Reactions 1831, p213 - 21 Nov 2020

Multiple drugs

Various toxicities and off label use: 3 case reports

In a retrospective study of 14 patients, 3 patients [ages and sexes not stated] were described, who developed bronchospasm, flushing or nausea during off label treatment with adenosine for Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) related interstitial pneumonitis. Additionally, the patients received off label treatment with ritonavir, tocilizumab, hydroxychloroquine, azithromycin or unspecified low molecular weight heparins for COVID-19 related interstitial pneumonitis [not all dosages, routes, durations of treatments to reactions onset and outcomes stated].

The patients were admitted to the hospital in Italy in 2020 due to COVID-19 related interstitial pneumonitis. Subsequently, 2 patients received off label treatment with hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin and one patient received off label treatment with ritonavir, tocilizumab, hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin in 2020. Unspecified low molecular weight heparins were also administered in 2 patients. However, no response was obtained. Therefore, they started receiving off label treatment with inhalation of adenosine aerosol 9mg every 12 hours for initial 24 hours and then adenosine 9mg every 24 hours for the consecutive 4 days. Subsequently, they developed adenosine-related adverse events including grade 3 reversible bronchospasm during the third dose of adenosine (1 patient), grade 1 temporary flushing 6 hours after the first dose of adenosine (1 Patient) and grade 2 nausea (1 Patient). The treatment with adenosine was discontinued in patient who had bronchospasm, which resulted in resolution of the

bronchospasm. The flushing also resolved.

Correale P, et al. Therapeutic effects of adenosine in high flow 21% oxygen aereosol in patients with Covid19-pneumonia. PLOS One 15: No. 10, 8 Oct 2020. Available from: URL: http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0239692