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*In the Name of GOD*



# Hepatic Manifestations of GSD type I & III

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# GSD Type I:

G6PC  
Deficiency  
(Von Gierke  
disease)





# GSD I:



- Usual presentation: an infant of a few months with a **protuberant abdomen**, short stature, and fasting hypoglycemia.
- Median age at presentation:
  - GSD 1a: 6 m/o
  - GSD 1b: 4 m/o
- Dominant features at presentation:
  - **protruded abdomen in 83%**
  - symptoms of acute metabolic derangement in 71%
  - failure to thrive/growth retardation in 25%.
- The frequent breast or bottle feedings: often protect them from hypoglycemia during early infancy
- **Fulminant presentation**: in neonatal period with severe metabolic decompensation, hypoglycemia, and lactic acidosis: may be fatal even with aggressive management.



# GSD I:



## At the time of presentation in infancy:

- characteristic “doll's” facies with big cheeks: excessive subcutaneous fat deposition.
- protuberant abdomen: due to massive hepatomegaly, without splenomegaly.
- Kidney enlargement noted only on ultrasonography.



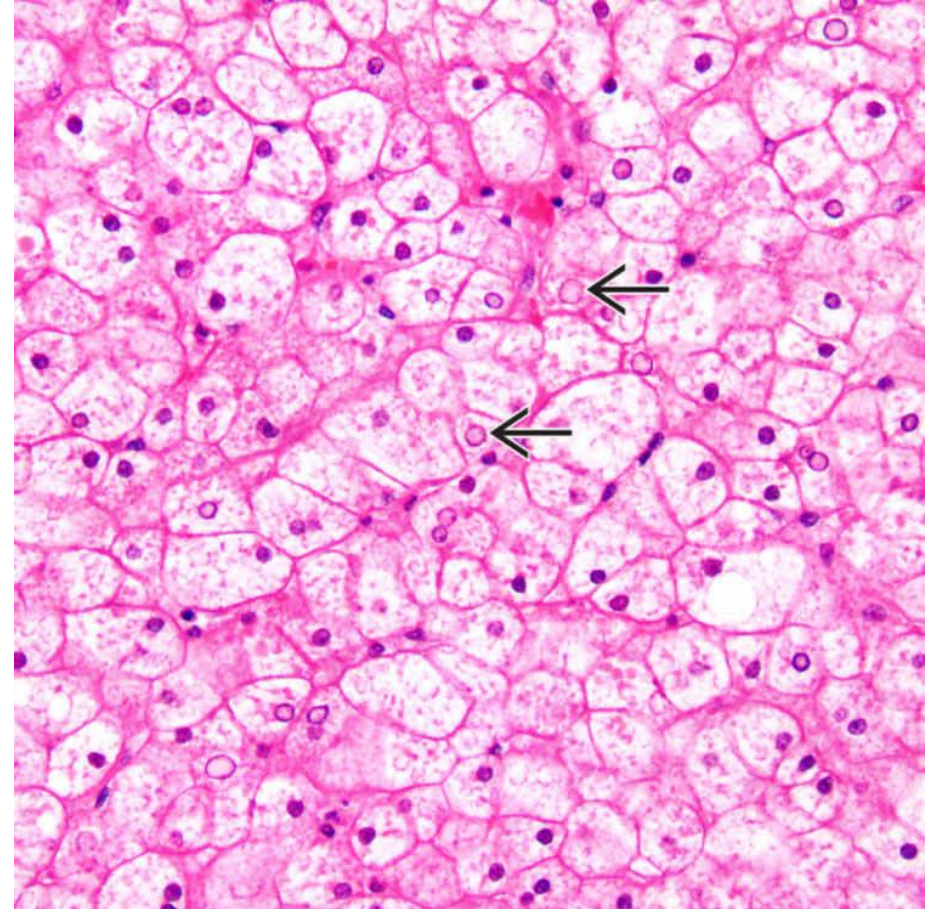
# Characteristic features:



- Fasting **hypoglycemia** (< 60 mg/dL)
- **Elevated urate**: uric acid > 5 mg/dL
- **Hyperlipidemia** (triglycerides > 250 mg/dL and cholesterol > 200 mg/dL).
  - Cholesterol is also elevated, but not to the same extent as triglycerides.
- **Elevated plasma lactate**: greater than 2.5 mmol/L
- Mucosal bleeding or excessive bruising: due to **platelet dysfunction** as a consequence of hyperlipidemia.

