Supplementary Section

**RECENTLY DESCRIBED NEW GENETIC ENTITIES**

**EPHB4 — Autosomal dominant lymphatic-related hydrops fetalis (MIM: 617300)**

Heterozygous *EPHB4* mutations were identified following WES in two families, who had a significant family history of antenatal, non-immune fetal hydrops and atrial septal defects consistent with autosomal dominant inheritance.[1] This phenotype is characterised by fetal hydrops or antenatal pleural effusions (or postnatal chylothoraces), which vary in severity and, in several cases, have led to fetal demise. The hydrops may resolve in the neonatal period, but patients may develop peripheral oedema later in life (Supplemental Figure 1A), which mainly affects the legs. A high incidence of early onset and severe varicose veins was observed (Supplemental Figure 1B).

Recently, a pathogenic heterozygous variant in *EPHB4* was identified in a 4-generation family with a central conducting lymphatic anomaly.[2] This family also had a child presenting with fetal hydrops, and probably represents a variation of the same condition. Venous insufficiency was also very prevalent in this family.

Interestingly, pathogenic *EPHB4* variants have also been identified in families and singletons with vein of Galen aneurysmal malformations [3 4] and capillary malformation-arteriovenous malformation [5 6], the latter showing phenotypic overlap with hereditary haemorrhagic telangiectasia.

**PIEZO1 - Generalized lymphatic dysplasia of Fotiou (MIM:616843)**

*PIEZO1*-associated hereditary lymphoedema is an autosomal recessive generalized lymphatic dysplasia, often presenting prenatally as fetal hydrops.[7 8] Biallelic loss-of-function mutations in the *PIEZO1* gene cause a variable phenotype. The oedema can be severe, in
Supplementary Section

some cases leading to perinatal death. However, it may resolve in infancy and may re-present as peripheral lymphoedema during childhood. The swelling frequently involves the lower limbs, genitalia and face (Supplemental Figure 1C, D). There is often swelling of the upper limbs, but this is not as marked (Supplemental Figure 1E). There may be chylothoraces, pericardial effusions and, rarely, intestinal lymphangiectasia.

Heterozygous gain-of-function mutations in \textit{PIEZO1} cause autosomal dominant dehydrated hereditary stomatocytosis (MIM: 194380), a relatively mild anaemia, which may also present with perinatal oedema/fetal hydrops (not due to anaemia).[9 10]

\textbf{ADAMTS3 - Hennekam lymphangiectasia-lymphoedema syndrome 3 (MIM:618154)}

\textit{ADAMTS3}, together with \textit{CCBE1}, is essential for the proteolytic activation of pro-VEGFC, the ligand for VEGFR3.[11-13] One family, including two affected children, presenting with a severe generalised lymphatic dysplasia (Hennekam lymphangiectasia-lymphoedema syndrome type 3) has been published.[14] The features include: antenatal polyhydramnios, hydroceles, congenital lymphoedema of the lower limbs and genitalia, intestinal lymphangiectasia with a protein losing enteropathy, and distinctive facial features probably secondary to facial oedema. Whole exome sequencing (WES) in the family identified compound heterozygous variants in \textit{ADAMTS3}. Functional analysis of the variants (c.503T>C and c.872T>C) confirmed them to be highly damaging.

\textbf{FAT4 - Hennekam lymphangiectasia–lymphoedema syndrome 2 (MIM: 616006)}

Alders and colleagues described biallelic mutations in \textit{FAT4} in nine patients from five families, who all presented with lymphoedema of the extremities, presenting at birth or in childhood.[15] Seven of the nine had intestinal lymphangiectasia with or without other systemic involvement. Mutations in \textit{FAT4} have previously been found to cause Van Maldergem syndrome 2 (MIM: 615546).[16 17] Many features of the two allelic conditions
Supplementary Section

overlap; including facial dysmorphism (hypertelorism, epicanthus and a flat nasal bridge), impaired cognition, small ears with thick helices and irregular dentition. In addition, Van Maldergem syndrome is associated with neonatal hypotonia and feeding problems, hearing loss, tracheal anomalies, and osteopenia[18] and lymphoedema has been reported in one patient (Supplemental Figure 1F).[19]

