Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies and thyroid diseases in Fayoum (Egypt)

Mohamed Mashahit, Maher Abubakr, Doaa Khattab

Internal medicine and cardiology departments, Faculty of medicine, Fayoum university

OBJECTIVES

BACKGROUND In the last few years there was an increased incidence of vasculitis in patients with thyrotoxicosis. Those vasculitic reactions ranged from simple purpuric skin lesion to severe intra-alveolar hemorrhage and even to Steven Johnson Syndrome. Most of those vasculitic reactions occurred in patients receiving propylthiouracil or methimazole. But many other cases were detected in thyrotoxic patients not receiving those medications. THE AIM OF THIS work is to clarify whether the vasculat lesions associated with hyperthyroidism are due to antithyroid medications or due to hyperthyroid diseases or due to both of them.

METHODS

this study included 125 males and females recruited from the internal medicine and outpatient clinic of Fayoum University, the patients were divided into groups according to the thyroid function and disease status, after thorough history and clinical examination all routine labs and p-ANCA were done for all the patients as well as the control group.

RESULTS

The p-ANCA level was higher in patients with protinuria than those with normal urine analysis with a P-value 0.01 and was significantly higher in patients with both arthralgia and skin rash, skin rash alone and arthralgia alone than those without these findings. P-value<0.01. It was also significantly higher in patients with skin lesion than those without skin lesion) P-value<0.01. There was statistically significant positive strong correlation between p-ANCA level and dose of treatment p-value<0.05, and statistically significant positive moderate correlation between p-ANCA level and duration of treatment p-value<0.05. While correlation between p-ANCA and thyroid hormones profiles after controlling of dose and duration of treatment, reavealed that There was no statistically significant correlation between p-ANCA level and level of T3, T4 and TSH.

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, we found that MPO-ANCA(p-ANCA) associated vasculitis in patients of hyperthyroidism is related to antithyroid drugs not to the disease itself, this mean that it is drug induced not disease related, and this finding was associated with propylthiouracil more than methemazol, with strong correlation between its occurrence and dose of drug and moderat correlation with duration of treatment, it is associated with some manifestation of vasculitis in the form of protinuria, arthralgia and skin lesion in few percentage of patients, however ANCA positivity was not necessarily associated with clinical manifestation of vasculitis.

References