# Liver histology

- Swollen hepatocytes, peripheral displacement of organelles by the stored glycogen: appearance likened to plant cells. (Mosaic Pattern)
- The excessive cytoplasmic glycogen stains with periodic acid-Schiff (PAS) and is readily digested by diastase.
- **Microvesicular fat** is almost invariably seen in the biopsy, but there is little in the way of inflammatory activity or fibrosis.
- These changes, although characteristic, are **not pathognomonic**, and differentiating the type of GSD on histological criteria is not reliable.







# The clinical hepatic consequences:



- Untreated, **massive hepatomegaly** is the **rule** through childhood: less significant in adults.
- often a **modest increase** in transaminases
- **Features of chronic liver disease are absent.**
- **Fibrosis & portal hypertension: unusual**
- **Hepatic adenomas** are **very commonly found in adults** with GSD I: prone to **bleeding** and may undergo malignant transformation to **hepatocellular carcinoma**.





# Other complications in untreated pts:



- Recurrent hypoglycemia
- slow linear growth
- pubertal delay and polycystic ovaries in females
- ↑ uric acid: gout
- Hyperlipidemia:
  - Xanthomata and lipemia retinalis
  - atherosclerosis
- Massive hypertriglyceridemia: pancreatitis platelet dysfunction
- Renal dysfunction
- Osteopenia, rickets, and fractures



# GSD Ib:



- The metabolic consequences of GSD Ia and Ib are similar with the exception of the **neutropenia** seen in GSD Ib
- A tendency to **recurrent bacterial infections**
- Neutropenia in GSD Ib may be cyclical or persistent.
  - reduced numbers of circulating neutrophils
  - impaired neutrophil function
  - defective chemotaxis, phagocytosis, and respiratory burst
- Mucosal inflammation is common:
  - **inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)**





# Treatment:



- Avoidance of hypoglycemia and maintenance of normoglycemia improves overall metabolic control.
- **The standard approach at diagnosis:** continuous overnight nasogastric feeding with glucose polymer solution or a specialized infant formula aiming to supply glucose at rates equivalent to normal hepatic synthesis, which for infants is 8-9 mg/kg/min and for older children is in the range of 5-7 mg/kg/min.
- During the day, frequent feeds are given.
- The diet should **avoid galactose and fructose**
- In older children, the diet should be rich in complex carbohydrates.
- Uncooked cornstarch given every four hours at a dose of 1-2 gm/kg
- A new, extended release cornstarch made from waxy maize appears to provide longer periods of glycemic control than traditional uncooked cornstarch