FBXL7 biallelic mutations associated with Hennekam syndrome

A recent publication describes a homozygous single-exon deletion affecting FBXL7 in a patient presenting with Hennekam syndrome. Previous studies in Drosophila had indicated that Fbxl7 interacts with Fat, of which human FAT4 is an ortholog. The patient presented shortly after birth with facial and scrotal oedema, which resolved. However, at 3 months of age, he developed persistent bilateral lower limb oedema. Clinically, he had intestinal lymphangiectasia, although this was not confirmed by endoscopic examination. Dysmorphic facies and camptodactyly, in keeping with those seen in Hennekam lymphangiectasia-lymphoedema type 2 (FAT4-associated), are described but photographs of the patient are not included.[20]

Mutations in any of the genes in the “Lymphoedema with Systemic Involvement” (pink) category may initially present with congenital lymphoedema, as many of the ‘systemic’ symptoms may not be present at birth but develop later in childhood. Therefore, this group of genes/conditions (ADAMTS3, CCBE1, EPHB4, FAT4, PIEZO1 and SOX18) should be considered in any infant presenting with congenital lymphoedema, particularly if the swelling is not confined to the lower limbs, and if the genital region is swollen at birth (Figure 1). This category should be considered in any patient presenting prenatally with fetal hydrops.
Supplementary Section

**CELSR1 associated with hereditary late onset primary lymphoedema**
Three recent publications present the identification of truncating variants of *CELSR1* in families with an autosomal dominant, non-syndromic lymphoedema of the lower limbs presenting in childhood and predominantly affecting females.[21-23] Imaging showed extensive dermal backflow with tortuous lymphatic vessels.[22] CELSR1 is an atypical cadherin involved in planar cell polarity. Previous work had demonstrated a critical role of this gene in intraluminal valve formation in murine lymphatic vessels.[24]

**PIK3CA Related Overgrowth Spectrum (PROS)**
The PIK3CA-Related Overgrowth Spectrum (PROS) includes a range of mosaic conditions caused by postzygotic, gain-of-function mutations in *PIK3CA*. The phenotypic spectrum of PROS includes disorders which have overlapping clinical features: Fibroadipose hyperplasia[26]; isolated lymphatic malformation;[27] CLOVES (congenital lipomatous overgrowth, vascular malformations, epidermal naevi, scoliosis/skeletal and spinal)[28] and megalencephaly-capillary malformations (MCAP) and Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome.[25 29] Lymphatic manifestations may, or may not, be present.

The PROS spectrum is characterised by asymmetrical and disproportionate congenital (or early childhood) onset of segmental overgrowth, which may be progressive. Additional features include epidermal naevi, vascular malformations, macrodactyly and macrocephaly. The severity of PROS varies; the overgrowth can be mild with very little progression (e.g. macrodactyly of one digit) or it can be extreme (affecting a range of tissues including adipose, muscular and skeletal) (Supplemental Figure 1G).[26]

Pharmacologic therapy with mTOR inhibitors for patients with progressive overgrowth has been introduced, with variable success in halting the progressive overgrowth.[30-32] Since PROS was originally described, Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome (KTS) has been included
Supplementary Section

within the spectrum, as PIK3CA mutations have been identified in some patients with KTS.[33] However, Proteus syndrome, another mosaic phenotype, remains separate due to the presence of a cerebriform connective tissue naevi (usually on the plantar surface) and distinct causal postzygotic, gain-of-function mutations in the AKT1 gene.

**Mosaic RASopathies**

Recent publications describe patients with postzygotic mosaic mutations in the RASopathy genes resulting in high-flow arteriovenous malformations and low-flow vascular malformations with a somatic mosaic distribution.[30] One of these patients (Case 15), was seen in our clinic with congenital, unilateral lymphoedema of the left lower limb (Figure 2C). He required epiphyseal fusion to prevent increasing limb length discrepancy due to segmental overgrowth of the left leg. There was an extensive vascular malformation of the left leg and venous duplex confirmed venous incompetence. Lymphoscintigraphy also confirmed lymph drainage abnormalities. His presentation was consistent with a diagnosis of Klippel-Trenaunay syndrome. A postzygotic mutation, resulting in somatic mosaicism, was identified in the KRAS gene with a variant allele frequency (VAF) of only 2% identified in DNA extracted from a skin biopsy from the affected leg. This KRAS variant, c.35G>A;p.(Gly12Asp) has previously only been seen in association with cancer but never seen as a germline mutation in Noonan syndrome or Cardiofaciocutaneous syndrome.[34]

