

## Antibacterials/corticosteroids/dexamethasone

S

### Lack of efficacy and off-label use: case report

A 25-year-old woman exhibited lack of efficacy during off-label treatment with dexamethasone, unspecified antibacterials and unspecified corticosteroids for COVID-19.

The woman, who was diagnosed with common variable immunodeficiency in 2013, had received treatment with immune globulin. Subsequently, she was hospitalised on 08 August 2020 due to cough, fever, dyspnoea and 95% blood oxygen saturation. Further detailed analysis led to the diagnosis of severe COVID-19 infection, and she was treated with low-flow supplemental oxygen along with unspecified off-label antibacterial [antibiotics] and off-label unspecified corticosteroid, and was kept on mechanical ventilation. After further worsening, she was initiated on an off-label treatment with unspecified wide spectrum antibacterial and dexamethasone [*dosages and routes not stated*]. However, her dyspnoea and fever were persistent despite the intense clinical and pharmacological treatment (lack of efficacy). On 17 August 2020, her blood oxygen saturation was 85% on high-flux supplemental oxygen. A considerable worsening of the lung damage was noted on a CT scan, and she was treated with off-label convalescent-anti-sars-cov-2-plasma [COVID-19 convalescent donor plasma] infusion as: 200mL 1/1280 SARS-Cov-2 specific neutralising antibody (nAb) and 200mL 1/320 nAb. Subsequently, an improvement was noted. Therefore, the supplemental oxygen was reduced to low-flow, and she was administered second dose of convalescent-anti-sars-cov-2-plasma infusion 200mL, 1/320 nAb. She received final dose of convalescent-anti-sars-cov-2-plasma infusion 200mL, 1/320 nAb on 24 August 2020. She was removed from supplemental oxygen. She remained asymptomatic thereafter.

Ribeiro LC, et al. Rapid clinical recovery of a SARS-CoV-2 infected common variable immunodeficiency patient following the infusion of COVID-19 convalescent plasma. *Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology* 17: 05 Feb 2021. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.1186/s13223-021-00518-5>

803577324