

Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) syndrome with ciprofloxacin

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Drug Reaction with Eosinophilia and Systemic Symptoms (DRESS) syndrome is a severe adverse drug-induced reaction, characterized by generalized skin rash associated with hyper eosinophilia and organ involvement [1]. The syndrome is most frequently caused by allopurinol, antiepileptics [2], and antibiotics (sulfamethoxazole, dapsone, minocycline, and vancomycin). Dress syndrome associated with ciprofloxacin is rare.

We report the observation of 88-year-old women hospitalized for urinary tract infection treated by ciprofloxacin 1.5g/d. seven days later, the patient presented generalized erythematous lesions associated with pruritus, edema of the hands and cheilitis (Figs. 1a and 1b). Biological tests objectified renal and hepatic impairment. An elevated eosinophil count was objectified: 51380 cells/mm³. Pharmacovigilance survey was carried out confirming the drug origin. Ciprofloxacin was stopped and the patient was treated by corticosteroids with favorable outcome.

DRESS syndrome is a serious and potentially life-threatening toxic epidermis due to multi-visceral involvement. In most of the above described cases, systemic corticosteroids were used with success.



Figure 1: a and b Cheilitis and hand edema in women with DRESS syndrome (ciprofloxacin).

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