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Abstract

Blood Lead Levels in Umbilical Cord and Neonatal Neurobehavioral Status

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Objectives: To investigate the relation between umbilical cord blood lead level lower than 10 µg/dl and neonatal neurobehavioral performance.

Methods: Umbilical cord blood lead level, as an indicator for prenatal exposure to lead, and Brazelton neonatal behavioral assessment scale (NBAS), as an indicator for effect, were determined in 86 neonates in Gumi, Kyungpook, Korea. The blood levels were measured by graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrophotometer. Development was assessed by NBAS at birth in 86 neonates and at 1 month in 55 neonates.

Results: The mean cord blood lead levels of the 86 and 55 neonates were 3.90 ± 0.71 µg/dl (range 2.24 - 5.39 µg/dl) and 3.88 ± 0.70 µg/dl (range 2.24~5.03 µg/dl), respectively. We used the median value of 4 µg/dl to divide into low- and high- lead level groups. There was a significant difference in the peak of excitement at birth, and in the animate visual, inanimate visual, inanimate auditory, activity level, peak of excitement, and liability of states at one month, between the two groups. For cluster scores, motor system and state organization scores showed significant differences between the two groups.

For adjusting the potential confounding effect of intial difference, differences of the scores between the two groups at one month were analysed with ANCOVA. The results of ANCOVA showed the significant difference between the two groups.

Conclusions: The findings suggest that prenatal low-level lead exposure, even lower than 10 µg/dl, might affect the neonatal neurobehavioral development.

Key Words: Blood lead, Umbilical cord, Neonate, Neurobehavioral, Brazelton

가

, 1991

(CDC)

10

가 µg/dl .

가 1960 60 µg/dl
1971 40 µg/dl, 1978 30 µg/dl, 1985
25 µg/dl (CDC, 1991). 1995
(World Health Organization, WHO)

NBAS Ernhart
(1986), Rothenberg (1988), Emory (1999)
가 . Ernhart (1986) Rothenberg
(1988)
, Emory (1999)

(WHO). Lanphear
5 µg/dl
(2000).

가
(Bellinger Needleman, 2003;
Canfield , 2003; Chiodo , 2004).

가
Cookman (1987)
(glial cell)
(neural cell adhesion molecule)

가
Boston , Sydney , Cincinnati , Port
Pirie 4가
(behavioral phenotype)

가
(alteration in the timing sequence
of cellular growth)
(reduction in the migration pattern of
fetal neurons),
(neural subcortical
and cortical plates)
(Emory , 1999).

(WHO, 1995). (Lanphear
, 2000; Bellinger Needleman, 2003; Canfield
, 2003; Chiodo , 2004)

가

(Dietrich , 2001).

. Freedman (1990)
(cerebellar grafts)

가

, Tang (1999)

가

가

가

가 ,

가

(1986)가

가

가

(1995) 6~8

가

7.99 µg/dl

가

38

(Ernhart ,

가

가

1986). , 1970

가(Brazelton Neonatal Behavioral Assessment
Scale, NBAS) 1

(, 1995; , 1996)

가가 가 . NBAS

, 1 1

가

가 , 가 , 가 (, 1999). 가 4 µg/dl 가 45 , 4 µg/dl 가 41 . 4 µg/dl 가 17 , 4 µg/dl 가 27 , 가 14 . 278.5 , 3.29 kg, 1 Apgar 7.9 , 5 Apgar 9 28.7 , 63.1 (3.95 µg/dl) 4 kg, 160.4 cm, 32.1 µg/dl 30 , 가 t-test chi- square test . paired t-test (analysis of covariance: ANCOVA) , 8 (9.3%) SPSS/PC Window 10.0 . (Table. 2). 3.89±0.71 µ

