Unilateral Phrenic Nerve Palsy: A Rare Manifestation of Vincristine Neurotoxicity: Authors' Reply

Dhulika Dhingra • Gulshan Rai Sethi • Mukta Mantan

Received: 26 November 2013 / Accepted: 26 February 2014 / Published online: 22 March 2014
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To the Editor: Vincristine has been shown to have varied side effect profile. Previously, we reported phrenic nerve palsy following vincristine administration [1]. It is interesting to note hiccups caused by vincristine infusion. Previously reported effects of vincristine have been largely noted 2 to 19 wk after commencement of vincristine infusion [2]. In this case, it appears to be an idiosyncratic reaction as vincristine could not have caused phrenic nerve palsy immediately as the infusion started. It is possibly due to phrenic nerve irritation. This interesting finding only highlights that various mechanisms may be involved in causing vincristine toxicity. Factors that are already known include nutritional status, use of other drugs such as azole antifungals, cyclosporine and nifedipine. Larger pharmacokinetic and clinical studies may reveal the mechanism behind of such toxicity profile of vincristine.

Conflict of Interest None.

Role of Funding Source None.

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D. Dhingra • G. R. Sethi • M. Mantan
Department of Pediatrics, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, India

D. Dhingra (✉)
D-1/66, Janak Puri, New Delhi 110058, India
e-mail: drdhulika@yahoo.co.in