

11/28/25 Morning Report with @CPSolvers

"One life, so many dreams" Case Presenter: Siva(@) Case Discussants: Rabih (@rabihmgeha) & Kirtan
<https://clinicalproblemsolving.com/present-a-case/>



Scribing (Gillian)

CC: 42 yo female presenting w/ progressive weakness, **nausea**, **diarrhea**, dizziness, inability to take food 3 days.

HPI: Noticed these Sx for 10 months, worsened in past 3 days.

Intermittent **dizziness** and weight loss in last 10 months

Admission 9m ago for nausea, vomiting diarrhea, was diagnosed as gastroenteritis, normal colonoscopy

ROS: No melena, no urinary, no joint complaints, no fever

PMH: hashimoto, mild asthma, remote hx of GBS

Ob/Gyn: G3 P3
Uncomplicated delivery 1 yr ago, w/o lactation or resumption of menstrual cycle; no postpartum hemorrhage

Meds: none

Fam Hx: none

Social Hx: none

Allergies: none

Vitals: T: afebrile **HR:** 105 **BP:** 110/70 **RR:** 16 **Sat:** 98%

Exam: **Gen:** thin, drowsy in ED

HEENT: dry oral mucosa, no ulcers

CV: RRR, sinus tachycardia, nl peripheral pulses, CRT < 4

Pulm: nl, no crackles

Abd: soft, nontender, nondistended

Neuro: drowsy, sensation intact

Extremities/skin: pulses intact, no edema

Notable Labs & Imaging:

Hematology:

WBC: 4k nl differential **Hgb:** 10 **Plt:** 300k

Chemistry:

Na: 133 K: 4.3 Cl: 101 HCO3: 21 Cr: nl BUN: nl **Glucose:** 30 Ca: 8.8 LFTs: nl
TSH: 2.9 FT4: 0.7

Prolactin : 1.6 (3-30 nl) FSH: 6.1 LH: 1.3

Cortisol 0.5 [low]

ACTH: low

Bandrogen sulfate: 3 (low)

21 hydroxylase antibody: negative

Imaging:

US Abd Pelvis: nl

MRI: compatible microadenoma (3mm) in pituitary, pre contrast hyperintensity
→hemorrhage

Dx: Sheehan syndrome

Problem Representation: 42 yo female 1 yr postpartum with 10 months of n/v, diarrhea, dizziness, and weight loss found to have hypoglycemia and panhypopituitarism.

Teaching Points (Krithika)

Structural vs Functional defect (watch out for emergencies like perforation, etc); Motility and factors governing

Nausea, vomiting and diarrhea by itself - non specific, but in combination might point to a luminal cause

Young patient → possibility of multiple endocrine abnormalities with **autoimmune etiology**- adrenal, thyroid, diabetes

Lactation problems postpartum- contribute to the endocrine theory

Weight loss → generally a GI radiographically identifiable etiology, but with diffuse GI involvement → etiology → substance(endocrine)>structure

Other DDx: Toxins (possibility in an acute case), Autoimmune (lupus), neoplastic/paraneoplastic

Adrenal insufficiency- Hypoglycemia, hyperkalemia, hyponatremia, shock → not necessary to have hyperkalemia

ACTH Stimulation test (better choice because not time dependent) → 250mcg
ACTH → measure cortisol after 1hr

Hyperkalemia more likely in primary > secondary insufficiency and hypoglycemia in secondary>primary

Sheehan's syndrome- not necessary to always have overt bleeding

Post pituitary- robust blood supply → less likely involvement after postpartum hemorrhage

Thyroid and adrenal function intertwined → contributes to the systemic symptoms
In central cause → TSH not reliable → T4 better marker

Primary hypoaldosteronism → need to replace both glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid

Secondary hypoaldosteronism → need to replace only glucocorticoid

Pituitary apoplexy vs physiological enlargement of pituitary post pregnancy (the presence of the microadenoma increases possibility of Sheehan's syndrome)

Pituitary adenoma- most common incidentally discovered- prolactinoma>non functional