Table 1. Brazelton Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale

Clusters	Items	Clusters	Items
Habituation	Response decrease-light Response decrease-rattle Response decrease-bell Response decrease-foot	Reflex	Plantar grasp Babinski Ankle clonus Rooting
Social -interactive	Animate visual Animate auditory Animate both Inanimate visual Inanimate auditory Inanimate both Alertness		Sucking Glabella Passive resistance-legs Passive resistance-arms Palmar grasp Placing Standing
Motor	General tone Motor maturity Pull-to-sit Defensive movement		Walking Crawling Incurvation Tonic deviation of head/eyes Nystagmus Tonic neck reflex Moro
State organization	Activity level Peak of excitement Rapidly of build-up Irritability Lability of states		
State regulation	Cuddliness Consolability Self-quieting Hand-to-mouth	Autonomic system	Tremulousness Startles Lability of skin color

g/dl (2.24~5.39 µg/dl) 3.95 µg/dl 가
 g/dl . 1 가 가 . 1
 3.88 ± 0.70 µg/dl (1
 2.24~5.03 µg/dl) (Table 3). . - 1
 1 NBAS , (animate visual) ,
 (Table 4). (inanimate visual) ,
 1 (inanimate auditory) 가 4
 NBAS 가 , 1 µg/dl 4 µg/dl
 가 4 µg/dl 1
 가 22.7 가 4 µg/dl 4 µg/dl
 18.2 4 µg/dl 21.2 16.3 g/dl .
 (p<0.05)(Table 5). 1 (peak of
 4 1 excitement) 4 µg/dl 3.8 4

Table 2. General characteristics of neonates and parents by cord blood lead levels

	Cord PbB (µg/dl)		Total (n=86)
	<4 (n=45)	4 (n=41)	
Gestational age (days)	278.9 ± 6.7	278.1 ± 5.6	278.5 ± 6.2
Birth weight (kg)	3.33 ± 0.40	3.25 ± 0.36	3.29 ± 0.38
Apgar score			
1 minute	7.9 ± 0.1	8	7.9 ± 0.1
5 minute	9	9	9
Examination time since birth			
1st (hours)	23.0 ± 7.2	21.4 ± 7.5	22.2 ± 7.3
2nd (days)	32.1 ± 1.6	32.4 ± 2.0	32.3 ± 1.8
Age of mother (years)	28.8 ± 3.2	28.7 ± 2.8	28.7 ± 3.0
Weight of mother (kg)	64.5 ± 8.5	61.5 ± 5.6	63.1 ± 7.4
Height of mother (cm)	161.3 ± 4.6	159.4 ± 4.1	160.4 ± 4.5
Age of father (years)	31.7 ± 3.5	32.4 ± 3.0	32.0 ± 3.3
Resident duration (years)	3.2 ± 4.8	3.8 ± 6.1	3.5 ± 5.5
Education of mother (%)			
Middle or high school	28 (62.2)	28 (68.3)	56 (65.1)
College or above	17 (37.8)	13 (31.7)	30 (34.9)
Indirect smoking (%)			
Yes	5 (11.1)	3 (7.3)	8 (9.3)
No	40 (88.9)	38 (92.7)	78 (90.7)
Smoking (father) (%)			
Yes	30 (66.7)	20 (48.8)	50 (58.1)
No	15 (33.3)	21 (51.2)	36 (41.2)

Table 3. Blood lead levels of umbilical cord

	Cord PbB (µg/dl)		Total (n=86)	After follow-up (n=55)
	<4 (n=45)	4 (n=41)		
Mean ± SD	3.35 ± 0.49	4.50 ± 0.32	3.90 ± 0.71	3.88 ± 0.70
Range	2.24~3.98	4.05~5.39	2.24~5.39	2.24~5.03

