

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Athena's Reply

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Dear Sir

Athena is pleased to know the interest of Prof. Prasad in her analytical review.[1] Rare diseases and controversies go hand in glove because no one has adequate experience to authoritatively affirm or refute claims. Neonatal appendicitis (NA) is no exception to this general rule. The exact pathogenesis of NA is not known. As Athena concluded, it may be related to necrotizing enterocolitis because both the diseases share many risk factors.[2] Dr. Prasad thinks that NA is a local manifestation of systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS).[1] Even if it were true, the cause-effect relationship between the two becomes contentious. Septicemia of NA may cause SIRS

and vice versa. Although parietal edema, palpable mass, erythema and tenderness are non-specific of NA, the diagnostic emphasis is on their localization in the right iliac fossa. To conclude, Athena had concluded because she philosophizes that a conclusion is not a conclusion but a beginning.

REFERENCES

1. Prasad GR. Athena's pages on neonatal appendicitis. J Neonat Surg. 2015; 4:xx
2. Raveenthiran V. Neonatal appendicitis (part 1): a review of 52 cases with abdominal manifestation J Neonat Surg. 2015; 4:4.

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