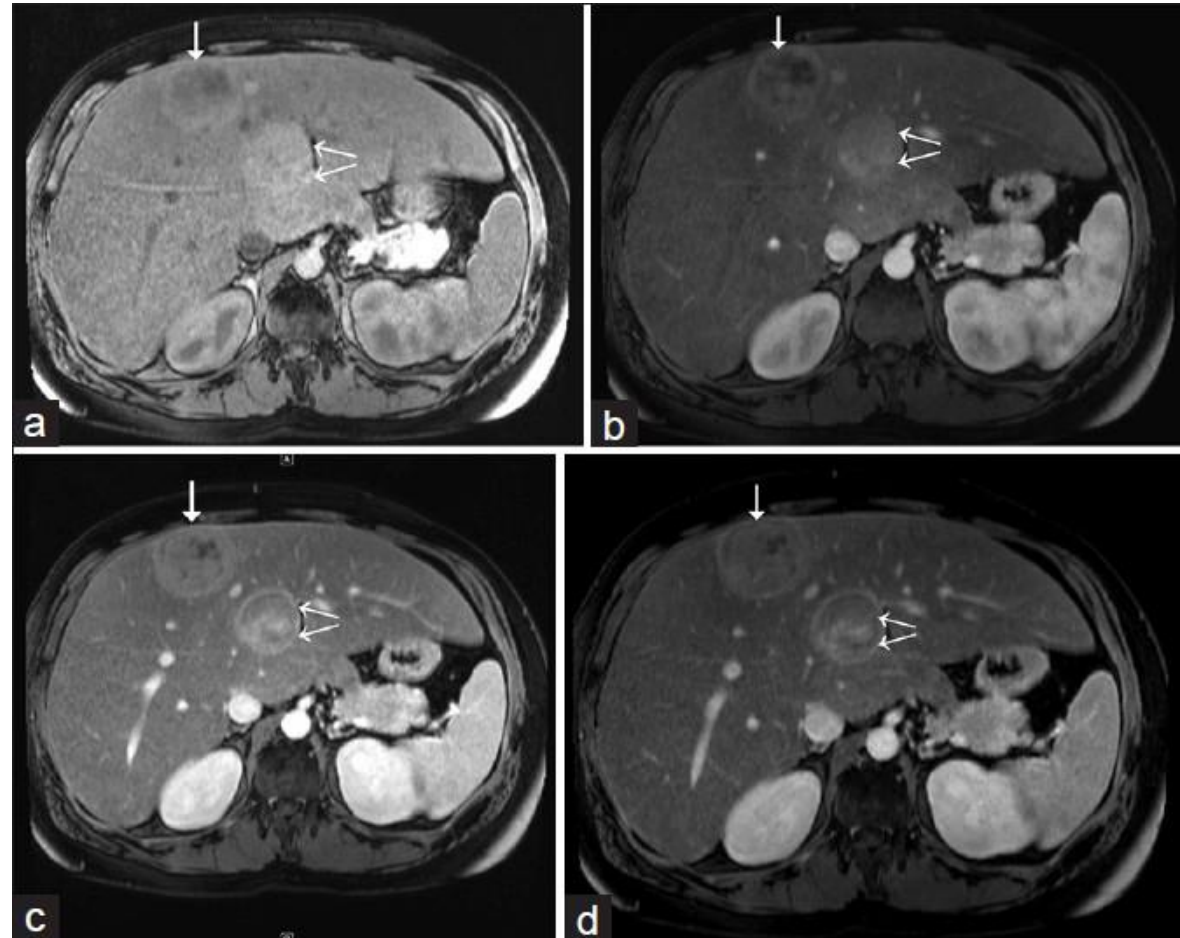
# Treatment:



- Care needs to be taken when patients with GSD are unwell:
  - IV fluids: always contain glucose, Lactated Ringer's solution should not be used.
- Metabolic control should be strictly maintained prior to surgery to limit bleeding problems.
- Allopurinol is useful in the management of hyperuricemia
- G-CSF: management of neutropenia and recurrent infections in patients with GSD Ib
- **Orthotopic liver transplantation:** in GSD I: for multiple adenomas and fear of malignant change
  - Hyperuricemia, lactic acidosis, and hypertriglyceridemia clears
  - ?? progression of renal disease.
- Living donor liver transplantation in 4 children with GSD Ib:
  - Hypoglycemia and metabolic control is improved
  - neutropenia and neutrophil dysfunction are unaffected.
- Isolated hepatocyte transplantation

