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Case Report

Transfusion induced Graft versus host disease – Case report in a 2 year child

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ABSTRACT

Graft-versus-host disease (GVHD) is a rare, almost always fatal complication of a blood transfusion. It occurs much more commonly after bone marrow transplantation, a setting in which it is less severe—mortality rate of 20–25% following transplantation versus 80–90% when associated with a transfusion. Transfusion associated GVHD occurs in two settings: when the recipient is immunodeficient; and when there is a specific type of partial HLA matching between the donor and recipient. Here we present a case of transfusion associated GVHD which developed when a 2 year old immunocompetent girl was given whole blood which was taken by his father. In spite of very intense therapy with parental steroids and oral cyclosporine the child succumbed to death.

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