$\mu\text{g/dl}$ 3.3
 ($p < 0.05$). 1 가
 (lability of states) 가 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 1991 CDC가 가 10
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ ($p < 0.05$). $\mu\text{g/dl}$
 1 1
 (self-quieting) 10 $\mu\text{g/dl}$
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 가 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$. 1990
 10 $\mu\text{g/dl}$, 5 $\mu\text{g/dl}$
 1 1
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 가 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ (Lanphear,
 2000; Bellinger Needleman, 2003; Canfield ,
 2003; Chiodo , 2004).
 1 가 가
 (Table 6). 가 - (Enhart ,
 1986; Bellinger , 1987; Dietrich , 1987;
 Baghurst , 1992)
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$
 1 가 ,
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 가 4 (WHO, 1995)
 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ -0.9 가 (full-scale IQ)
 가 ($p < 0.05$). 가 (collectively significant) 가
 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 4 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 가 10 $\mu\text{g/dl}$ 20
 ($p < 0.05$). WHO(1995)가
 가 , , ,
 가 ($p < 0.05$). , , ,
 가 (hand-to-mouth) .
 1 1 가
 ($p < 0.05$), . 3 24
 가 (Bayley scale of infant develop-
 ment), 4 ~ 5 가(Kaufman
 assessment battery for children), 6 12
 가(Wechsler intelligence
 scale for children) .

Table 4. NBAS scores of neonates at birth by follow-up status

	Follow-up (n=55)	Loss to follow-up (n=31)	p value
Habituation	24.2 ± 2.5	24.8 ± 3.6	0.306
Social-interactive	40.4 ± 8.2	41.0 ± 8.3	0.753
Motor system	21.1 ± 2.3	21.0 ± 2.7	0.916
State organization	17.5 ± 2.0	17.3 ± 1.8	0.542
State regulation	16.7 ± 3.8	16.1 ± 5.0	0.500
Autonomic system	16.3 ± 2.9	15.5 ± 4.1	0.278
Reflexes	4.1 ± 1.5	3.9 ± 1.6	0.734

가 (cluster score)
 Ernhart (1986), Rothenberg (1988), Emory (1999) 가 . Ernhart NBAS 7
 Graham/Rosenblith (G/R)
 NBAS , G/R
 (Ernhart , 1986; Rothenberg , 1988).
 Ernhart (1986) Rothenberg (1988) NBAS G/R

