



Herpes Zoster in Infant

Bebekte Herpes Zoster

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A seven-month old girl was brought in due to restlessness, fever and rash in the body. Her complaints had begun two days ago. On examination, there was a group of papulovesicular lesions in the thoracolumbar region that did not cross the midline. It was learned that the patient had chickenpox at the age of one month while staying in a nursing home. However, no information was obtained as to whether or not her mother had chickenpox. The patient was diagnosed with herpes zoster. The patient was thought to have pain due to her uneasiness and was started intravenous acyclovir treatment. During the follow-up, the patient had no fever, her restlessness improved; all the rashes were dried and healed without any problem.

The varicella-zoster virus remains latent in the dorsal root ganglia after chickenpox disease. In cases where immunity is weakened, a papulovesicular rash occurs in the innervated dermatome as a result of the virus spreading along the axon. Experiencing chickenpox at an early age may result in insufficient immunity to the disease. In these children, herpes zoster may develop at an earlier age. Although the disease can usually disappear itself spontaneously, acyclovir treatment provides a faster recovery of the lesions and is effective in preventing post-herpes neuralgia which is rarely seen in children.

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