**Childhood-onset type 1 diabetes mellitus in Basrah clinical characteristics**

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**Background**: Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (TIDM) is the most common endocrinological abnormality found in children. The incidence of T1DM has steadily increased in nearly all parts of the world. Both genetic susceptibility and environmental factors contribute to the pathogenesis. It is caused due to either decreased or absent insulin production in the body due to multiple etiologies. The aim of this study is to assess the clinical characteristics of TIDM Seen in Basrah.

**Method**: A retrospective study of patients in the pediatric age (1-15years) with TIDM referred to Faiha Specialized Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolism Center (FDEMC), a Tertiary Center in Basrah, for the period from January 2009 to August 2024.

**Results**: Of total 125616 patients registered in FDEMC; diabetes mellitus patients constitute 64455(51%) with 5861(4.6%) were TIDM. Of total TIDM patients seen in FDEMC there were 1645(1.3%) patients childhood-onset type 1 diabetes mellitus; 773(46%) male, and 872(54%) female with a mean age 13.7± 3.2 SD years .The mean age at diagnosis 7.3± 3.3 years ,the mean HbA1c 10.7±3.6 %. Mean duration of diabetes 4.2 years±2.4 years and mean BMI 15.8±4.5 SD kg/m2. About 71(4.3%) patients were having family history (one or more siblings) positive for TIDM. Celiac disease was seen in 161(9.7%). Of 731/1645 (44%) patients that were screened for pancreatic islet autoimmunity against glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD) it were seen positive in 161/731 (22%).At presentation diabetic ketoacidosis was the presenting complication in 526 patient (32%) .

**Conclusions:** Childhood-onset type 1 diabetes mellitus is not uncommon endocrine disease seen in FDEMC that need attention to avoid lifelong complication using multidisciplinary team.