Table 5. NBAS scores at birth and 1 month by cord blood lead level

	At birth		At 1 month	
	Cord PbB ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$)		Cord PbB ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$)	
	<4 (n=28)	4 (n=27)	<4 (n=28)	4 (n=27)
Habituation cluster	24.3 ± 2.4	24.0 ± 2.6	22.6 ± 4.8	22.4 ± 4.4
Response decrease-light	7.1 ± 1.6	7.0 ± 1.4	7.6 ± 1.1	7.4 ± 1.8 ^a
Response decrease-rattle	7.2 ± 1.1	6.8 ± 1.2	5.7 ± 3.0 ^b	5.1 ± 2.7 ^c
Response decrease-bell	7.7 ± 1.1	7.7 ± 0.8	7.4 ± 2.2 ^d	7.8 ± 0.8 ^e
Response decrease-foot	2.1 ± 1.1	2.0 ± 1.2	1.4 ± 0.7 ^f	1.6 ± 0.8 ^g
Social-interactive cluster	40.9 ± 7.5	39.9 ± 8.9	45.6 ± 6.5	42.9 ± 4.7
Animate visual	5.3 ± 1.3	5.2 ± 1.6	6.4 ± 1.2*	5.7 ± 1.2
Animate auditory	6.1 ± 1.5	6.3 ± 1.5	5.7 ± 1.6	5.4 ± 1.5
Animate both	6.9 ± 1.2	6.6 ± 1.4	7.7 ± 0.8	7.8 ± 0.5
Inanimate visual	4.8 ± 1.7	4.5 ± 1.7	5.7 ± 1.7*	4.6 ± 1.4
Inanimate auditory	5.4 ± 1.5	5.6 ± 1.5	5.4 ± 1.5*	4.6 ± 1.3
Inanimate both	6.3 ± 1.4	6.0 ± 1.5	7.4 ± 1.2	7.4 ± 1.0
Alertness	6.1 ± 1.5	5.7 ± 1.8	7.2 ± 1.1	7.4 ± 0.8
Motor system cluster	20.8 ± 2.2	21.4 ± 2.4	22.7 ± 2.1*	21.2 ± 2.5
General tone	5.1 ± 0.9	5.0 ± 0.9	5.7 ± 0.5	5.3 ± 1.0
Motor maturity	4.9 ± 0.9	4.7 ± 0.8	4.9 ± 0.4	4.7 ± 0.7
Pull-to-sit	4.2 ± 1.1	4.5 ± 1.6	4.5 ± 1.8	4.3 ± 2.1
Defensive movement	2.6 ± 1.2	3.1 ± 1.5	4.1 ± 1.3	3.6 ± 1.3
Activity level	4.0 ± 0.2	4.1 ± 0.4	3.5 ± 0.6*	3.2 ± 0.4
State organization cluster	17.4 ± 1.9	17.7 ± 2.1	18.2 ± 1.6 [†]	16.3 ± 2.7
Peak of excitement	3.8 ± 0.6 [†]	3.3 ± 0.6	3.8 ± 0.5 [†]	3.3 ± 0.6
Rapidly of build-up	5.5 ± 1.1	5.6 ± 0.9	4.5 ± 1.2	4.0 ± 1.1
Irritability	4.4 ± 1.2	5.0 ± 1.0	5.4 ± 0.9	4.9 ± 1.4
Lability of states	3.7 ± 0.8	3.9 ± 1.0	4.6 ± 0.6*	4.0 ± 1.1
State regulation cluster	17.0 ± 3.0	16.4 ± 4.5	19.1 ± 2.6	18.3 ± 3.3
Cuddliness	4.2 ± 1.4	3.6 ± 1.1	6.0 ± 0.0	5.9 ± 0.7
Consolability	5.6 ± 1.6	5.5 ± 2.0	6.2 ± 1.6	5.7 ± 2.0
Self-quieting	4.5 ± 1.5	4.7 ± 2.1	4.6 ± 0.9	4.7 ± 1.8
Hand-to-mouth	2.8 ± 1.7	2.7 ± 1.8	2.3 ± 1.5	2.0 ± 2.1
Autonomic system cluster	16.8 ± 2.4	15.8 ± 3.3	17.1 ± 3.9	16.3 ± 3.1
Tremulousness	6.0 ± 1.7	6.2 ± 1.8	7.2 ± 1.8	6.3 ± 2.0
Startles	6.6 ± 2.0	5.4 ± 3.4	5.6 ± 3.4	5.9 ± 3.0
Lability of skin color	4.2 ± 1.0	4.2 ± 0.5	4.3 ± 0.9	4.2 ± 1.4
Reflex cluster	3.9 ± 1.5	4.3 ± 1.6	1.6 ± 1.7	1.6 ± 1.7

a-g: No of subjects are 23, 17, 16, 19, 21, 13, and 7, respectively.

* p<0.05, † p<0.01 by t-test.

Rothenberg (1988) 1 NBAS
 7 NBAS 가
 , Emory (1999)
 NBAS NBAS 30
 , Ernhart (1986) Emory
 (1999) 24 ~ 48 NBAS ,
 , Rothenberg (1988) 48 , 15 ,
 가 30 NBAS , 24
 가 30

