

Multiple drugs

S

Flame-shaped haemorrhage and off-label use: case report

In an observational and transversal study of patients hospitalised with COVID-19 across two referral centers in Brazil during May 2020, a 56-year-old man was described, who developed unilateral and isolated flame-shaped haemorrhage during treatment with enoxaparin sodium. He also received off-label treatment with azithromycin, amoxicillin/clavulanic acid, hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin for the COVID-19 infection.

The man was hospitalised because of severe COVID-19. At the time of presentation, he also had a unilateral flame-shaped lesion at the optic nerve head, which was next to the inferior temporal vascular arcade. No vascular lesions were observed in the contralateral retina. Subsequently, he started receiving standard off-label treatment with IV azithromycin, amoxicillin/clavulanic acid and hydroxychloroquine with a single dose of oral ivermectin [*dosages not stated*]. He required oxygen supplementation therapy, while no ICU admission or mechanical ventilation was required. He was also scheduled to receive SC enoxaparin sodium [enoxaparin] daily as anticoagulation therapy. However, due to high levels of D-dimer, he received full anticoagulation with enoxaparin sodium instead of a prophylactic dose. He also had intermittent cough episodes. Sixteen days after the onset of COVID symptoms, fundus examination (retinal examination) showed isolated and unilateral flame-shaped haemorrhages. It was considered that the full anticoagulation therapy had increased the risk of bleeding [*time to reaction onset and outcome not stated*].

Lani-Louzada R, et al. Retinal changes in COVID-19 hospitalized cases. PLOS One 15: No. 12, 03 Dec 2020. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0243346>

803529869