Amitriptyline

Widespread use of amitriptyline in clinical practice has led to extensive knowledge of its therapeutic and toxic effects. In cases of amitriptyline overdose, delirium, arrhythmia, convulsion, and adult respiratory distress syndrome have been reported, but amitriptyline-associated rhabdomyolysis has been rarely reported in the literature. Several drugs are associated with myositis or myopathy, but amitriptyline-related myositis has not been reported. We describe a 40-year-old woman with rhabdomyolysis and localized myositis in left proximal thigh after she had taken 625mg of amitriptyline. (Korean J Med 57:380-384, 1999)

Key Words: Amitriptyline overdose, Rhabdomyolysis, Localized myositis
HYUN KYU CHANG, ET AL: RHABDOMYOLYSIS AND LOCALIZED MYOSITIS ASSOCIATED WITH AMITRIPTYLINE OVERDOSE

Amitriptyline 625mg (25mg x 25 tablets)

3:17:50 AM

Figure 1. Bone scan shows marked soft tissue swelling and increased activity in the left anterior thigh suggesting muscular injury such as rhabdomyolysis.

Figure 2. Initial T2-weighted magnetic resonance (MRI) imaging shows marked central high signal area in vastus intermedius which probably means myositis with necrosis and diffuse subcutaneous edema.

Figure 3. In follow-up T2-weighted MRI, the subcutaneous edema has subsided, but the increased signal intensity of vastus intermedius has persisted.

11000/mm3, 12.1 g/dl, 37.4%, 256000/mm3, 27 mm/hour, 1.1 mg/dl, 9 mg/dl, 164 mg/dl, AST 117 IU/L, ALT 81 IU/L, CO2 26.1 mEq/L, creatinine 139 mEq/l, Hb 11.0 g/dl, LDH 803 U/L, HBs (+), VDRL (speckled, 1:40), myoglobin 16.2 ng/ml (0-17.9 ng/ml).
Figure 4. Histologic section shows marked muscle necrosis and regeneration (H&E stain, ×100).

Figure 5. Histologic section shows many lymphocytic and a few eosinophilic infiltration in perimysium extending into muscle fibers (H&E stain, ×100).

Figure 6. Masson-Trichrome stained section reveals marked perimysial fibrosis and mild endomysial fibrosis (Masson-Trichrome stain, ×40).

- 382 -
Amotriptiline

REFERENCES

10) Wortmann RL: Inflammatory diseases of muscle and other myopathies. In: Kelly WN, Ruddy S, Harris

