**The Significance Of Anti-Phospholipase Antibodies In A Patient With Membranous Nephropathy**

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**Introduction:** Membranous nephropathy is the leading cause of nephrotic syndrome in adults. In about 25% of patients, Membranous nephropathy is associated with a secondary cause such as SLE and malignancy. When no etiology is identified, it is classified as primary membranous nephropathy. However, membranous nephropathy can also appear months before a secondary cause is identified. Herein, we report a case of a patient diagnosed with membranous nephropathy associated with positive phospholipase A2 antibodies.

**Case:** A 70-year old male with history of CKD stage II was referred for evaluation of nephrotic range proteinuria. Renal ultrasound and serum protein electrophoresis were normal. Renal biopsy showed a combination of membranous nephropathy and arteriosclerosis, antiphospholipase A2 receptor (PLA2R) antibodies were sent due to the suspicion of primary membranous nephropathy. PLA2R antibodies came out to be significantly positive at 1:500. Tests for anti-ds DNA antibodies and CT chest were negative. Ponticelli regimen for suspected primary membranous nephropathy was started. Due to persistent vomiting, 4 months later, CT abdomen was obtained which revealed a pancreatic adenocarcinoma. The presence of a pancreatic malignancy could be co-incidental with the finding of primary membranous nephropathy, or could represent secondary membranous nephropathy with a positive anti-phospholipase A2 receptor antibody.

**Discussion:** The specificity of PLA2R antibodies for the detection of primary membranous nephropathy is nearly 100%. But only 50-80% of patients with primary membranous nephropathy test positive for PLA2R antibody. However, certain cases of secondary membranous nephropathy do test positive for PLA2R Antibodies. We believe that the patient has secondary membranous nephropathy related to pancreatic cancer and the finding of PLA2R antibodies was incidental. Further studies may be needed to investigate the relationship between PLA2R antibodies in patients with secondary membranous nephropathy.