth months or a single dose of 2 to 3,000,000 IU at the sixth month) should be the rule in pregnancy.

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