

Short Stature Due to Isolated Growth Hormone Deficiency—Case Report

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Abstract: Short stature is a common cause for addressing the endocrinologist. Growth hormone deficiency is estimated to occur in 1:4000 to 1:10,000 of small stature cases [1]. Identifying and treating these children is of high importance given the psycho-social implication of small stature. I present the case of a male teenager ages 15 years 10 months old who responded well to treatment, achieving the target genetic stature.

Keywords: auxology; genetic height target; GH deficiency; short stature

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Background and Aims

A boy of 15 years and 10 months is taken to the clinic for initial endocrinological evaluation, having a height of 158.5 cm (−2.18 SDS). From the history presented by the GP doctor, we note a linear increase of 7 cm in the last 2 years and 1.5 cm in the last year, with a decrease in the growth rate (−1.83 SDS). The genetic target height is 178.5 cm (+0.21 SDS). The difference in relation to the genetic target height is −2.39 SDS. Pubertal development: Tanner G2P2. Bone age at initial evaluation: 13 years and 6 months; 2 years and 4 months late compared to the chronological age. Insulin growth factor 1 (IGF-1) at the lower limit of normal. The functional reserve of the somatotropic axis was evaluated: insulin and clonidine Growth hormone (GH) stimulation tests—negative (GH peak to Insulin 2U = 0.108 ng/mL and GH peak to clonidine 0.15 mg/m² = 4.310 ng/mL) [2,3].

Somatropin 0.7 mg/m² body surface area treatment was initiated in CF2 Clinical Hospital Bucharest so that he could reach the desire height.

Materials and Methods

Growth charts, insulin and clonidine GH stimulation tests, IGF-1 dosing, hand X-ray. The initiation of somatropin treatment was made according to the criteria of the: Romanian therapeutic protocol for Somatropinum in children and in the transition period: height deficit between −2 and −2.5 SD and accentuation of the stature deficit by 0.5 SD per year as well as height deficit between −2 and −2.5 SD and height smaller with 1.6 SD below the genetic target [4,5].

Results and Conclusions

The auxological evolution, bone age and IGF1 values during the treatment are shown in Table 1.

Given that the desired height has been reached, the treatment was stopped at the age of 17 and 4 months. The peculiarity of this case consists in initiating somatotropin in older child, with a good response to the low dose of Somatotropin and reaching the target height, as illustrated in Figure 1.

Table 1. Monitoring of auxological parameters, IGF-1 and bone age.

Chronological Age	Height-cm (SD)	IGF-1 (ng/mL)	Bone Age	Somatropin Dosage
15 years 10 months	158.5 cm (-2.18 SD)	211 (N:211-512)	13 years 6 months	0.7 mg/m ²
16 years 4 months	163.3 cm (-1.73 SD)	333 (N:57-426)	14 years 0 months	0.7 mg/m ²
16 years 10 months	169 cm (-1.05 SD)	489 (N:57-426)		0.7 mg/m ²
17 years 4 months	174.5 cm (-0.31 SD)	412 (N:57-426)	15 years 6 months	

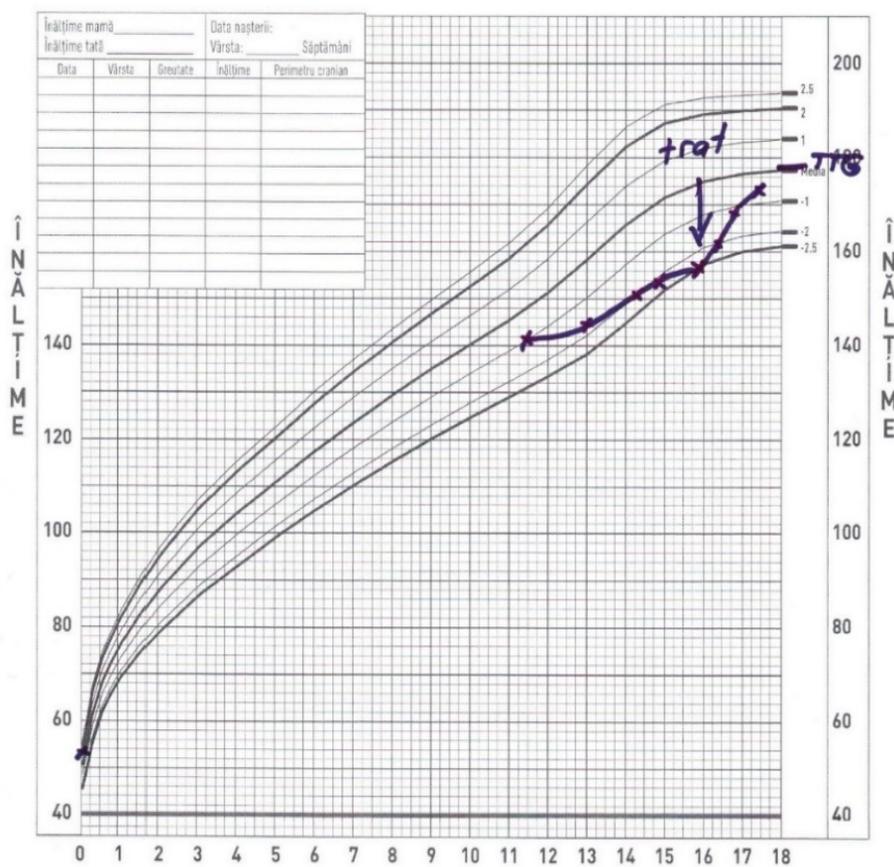


Figure 1. Height evolution.

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