

AZD-1222

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Generalised bullous fixed drug eruption: case report

A 72-year-old man developed generalised bullous fixed drug eruption (GBFDE) during treatment with AZD-1222 for prophylaxis of COVID-19 infection [*route and dosage not stated*].

The man presented with rash started to appear 25h after he had received first dose of the AZD-1222 vaccine [ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (Oxford–AstraZeneca)]. The lesions appeared without any symptoms. His medical history included atrial fibrillation, ischaemic stroke and end-stage renal disease. He denied taking any supplements, new drugs or foods prior to cutaneous eruption. Physical examination showed well-defined, multiple, round to oval, erythematous to violaceous plaques with central dusky appearance and bullous formation on both extremities and trunk. There was no mucosal involvement. A punch biopsy was performed, and histopathology findings were consistent with BFDE. Laboratory findings revealed no definite involvement of the internal organ. Based on the presentation, investigational findings and temporal relationship, he was diagnosed with GBFDE triggered by AZD-1222 vaccine. On the Naranjo scale, a score of 5 indicated probable relation between vaccine and GBFDE.

The man was treated with desoximetasone cream resulting in gradual resolution of lesions within 2 weeks, leaving post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation. Polysorbate-80, the vaccine excipient, was tested at dilutions of 1:2000 and 1:10 000 and yielded negative results. He reported receiving annual influenza vaccination, which also contained polysorbate, without adverse reactions. This suggested that his GBFDE was a result of hypersensitivity reaction to the vaccine instead of excipient. He was recommended to switch to the different COVID-19 vaccine platform to avoid the potential recurrence of eruption.

Wantavornprasert K, et al. Generalized bullous fixed drug eruption after Oxford-AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1 nCoV-19) vaccination. *Clinical and Experimental Dermatology* 47: 428-432, No. 2, Feb 2022. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.1111/ced.14926>

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