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Acrodermatitis Enteropathica

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Dr. Şimşek (1) presented a case of acrodermatitis enteropathica in a recent issue of the Journal. Since publications in Turkey are not easily accessible Dr. Şimşek did not refer papers from the Turkish literature in his nice presentation. Such a case was published in the Turkish J Pediatrics in 1959 by Wray et al. (2).

In addition to zinc deficiency (4 µg/dl), hypocalcemia (7.9 µg/dl) and hypoferrremia (11 µg/dl) were documented in Dr. Şimşek's patient. Since dicathionic metallic transporter (DMT1) of the villus enterocytes is esseantial for the transfer of these cations, I would suggest a duodenal biopsy in patients with acrodermatitis enteropathica for the valuation of DMT1 changes in the

pathogenesis of this rare disorder. The low folate level (50.7 mg/dl) of the patient might be related to her diet or secondary malabsorption of her disorder, which is the most likely cause of her malnutrition.

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