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Severe combined immune deficiency and continued breastfeeding: Report of 5 own mother's milk donation (OMM) at the regional Ile de France milk bank

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Introduction: Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID), is a group of rare inherited diseases characterized by the severe impairment or even absence of both cellular and humoral immunity. Thus, children with SCID are immune-compromised, which render them easily susceptible to opportunistic and lethal infections, including various bacteria and viruses, especially Cyto-Megalo Virus (CMV), that may be transmitted by their mothers' milk during breastfeeding. Therefore, CMV seropositive mothers are forced to discontinue breastfeeding, and switch to formula feeding, soon after their children are diagnosed with SCID disease. However, in addition to the allogeneic stem cell transplant and gene therapy, breastfeeding can also be a natural mean of protection against secondary infections in addition to its nutritional benefits. Therefore, we provide a simple and available technique to maintain mothers' milk feeding for children with SCID even for CMV seropositive mothers.

Study design: Between May 2013 and August 2014, the regional IDF milk bank has pasteurized 5 milk samples of CMV seropositive mothers, whose children were placed in a sterile room.

The Holder pasteurization (30 min at 62,5°C) and the bacteriologic milk analysis were conducted, following the 2008

good practices guide of the milk bank. A virological CMV analysis was also made on these milk samples.

Results: The milk delivered was bacteriologically-proven to be sterile and CMV negative. All 5 infants received their own mother's milk during their isolated period. Breastfeeding was continued even after their discharge home.

Discussion: All CMV seropositive mothers (50% of women in France) excrete CMV in their milk. Unlike freezing, pasteurization is the best way to stamp out CMV in human milk samples. Conclusion: Thus, the contribution of milk banks should be more and more requested for promoting breastfeeding and favoring the mother-child bond especially in case of severe combined immune deficiency.

Speaker Biography

Virginie Rigourd is the managing director of the Human Milk Bank of Ile de France. She has graduated from the Medicine University in Paris, France in 1998 and finished post graduate training in 2003 from the same university on intra uterin growth retardation topics. She worked as paediatrician ahead of Ile de France Milk Bank, Paris, France and neonatalogiste in NICU at Necker Hospital, Paris, France. Member of the French Milk Bank Association and European Milk Bank Association. Since 2002 she worked as a national consultant, providing assessments of human milk security and on projects on human milk quality. Dr. Rigourd has carried out few researches on medication and breast feeding. During her work she has gained local and national recognition for her different advice on breast feeding and on practice around human milk in NICIU.

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