THE DIAGNOSIS OF MALNUTRITION

Abstrak:

The diagnosis of severe malnutrition based on an accurate dietary history, on evaluation of present deviations from average height, weight, head circumference and past rates of growth, on comparative measurements, on chemical and other tests. Severe malnutrition has been a dietary inadequacy sufficient to compromise resistance to disease, poor nutrition leads to ill health and susceptibility to many diseases. Deficiencies of some nutrients may be revealed by finding low blood levels of them or their metabolites, by observing biochemical or clinical effects of administration of the nutrients or their products, or by giving the patient substantial amounts of appropriate nutrients. The aetiology of severe malnutrition can cause primary malnutrition or secondary malnutrition. Primary malnutrition is condition of the dependent and vulnerable who rely on others for nourishment, and secondary malnutrition accompanies any disease which disturbs appetite, digestion or utilization of nutrients. Severe malnutrition can divided by three levels of principals symptoms of protein calorie malnutrition, they are kwashiorkor, marasmic-kwashiorkor and marasmic. Nutritional state often alters the expression and course of the primary condition as well as its response to treatment. Indeed, it is often accompanying malnutrition that is the major reason for morbidity and mortality, and is the most amenable to treatment. A history of severe weight loss or anorexia is a signal for both active treatment of the associated malnutrition and the modification of treatment regiments for the primary diagnosis. Up to half of all patients admitted to hospital suffer for some degree of malnutrition.

Keyword:

diagnosis, malnutrition, children