

Tozinameran

S

Bullous pemphigoid: case report

A 68-year-old man developed bullous pemphigoid following vaccinated with tozinameran.

The man, otherwise healthy, presented to hospital in late April 2021 with a history of a blistering eruption, which commenced 3 days after his first dose of the tozinameran [Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine; *route and dosage not stated*] on 2 March 2021 and worsened after the second dose given 3 weeks later. The blisters first appeared over the sternal area and were accompanied by intense, generalised pruritus, which started a day before the blisters appeared. His family doctor prescribed aciclovir [acyclovir] for a presumed diagnosis of herpes zoster with no improvement and later desloratadine and a 5-day course of prednisolone. However, the blisters continued to increase in number and erupted over the right side of the chest and upper back particularly after he received the second dose of the tozinameran.

At presentation to dermatology, the man had several healing crusted areas scattered over the right chest and back but no intact blisters and was prescribed clobetasol [clobetasol propionate] and an emollient cream. Routine blood tests, epidermal basal membrane antibodies and prickle cell desmosomes antibodies were found normal and negative respectively. At follow-up, 2 weeks later, there was a recently ruptured blister arising in an area of urticated erythema over his back and an ulcer situated on the left buccal mucosa. A biopsy taken from one of the truncal lesions showed subepidermal blistering associated with a superficial dermal inflammatory infiltrate composed of eosinophils and haemosiderophages. The roof of the bulla consisted of thinned, viable epidermis whilst within the bulla, erythrocytes and scattered inflammatory cells including eosinophils were observed. Direct immunofluorescence revealed a linear basal deposition of IgG and C3. All these findings were in keeping with a diagnosis of bullous pemphigoid secondary to tozinameran. He was advised to continue the previously prescribed topical treatment, and at follow-up 3 months after the first dose of vaccine, he was found to be completely asymptomatic with no new blisters present and only residual post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation present at previously affected sites.

Young J, et al. A case of bullous pemphigoid after the SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine. *Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology* 36: e13-e16, No. 1, Jan 2022. Available from: URL: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-3083](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-3083) 803628245