

## HEREDITARY PERSISTENCE OF ALPHA-FETOPROTEIN: A RARE ENTITY FROM A PRIMARY CARE CENTER IN BANGLADESH

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Hereditary persistence of alpha-fetoprotein (HFAFP) is a rare benign autosomal dominant disorder. Here we report a case of 15 years old boy who was found to have elevated alpha-fetoprotein during her routine evaluation for gynaecomastia. All other common possibilities for raised alpha-fetoprotein were excluded. Subsequently, 2 of his family members were found to have raised alpha-fetoprotein. One is his father and another one is his brother. Raised alpha-fetoprotein has a wide differential diagnosis including, pregnancy, germ cell tumors, hepatocellular carcinoma and others. But after exclusion of other possibilities, persisting elevated alpha-fetoprotein raises the suspicion for HPAFP. Testing other family members for AFP and specific genetic study aid in diagnosis.

**Key words:** alpha-fetoprotein, hereditary persistence of alpha-fetoprotein, tumor marker.

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