

Mycophenolate/tacrolimus

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Cryptococcal meningitis and disseminated cryptococcosis: case report

A 60-year-old man developed cryptococcal meningitis and disseminated cryptococcosis during immunosuppression with tacrolimus and mycophenolate.

The man, who had end stage renal disease, he underwent renal transplantation. Post-transplantation, he was subjected to immunosuppression with tacrolimus and mycophenolate* [routes and dosages not stated]. Two years following the transplantation, he presented to the emergency department with hiccups and intermittent headaches for which he received supportive treatment twice. However, he later developed altered mental status. On the basis of lumbar puncture, a diagnosis of cryptococcal meningitis was made. A chest CT scan showed right upper lobe cavitory lesion, which was thought to be associated with disseminated cryptococcosis [duration of treatment to reaction onsets not stated].

The man received amphotericin B along with other drugs. Mycophenolate was discontinued, and tacrolimus was continued. After 1 month, a repeat lumbar puncture showed improvement. His mental status improved, and a repeat CT showed an improvement in the cavitory lesion with benign appearing cyst. Further, his persistent and intractable hiccups resolved in 2 weeks following an unspecified anti-fungal treatment.

Author comment: "A 60-year-old gentleman with End stage renal disease. . . maintained on dual immunosuppression with tacrolimus and mycophenolate". "Hence, one needs to be highly vigilant in our immunocompromised population like post renal transplantation for a severe but treatable infectious etiology."

* The authors have referred the same suspect drug as 'mycophenolate' as well as 'mycophenolic acid' in the source document. Since we could not validate the suspect drug, we have considered 'mycophenolate' as the suspect based on conservative approach.

Ramaswamy K, et al. UNUSUAL PRESENTATION OF DISSEMINATED CRYPTOCOCCOSIS IN A RENAL TRANSPLANT PATIENT American Journal of Kidney Diseases 73: 721 abstr. 298, No. 5, May 2019. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.1053/j.ajkd.2019.03.300> [abstract] - USA 803398892