Favipiravir

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Hyperuricaemia and lack of efficacy following off-label use: 2 case reports

A single-center retrospective cohort study involving 31 patient treated with favipiravir in Japan between February 2020 and June 2020 described two patient [*ages and sexes not stated*], who developed hyperuricaemia or exhibited lack of efficacy during off-label treatment with favipiravir for COVID-19 infection.

Two patients, who had COVID-19, started receiving off-label treatment with oral favipiravir 3600mg (loading dose) on day 1 followed by 1600mg on the subsequent days. Thereafter, one patient died due to disease deterioration despite ongoing favipiravir treatment (lack of efficacy), while the remaining one patient developed hyperuricaemia with uric acid >11 mg/dL due to favipiravir [*duration of treatment to reaction onset not stated*].

Due to hyperuricaemia favipiravir was discontinued. Consequently, the uric acid levels normalised.

Hanai Y, et al. Evaluation of risk factors for uric acid elevation in COVID-19 patients treated with favipiravir. Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease 102: No. 4, Apr 2022. Available from: URL: http://doi.org/10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2022.115640

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