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EPV1150

Hydroxychloroquine induced QT prolongation in a schizoaffective patient being treated for a COVID-19 infection: A Case Report.

R. Amazan^{1*}, P. Korenis² and S. Gunturu²

¹Bronxcare health system, Psychiatry, Bronx, United States of America and ²Bronx Care Health System-Affiliated with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Psychiatry, New York, United States of America

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: Hydroxychloroquine an antimalarial medication has been approved in March 2020 by FDA for treatment of hospitalized patient with COVID-19 infection. Even thus, its efficacy has been controversial, it still being used worldwide. This medication also causes some serious side effects. Here we present a case of a woman with a very long history of treatment resistant schizoaffective disorder, on clozapine, who develops QT prolongation after receiving hydroxychloroquine for the treatment of COVID-19 infection.

Objectives: Despite the controversy, this case aims to shed light on the importance of monitoring QTc via EKG in patient receiving hydroxychloroquine⁷. More importantly to avoid antipsychotic while patient is receiving this medication since both hydroxychloroquine and most antipsychotic can increase QTc.

Methods: This case report was written by reviewing chart of the patient and also via direct interaction and interviews with the patient.

Results: This case report showed and increased in QTc interval after receiving hydroxychloroquine, which is also reported by others including Moussa Sleh et al in their article on Effect of Chloroquine, Hydroxychloroquine, and Azithromycin on the Corrected QT Interval in Patients With SARS-CoV-2 Infection⁴. The increase in Qtc could have been worse if Clozapine was not stopped during this time.

Conclusions: COVID-19 pandemic has caused more than 700000 deaths around the globe and more than 150000 deaths in the United States of America. Psychiatric patients are also getting hospitalized and receiving treatment with hydroxychloroquine. Holding antipsychotics and monitoring of QTc via EKG resulted crucial in limiting the adverse effect of QT prolongation of both medications.

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Keywords: Hydroxychloroquine; schizoaffective; QT prolongation; Covid-19

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Diagnosis and treatment of tremor in psychiatric patients

P. Van Harten

GGz Centraal, Scientific Research, Amersfoort, Netherlands

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Introduction: Tremor is the most common movement disorder in adults. Due to the visibility, feelings of shame are often present. Many (psycho)pharmacological drugs can induce tremor or

increase its severity as a side effect. Sometimes the burden of this side effect is greater than the burden of the psychiatric problem.

Objectives: Knowledge of the different kinds of tremor in psychiatry, and the drugs that may be responsible. Differential diagnosis Treatment of tremor in psychiatry.

Methods: A literature search on the most recent insights into classification, diagnosis, differentiation and treatment was carried out with emphasis on drug-induced tremor and its treatment.

Results: The basic classification is resting, action and intention tremor. Tremors may be due to neurological and metabolic syndromes. Differentiation can often be made according to the time of onset, relation with starting or increasing the dosage of the medication and the course. Rest tremor is often related to antipsychotics and antiemetics and action tremor to lithium, antidepressants, valproic acid, and other anticonvulsants, but also to many drugs used in somatic conditions. The development of intention tremor should alarm the doctor because it could be an intoxication. Treatment of drug-induced tremor consists of reducing the dose or discontinuing the drug in question or switching to another drug with less risk of tremor. If this is not effective, adding a tremor suppressant may help (propranolol, primidone in action tremor and anticholinergics or amantadine in resting tremor).

Conclusions: Tremor is a common side effect of many (psycho) pharmacological agents and treatment is often possible.

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Keywords: Drug-induced; extrapyramidal; Tremor; Antipsychotics

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Incidence of clozapine-induced hematological side effects in a Tunisian population

M. Shiri^{1*}, A. Ouertani², S. Madouri² and U. Ouali²

¹Razi hospital, Psychiatry A, Manouba, Tunisia and ²Razi Hospital, Psychiatry A, manouba, Tunisia

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: Clozapine is commonly associated with adverse hematological outcomes. However, incidence of blood dyscrasias in the north African population is scarce.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to assess the incidence of hematological side effects in a Tunisian sample of clozapine treated patients.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective longitudinal chart review of 64 patients on clozapine enrolled in our clozapine consultation between January 1, 2000 and September 2020.

Results: Our sample consisted of 15 women (23.5%) and 49 men (76.5%), mean age was 41.34 ± 9.32 years. Patients were diagnosed with schizophrenia in 70.3% of the cases, 7 (10.9%) had a bipolar disorder and 12 (18.8%) had a schizoaffective disorder. We found blood dyscrasias in 21 patients (32.8%). Hematological abnormalities were as follow: 2 cases of agranulocytosis, 8 cases of neutropenia, 13 cases of thrombocytopenia, 5 cases of leukocytosis, 5 cases of eosinophilia and 3 cases of anemia. The incidence rate of hematological side effects was 0.1 case/year- person. The mean clozapine dose at the time of onset of the hematological side effect was 309.52 mg/day (range 25-600 mg/day). The median duration of clozapine treatment prior to developing hematological side effects was 119.71 ± 126.52 days. Clozapine discontinuation was decided in