

Dexamethasone/methylprednisolone/tocilizumab

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Candidaemia: case report

A 72-year-old man developed candidaemia during off-label treatment with dexamethasone, methylprednisolone and tocilizumab for COVID-19 pneumonia.

The man was diagnosed with COVID-19 pneumonia on day 10 of its development. He started receiving off-label dexamethasone 6 mg/day [*route not stated*] and was intubated on day 13. Laboratory data indicated a severe cytokine storm. Therefore a combination of off label IV high-dose methylprednisolone 125 mg/day for 3 days and tocilizumab 8 mg/kg once was administered. On day 20, COVID-19 pneumonia ameliorated and he was extubated. However, serum β -D-glucan level was elevated and blood culture tests identified *Candida albicans* on the day of extubation. He was diagnosed with candidaemia secondary to dexamethasone, methylprednisolone and tocilizumab [*duration of treatments to reaction onset not stated*].

The candidaemia was effectively treated with micafungin.

Yamamoto K, et al. Candidemia in COVID-19 treated with corticosteroids and tocilizumab. Clinical Case Reports 9: No. 9, Sep 2021. Available from: URL: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ccr3.4858>

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