Table 6. Differences of NBAS scores by cord blood lead levels

	Difference between birth and 1 month	
	Cord PbB ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$)	
	<4 (n=28)	4 (n=27)
Habituation cluster	-1.7 \pm 5.0	-1.0 \pm 3.7
Response decrease-light	0.5 \pm 1.6	0.4 \pm 2.5
Response decrease-rattle	-1.5 \pm 3.1	-1.8 \pm 2.6
Response decrease-bell	-0.4 \pm 2.3	0.1 \pm 1.0
Response decrease-foot	-0.7 \pm 1.0	-0.4 \pm 1.4
Social-interactive cluster	4.7 \pm 7.7	3.0 \pm 9.5
Animate visual	1.1 \pm 1.2*	0.5 \pm 2.0
Animate auditory	-0.4 \pm 1.8	-0.9 \pm 1.9
Animate both	0.9 \pm 1.0	1.2 \pm 1.3
Inanimate visual	0.9 \pm 2.4*	0.2 \pm 2.2
Inanimate auditory	0.0 \pm 2.0*	-0.9 \pm 1.8
Inanimate both	1.1 \pm 1.6	1.3 \pm 1.8
Alertness	1.1 \pm 1.3	1.7 \pm 1.7
Motor system cluster	1.9 \pm 2.6 [†]	-0.2 \pm 2.9
General tone	0.6 \pm 1.0	0.4 \pm 1.5
Motor maturity	-0.0 \pm 1.0	-0.0 \pm 1.1
Pull-to-sit	0.3 \pm 1.9	-0.2 \pm 2.3
Defensive movement	1.5 \pm 1.5	0.6 \pm 1.8
Activity level	-0.5 \pm 0.6*	-0.9 \pm 0.6
State organization cluster	0.8 \pm 2.6 [†]	-1.4 \pm 3.7
Peak of excitement	0.0 \pm 0.7 [†]	0.0 \pm 0.9
Rapidly of build-up	-1.0 \pm 1.7	-1.6 \pm 1.7
Irritability	1.0 \pm 1.5	-0.1 \pm 1.8
Lability of states	0.9 \pm 0.8*	0.1 \pm 1.4
State regulation cluster	2.1 \pm 3.3	1.9 \pm 5.5
Cuddliness	1.8 \pm 1.4	2.3 \pm 1.3
Consolability	0.6 \pm 2.1	0.3 \pm 2.8
Self-quieting	0.2 \pm 1.6	0.1 \pm 2.8
Hand-to-mouth	-0.5 \pm 2.0	-0.7 \pm 2.6
Autonomic system cluster	0.3 \pm 4.3	0.5 \pm 4.6
Tremulousness	1.2 \pm 2.7	0.1 \pm 2.8
Startles	-1.0 \pm 3.9	0.4 \pm 4.3
Lability of skin color	0.1 \pm 0.9	0.0 \pm 1.3
Reflex cluster	-2.2 \pm 1.8	-2.6 \pm 1.6

* $p < 0.05$, [†] $p < 0.01$ by ANCOVA, adjusted for the baseline Brazelton item score.

Emory, 30 NBAS 162 103 Ernhart (Hwang, 2004),

50 55 30 가 가

Graham scale Apgar 가

Emory (1999) (NBAS) 가 1973 가

NBAS 가

NBAS 1 NBAS 가

가 가 (, 1999).

가 가 1 가

Lidsky (2003) Silberglid (Emory, 1999). (1992) 가

3.88± 0.70 µg/dl (2.24~5.03 µg/dl) 10 µg/dl

4 µg/dl (glutamatergic transmission)

Ernhart (1986), Rothenberg (1988) 1999 Emory

Hwang (2004) 가 2002 2.35 가

±1.12 µg/dl, 1990~1992 3.28± 1.52 µg/dl, 1985~1987 7.48±2.25 µg/dl, 5 (1995) 4.4 ±1.3 µg/dl, (1996) 5.0±0.6 µg/dl

가 가

가

가

가

가

NBAS

: 가 가
가
: 1
55

, NBAS

, 1

가 1
가(Nematal
Behavioral Assessment Scale, NBAS)

가

1

가

: 3.88±
가 가 0.70 µg/dl

(Lidsky, 2003).

가 (4 µg/dl)

(Ernhart, 1986; Rothenberg, 1989; Emory, 1998)

1 NBAS
가 1 NBAS 4 µg/dl
4 µg/dl

2

가

가

1

NBAS

, 4 µg

가

/dl 4 µg/dl

가

가

1 NBAS

(Lidsky, 2003).

가 4 µg/dl

가 4 µg/dl

가

10 µg/dl

1

1

가

가

5.03 µg/dl

1991

CDC

10 µg/dl

5 µg/dl

NBAS

(p<0.05).

NBAS

: 3.88 µ

g/dl

가 4 µ

g/dl

4 µg/dl

1

, Dietrich (1993)

1

가

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