



The missing link between familial Mediterranean fever and recurrent aseptic meningitis

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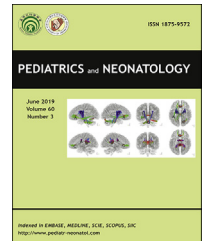
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Letter to the Editor

The missing link between familial Mediterranean fever and recurrent aseptic meningitis



To the Editor,

Yusef et al. reported a case of familial Mediterranean fever (FMF) presenting with recurrent aseptic meningitis (RAM).¹ There is no consensus on a possible association between the two conditions, and we have proposed criteria to assess the strength of evidence of case reports.² In the present case, FMF was diagnosed based on a homozygous E148Q mutation on the *MEFV* gene. However, the pathogenicity of the E148Q mutation is uncertain, and the diagnosis of FMF requires clinical features that are missing in this case.³ Although colchicine seems to have prevented further episodes of aseptic meningitis, the lack of other systemic features or inflammation during the episodes questions the association of RAM with any systemic disease. Nevertheless, in this young Jordanian patient, one may advise further investigations, such as ophthalmologic examination, to rule out Behçet's disease, which may cause RAM.⁴ According to our criteria, the evidence supporting FMF as a cause of RAM is missing in most case reports, including this one.

Conflicts of interest

The authors have no conflicts of interest relevant to this article.

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