



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

CAPECITABINE-INDUCED SUBACUTE LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

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Background: Drug-induced subacute lupus erythematosus is relatively rare disease with predominant skin involvement which is associated with the use of different medications and usually resolves after drug discontinuation. There is probable association between drug induced lupus and Fluorouracil derivatives.

Observation: We present a case of Capecitabine-induced lupus erythematosus in 68-year-old Caucasian female developed while receiving Oxiplatin/Capecitabine combination as adjuvant therapy for colon cancer. Her condition was complicated by lung cancer which was further diagnosed and liver metastases. She also had history of marginal zone lymphoma of parotid gland treated by radiotherapy, hypothyroidism and COPD. There was background of autoimmunity as the patient also had rheumatoid arthritis.

The patient presented with florid annular erythemo-livid desquamating plaques with tendency of conflating affecting the sun-exposed areas- upper chest and back, extensor surfaces of upper limbs, sparing the area under the patient's watch. Legs were mildly affected. Mucosa surfaces were not affected. She was in relatively good general condition and had no systemic symptoms.

Histology showed interface dermatitis and mild mainly lymphocyte perivascular infiltrate involving superficial and deep dermal vessels.

Laboratory studies revealed positive homogenous pattern ANA with titre of 1/320 and positive anti-Ro and anti-LA. Ds-DNA was negative. C3 and C4 were within ranges. CRP was 87mg/L. Lymphocyte count was slightly reduced to $0.6 \times 10^9/L$. According to Oncology the patient was not likely to need Capecitabine in the future.

Reducing course of oral Prednisolone 30mg/d was commenced which led to complete resolution of the rash. Unfortunately, the patient passed away 4 months later from metastatic disease.

Key message: Several cases of Capecitabine- induced lupus are described in the literature so far. Recognizing chemotherapy-induced skin reactions is important in the complex management of cancer patients. This is of particular importance in the light of newly emerging anti-cancer treatments.

