

**Abstract**

**A Case of Intermediate Syndrome of Organophosphate Poisoning after Dermal Exposure**

Geun-Ryang Bae, Hae-Kwan Cheong, Hyun-Sul Lim

*Department of Preventive Medicine, College of Medicine, Dongguk University*

**Background:** Organophosphate poisoning is one of the most common toxicologic emergencies in Korea. Acute organophosphate poisoning and delayed polyneuropathy by ingestion are well published. There have been several reports about intermediate syndrome in organophosphate poisoning by ingestion but few about intermediate syndrome via dermal route.

**Case report:** We observed a 59-years-old male who had weakness of proximal limb muscles and respiratory muscles 2 days after dermal exposure by unidentified pesticide. The paralytic symptoms lasted up to 20 days but the delayed polyneuropathy did not develop. The patient needed mechanical ventilatory support for 2 weeks and had completely recovered from IMS 6 weeks later. Electrophysiological study was characterized by an axonal polyneuropathy pattern on the proximal limb muscles. Serum acetylcholinesterase level was below half of normal level. Clinical manifestations and electrophysiological study support the clinical diagnosis of intermediate syndrome.

**Conclusion:** Intermediate syndrome is commonly developed by ingestion of organophosphate but, as in this case, dermal absorption can also lead to intermediate syndrome. More detailed history taking and close observation is needed for about 3 or more days after intoxication because of the risk of respiratory failure.

**Key Words:** Organophosphate poisoning, Intermediate syndrome, Dermal absorption

가

가

가  
7

가

40

3

30

(

, 2001).

1987 Senanayake

2

Karalliedde

1

7

2 3

가

(Organo phosphate induced delayed polyneuropathy)

11  
119

24 96

가

2

가

(Intermediate syndrome)

30

2 3

14 5

(, 1996; , 1996;  
, 1999)  
, 1998; , 2000)가

(

2

mmHg

100 mmHg

가 150

68

20

36.8°C

: , 59

2 mm

가

IV/IV,

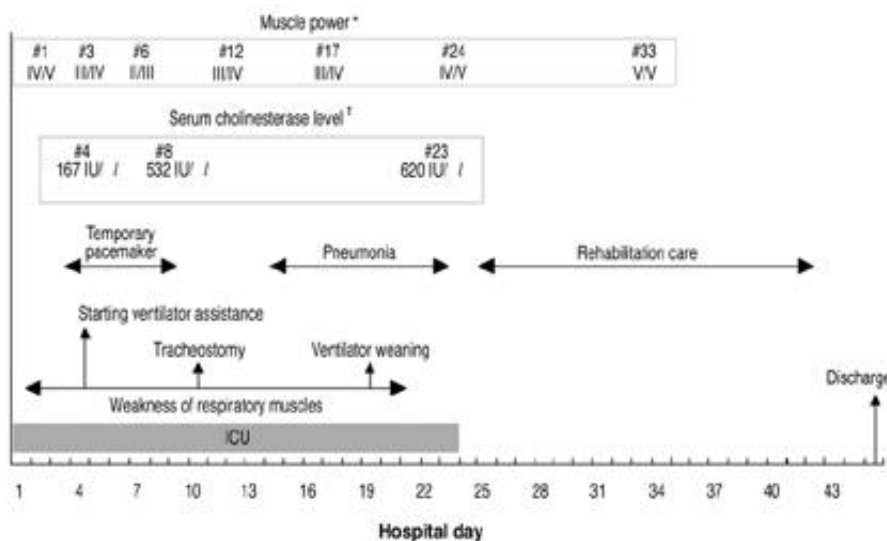
V/V

가,

2 4

**Table 1.** Results of arterial blood gas analysis (ABGA) at hospital day #1

ABGA	0 hr	4 hr	5 hr	9 hr	10 hr	15 hr	19 hr
pH	7.346	7.189	7.110	7.433	7.317	7.122	7.299
pCO <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)	42.3	64.8	77.6	27.4	42.3	53.4	46.4
pO <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)	130.2	53.2	88.6	100.2	54.3	94.8	86.7
HCO <sub>3</sub> (mmol/ )	22.5	23.8	23.6	18.0	21.0	16.7	22.1
TCO <sub>2</sub> (mmol/ )	23.8	25.7	25.9	18.8	22.3	18.3	23.5
BE (mmol/ )	-2.6	-5.7	-8.2	-4.3	-4.5	-13.1	-4.1
SaO <sub>2</sub> (%)	98.6	78.6	93.0	97.8	85.3	94.7	95.5



**Fig. 1.** Clinical manifestations and main procedures by hospital day.

\* Muscle power is presented as upper extremities and lower extremities respectively.

