Autoimmune polyglandular syndrome type 1 in Saudi children

To the Editor

I read the interesting study by Bin-Abbas et al1 on autoimmune polyglandular syndrome type 1 (APST1) in Saudi children. The APST1, though uncommon in children, deserves ample attention as it is often associated with significant major autoimmune diseases and variable phenotypes. Despite the limited number of patients with APST1 reported in Saudi Arabia, active surveillance for occult cases still needs adequate consideration. The APST1 has imposed marked diagnostic difficulties, however, serological tests are nowadays available to facilitate diagnosis. In contrast to other common APSTI-associated autoantibodies which appeared de novo during long-term follow-up of younger patients, anti-type 1 interferon autoantibodies are easily detectable; their APST1 specificity, and persistently high titers render them reliable markers of APST1, even in prodromal or atypical cases.2,3 This serological tool together with mutational analysis are anticipated to precisely detect occult cases of APST1, and unveil the actual profiles of APST1 in Saudi children towards implementation of suitable treatment and genetic counseling.

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Reply from the Author

No reply was received from the Author.

References