

## A case of aplastic anemia due to unspecified hepatitis

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**Introduction:** There are many causes of aplastic anemia, and viral infection is one of them. According to studies, hepatitis virus and HIV virus infection may be the cause of aplastic anemia, especially in young people. In this regard, we report a case of aplastic anemia diagnosed in a test performed after hospitalization with liver abnormalities.

**Case:** A 39-year-old man was admitted to the Sahmyook Medical Center for 15 months of weight loss and peripheral edema for 3 months from February to May 2020. On the blood test conducted on May 20, TSH increased (17.10 uIU/mL), liver enzymes increased (AST 128 ALT 146 IU/L), bicytopenia (2.33-8.7-155K) was observed, and transudate effusions were found in the pericardium, pleural effusion, and ascites. The ACTH stimulation test was negative. A bone marrow study was performed on May 20, marrow cells were not observed in aspiration, and acellular marrow was found in biopsy and touch imprint. The marrow study was re-executed on May 26, and the same findings were observed. To distinguish the other causes of anemia, gastroscopy and colonoscopy were performed, and there were no signs of active bleeding except for hemorrhagic gastritis and duodenal ulcer scar. HAV, HBV, HCV, EBV and CMV infection, Wilson's disease or autoimmune hepatitis tests were performed to determine the cause of unspecified hepatitis without jaundice, but all were negative. Subclinical hypothyroidism with no evidence of other autoimmune thyroiditis was observed. On June 7, ultrasound-guided percutaneous core needle biopsy was performed. Pathologic findings were chronic hepatitis, mild, with focally minimal cholestasis around the central vein, and no increased collagen fibers in Masson's Trichrome.

**Remarks:** According to the studies of hepatitis-associated aplastic anemia, HAV, HBV, and HCV were negative in serological tests. It is thought that activated CD8 T lymphocytes recognize and attack similar target antigens in the liver and bone marrow, and hepatitis accounts for 5 to 10 percent of the causes of aplastic anemia. Therefore, this case is reported in order to recognize that patients with unspecified hepatitis should consider bone marrow examination.