† Reference value of serum cholinesterase level is 1,130 – 1,960 IU/ .

가 : 42.3 mmHg, 130.2 mmHg, 22.5 mmol/ , 98.6 %

가 4 pH 7.189, 64.8 mmHg, 53.2 mmHg, 23.8 mmol/ , 78.6 %

가 2 (Table 1).

가 4 4 167 IU/ , 8 532 IU/ , 23 , 10 17 620 IU/ 21

가 pH 7.346, , 2 10

3  
 가 9 .  
 . Senanyake (1987)  
 IV/IV, V/V 6 1 4 가  
 II/II, III/III 가 type II  
 가 3 IV/IV, V/V (intermediate syndrome)  
 . 9 . 1)  
 , 18 , 2) 1 4  
 , 3)  
 , 4) 가  
 , 5)  
 32 6)  
 7)  
 : 6 (He et al., 1998).  
 , 2000 7  
 8 .  
 1990 1987  
 Senanyake  
 . 1981  
 (acetyl-cholinesterase) 3 3, 4, 5  
 , 1983 1975  
 1981 7  
 (Moretto, 1998). 가 342  
 , , 7  
 . 가  
 (Bardin et al.,  
 1987; Rsao et al., 1990),  
 . 1993 1988 1992  
 , 5  
 94 19  
 3 가  
 가 , 8  
 (Karlliedde & Senanayake, 1989).  
 11 가  
 (delayed neuropathy) . 19  
 (Johnson, 1975). Wadia (1974) 7  
 가  
 , type I 1999  
 , type II 111

31 가 , 8 24  
96 3

“ 1 4  
” 30

1996 가 34  
3 가 4  
가 15  
가 27 , 1 “ 6 가 , ,  
”

150/100 mmHg  
2 140/90 mmHg 10  
가 2

1999 가 “ 가  
2 가 , 가  
가 가  
4  
가 , 4

1998 “  
”  
가 “  
” 4  
167 IU/ , 8 532 IU/ , 23 620 IU/  
가 1,130 1,960 IU/

“ ”  
가

7.7% 42,1%  
(Bleecker et al, 1993; He et al, 1998),  
10.9 25.7%가

( , 1998; 2000)

가

2000;  
 11(4):579-85.  
 . Intermediate paralytic syndrome  
 1 . 1996;8(1):  
 145-8.  
 가  
 1981;24:87-93.  
 1993;45:507-15.  
 1996;  
 20(4):1073-7.  
 1999;46:363-71.  
 . 2001. 312-314.  
 1998;9(1):135-41.  
 Inter  
 mediate Syndrome 2 . 1999;47  
 (2):247-54.  
 1998;9(1):142-7.  
 . Atropine  
 1983;27:81-7.  
 Bardin PG, Van Eeden SF, Joubert JR. Intensive  
 care management of acute organophosphate poi-  
 soning. S Afr Med J 1987;72:593.  
 De Bleecker J, Van den Neucker K, Colardyn F.  
 Intermediate syndrome in organophosphorus poi-  
 soning: a prospective study. Crit Care Med  
 1993;21(11):1706-11.  
 He F, Xu H, Qin F, Xu L, Huang J et al. Inter  
 mediate myasthenia syndrome following acute  
 organophosphates poisoning-an analysis of 21  
 cases. Hum Exp Toxicol 1998;17(1):40-5.  
 Johnson MK. The delayed neuropathy caused by  
 some organophosphorous esters: mechanism and

30

2 3

가

- challenge. *CRC Crit Rev Toxicol* 1975;3:289-316.
- Karalliedde L, Senanayake N. Organophosphorus insecticide poisoning. *Br J Anesth* 1989;63:736-50.
- Moretto A. Experimental and clinical toxicology of anticholinesterase agents. *Toxicol Let* 1998; 103:509-13.
- Senanayake N, Karalliedde L. Neurotoxic effects of organophosphorus Insecticides, an intermediate syndrome. *NEJM* 1987;316:761-3.
- Tsao TC, Juang YC, Lan RS, Shieh WB, Lee CH. Respiratory failure of acute organophosphate and carbamate poisoning. *Chest* 1990;98:631.
- Wadia RS, Sadagopan C, Amin RB, Sardesai HV. Neurological manifestations of organophosphorous insecticide poisoning. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1974;37:841-7.