Rhabdomyolysis in influenza A/H1N1

Viroj Wiwanitkit

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Dear Sir,

The recent report on “rhabdomyolysis in influenza A/H1N1” is very interesting [1]. Fröhlich et al. [1] reported a case of rhabdomyolysis due to influenza. In fact, this complication is sporadically reported and is strongly associated with acute renal failure [2–4]. In fact, myalgia is a common presentation in influenza. However, some patients with severe myalgia can have rhabdomyolysis. Since the problem can result in severe, complicated consequences, especially for renal failure, early detection is needed. The use of laboratory investigation, especially for creatine kinase (CK), should be included in clinical management of any influenza patient complaining of severe muscle ache. Borgatta et al. [5] recently proposed that CK level could be a good predictor of clinical outcome in novel H1N1 influenza. Possible specific concurrent illnesses and conditions that might increase the risk of rhabdomyolysis include thyroid disease [6] and the use of antidyslipidemic drugs [7].

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Prof. V. Wiwanitkit (✉)
Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhuae,
Bangkok, Thailand
e-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

Prof. V. Wiwanitkit
Hainan Medical University, Hainan, China

Prof. V. Wiwanitkit
Faculty of Medicine,
University of Nis, Niš, Serbia

Prof. V. Wiwanitkit
Joseph Ayobabalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Nigeria