The occurrence of childhood IgAV thus signifies the presence of a sustained predisposition to illness.

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**Background:** Childhood IgAV (IgA2 nephropathy) is a common glomerulonephritis in children and young adults. The pathogenesis of the disease is largely unknown, but increased inflammatory activity in the early stages of the disease is thought to predispose to the development of transplant fibrosis. The presence of circulating autoantibodies in the serum of patients with IgAV has been described, but in most cases, these have not been extensively characterized.

**Objectives:** To characterize the autoantibody profile of patients with IgAV.

**Methods:** Serum samples from 20 patients with IgAV and 10 control patients were screened for the presence of circulating autoantibodies by ELISA.

**Results:** Antibodies against a variety of antigens were detected in the IgAV samples. The most commonly detected autoantibodies were against heat shock proteins (HSPs), with HSP60 being the most frequently detected. Other commonly detected autoantibodies included those against carbonic anhydrase II (CA II), heat shock protein 70 (HSP70), and heat shock protein 90 (HSP90).

**Conclusion:** The presence of autoantibodies against HSPs and other antigens in the serum of patients with IgAV suggests that these antibodies may play a role in the pathogenesis of the disease. Further studies are needed to determine the significance of these autoantibodies in the development of transplant fibrosis.

**References:**