We have seen one further patient with an extensive vascular malformation of his right lower limb associated with lymphoedema. A pathogenic MAP2K1 variant, c.360G>T;p.(Glu120Asp), was identified with a variant allele frequency (VAF) of 49% in DNA extracted from skin fibroblasts in the affected leg. This variant was not seen in the DNA extracted from blood lymphocytes.
Supplementary Section

Interestingly, different germline mutations in the same genes cause Noonan syndrome and Cardiofaciocutaneous syndrome, both of which are also known to be complicated by lymphatic abnormalities.[35] Therefore, a mosaic RASopathy should be suspected in any patient with segmental overgrowth, vascular malformations with or without lymphoedema, in whom no mutation in PIK3CA has been identified.
Supplementary Section

Supplementary Figure 1: Clinical photos of patients with mutations in some of the new causal genes.

(A-B) Mutations in *EPHB4* cause autosomal dominant lymphatic-related fetal hydrops. In adults it can lead to mild facial oedema (A) and extensive varicose veins (arrow) (B). (C-E) Mutations in *PIEZO1* cause a type of generalised lymphatic dysplasia. Patients can present with facial oedema (C) and four limb lymphoedema (D, E). (F) Typical facies of Van Maldergem syndrome caused by mutations in *FAT4*. (G) PROS-overgrowth of left leg with vascular malformation caused by a postzygotic mutation in *PIK3CA*. 
Supplementary Section

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

In order to maximise the utility of the St. George’s classification algorithm, it is helpful to define some of the terms used:

**Lymphoedema:** swelling of an extremity due to lymphatic dysfunction (i.e. not oedema from, for example, heart failure or an allergic reaction). Involvement of one or more extremities is peripheral lymphoedema.

**Primary lymphoedema:** Lymphoedema due to a developmental fault in the structure or function of the lymph conducting pathways and presumed to be genetic in origin. Thus, it is not secondary to an identified cause (e.g. cancer or infection).

**Lymphatic malformation:** These are overt structural defects of the lymph conducting pathways, which may include **truncal malformations** (if interfering with lymph drainage and cause lymphoedema) or **non-truncal malformations**, (isolated anomalies with no connection to main lymph drainage pathways and do not cause lymphoedema).

**Generalised Lymphatic Dysplasia** (dys = bad; plasis = formation) is used to describe the abnormal growth/development of the lymphatic system and is a structural or functional abnormality.

**Systemic involvement or internal/visceral lymphatic dysfunction:** Abnormal lymphatic function causing internal swelling e.g. chylothoraces, chylopericardium, chylous ascites, intestinal or pulmonary lymphangiectasia or non-immune fetal hydrops.

**Central conducting lymphatic anomalies (CCLA)** is a term that is used to describe dysfunction or obstruction of the lymph conducting channels within the thorax or abdomen as seen on imaging such as contrast-enhanced MR Lymphangionography.[36] This may present as chylothoraces, chylopericardium, ascites and chylous reflux with leaking of lymphatic fluid,
Supplementary Section

often into the genital area. Causes of CCLA include Noonan syndrome (under ‘ Syndromic lymphoedema’ [blue section]),[37] EPHB4-associated disorders[2] (under ‘Generalised lymphoedema with systemic involvement’ [pink section]). It is therefore a highly heterogeneous, descriptive term rather than a specific entity.

**Generalised lymphatic anomaly (GLA)** is a term that is easily confused with generalised lymphatic dysplasia (see description above). However, generalised lymphatic anomaly (GLA), also called lymphangiomatosis, is a rare condition involving the abnormal overgrowth of lymphatic vessels (small and large cystic lymphangiomas) in the lungs, pleura, bones and soft tissue. GLAs may be congenital or acquired. The lymphangiomas may initially be proliferative, but then stabilise over time. In others, they may follow a progressive course and result in life-threatening complications, pain and functional disability. We have included **Gorham-Stout disease (GSD)** in this category, a condition involving abnormal growth of lymphatic vessels that affects bone.[38] The bony destruction (osteolysis) is progressive in GSD, hence the name “vanishing bone disease”, whereas bony lytic lesions in GLA are less aggressive. Causal mutations have not yet been discovered for GLA or GSD, but therapeutic trials of sirolimus have been successful in some patients.[39]
Supplementary Section

References


Supplementary Section


