



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

FIXED DRUG ERUPTION TO LEVOCETIRIZINE: A THERAPEUTIC PARADOX.

V Nahata⁽¹⁾

Belle' Skin And Laser Clinic, Skin Department, Nashik, India⁽¹⁾

BACKGROUND: Levocetirizine is widely prescribed by dermatologists in various cutaneous ailments especially to get relieved from the pruritus associated with them. Levocetirizine, an R-enantiomer of cetirizine is remarkably safe antihistamine and fixed drug eruption due to levocetirizine is rarely reported. Fixed drug eruption is a cutaneous adverse drug reaction characterized with a well defined, circular to oval erythematous plaque that recurs as one or a few lesions always in fixed location upon ingestion of particular medication. It is a form of classic delayed type of hypersensitivity mediated by CD8+ T cells. Drug avoidance is the mainstay of treatment and antihistamines can reduce associated pruritus. It is very rare that antihistamines itself cause fixed drug eruption.

OBSERVATION: Very few cases of fixed drug eruption due to levocetirizine have been reported in medical literature. I report a case of levocetirizine induced fixed drug eruption in a 34 year old female with lichen planus. The patient had a history of fixed drug eruption previously to unidentified drug.

KEY MESSAGE: Although levocetirizine-induced fixed drug eruption is a rare entity, clinicians should be aware of this side effect during the levocetirizine therapy.