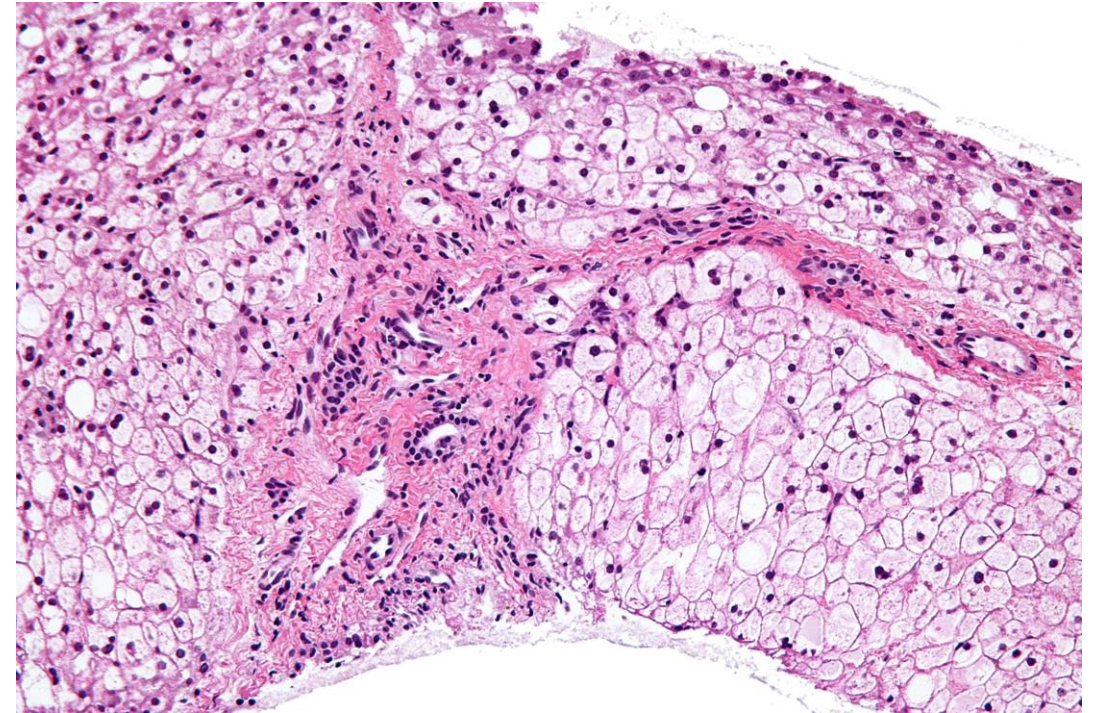


# Liver adenomas and malignant transformation to HCC:



# Debranching Enzyme Deficiency

(Cori Disease, Forbes  
Disease, Limit Dextrinosis)





# GSD III:



- GSD III, like GSD I, commonly presents in infancy
  - hypoglycemia
  - protuberant abdomen due to hepatomegaly.
  - Growth retardation
  - hyperlipidemia.
- Hypoglycemia and hyperlipidemia are frequently less severe than in GSD I, and occasionally are absent completely.
- In addition, children may present later in childhood with isolated hepatomegaly or abnormal liver enzymes, which in some cases may be very high.
- Liver histology in early childhood tends to show a typical glycogenosis, but is more likely to show diffuse fibrosis and less steatosis than is seen in GSD I.
- GSD IIIa: typical liver involvement with later muscle involvement
- GSD IIIb: only the liver is affected, accounts for about 15% of cases.



# GSD III:



- Fasting hypoglycemia results from incomplete glycogen degradation
- lactic acidosis is not seen because there is no block in gluconeogenesis and ketosis is more apparent during hypoglycemia than in GSD I.
- Although hypoglycemia and hepatomegaly tend to recede with age, hepatic fibrosis and even micronodular cirrhosis can be seen in this condition.
- Adenomas have been reported, but in GSD III hepatocellular carcinoma appears to be associated only with cirrhosis.
- No need to restrict galactose and fructose intake because there is no impairment to their conversion to free glucose, as there is in GSD I.
- Most patients with this condition survive into adulthood, usually with minimal hepatic symptoms and with an ability to tolerate a normal diet.





# Take home messages

| Clinical presentation | GSD I          | GSD III               |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Onset                 | 3-4 m/o        | > 6 m/o               |
| Fasting hypoglycemia  | Severe ++++++  | Mild ++               |
| General appearance    | Doll-like face | -                     |
| Growth retardation    | +              | +                     |
| Hepatomegaly          | +++            | + (decrease with age) |
| Splenomegaly          | -              | +                     |
| Lactic acidosis       | +              | -                     |
| Hyperuricemia         | +              | -                     |
| Hyperlipidemia        | +              | +                     |
| Liver transaminases   | Mildly ↑       | Marked ↑( maybe >500) |
| Neutropenia           | Only in Ib     | -                     |
| ↑bleeding time        | +              | -                     |
| CPK                   | -              | +                     |
| Ketoacidosis          | -              | + esp. with fasting   |

| Organ involvement  | GSD I                       | GSD III |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Kidney             | +                           | -       |
| Cardiomyopathy     | -                           | +       |
| Myopathy           | -                           | +       |
| GI                 | Intermittent Diarrhea in Ib | -       |
| Osteoporosis       | +                           | +       |
| Fibrosis/Cirrhosis | -                           | +       |
| PCO                | +                           | +       |
| Liver cell adenoma | +                           | -       |

حیاتِ عظیمہ



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