



DR-TB

Case-based discussion

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Case 1 – history

- 39 years old, male
 - BMI 22 kg/m²
- Small weight loss
- **Productive cough** for last 3 months, recently treated with large-spectrum antibiotic treatment for pneumonia (levofloxacin) with no response

What else would you like to know?



Case 1 – history

- 39 years old, male
 - BMI 22 kg/m²
- Recent, small weight loss
- **Productive cough** for last 3 months, recently treated with large-spectrum antibiotic treatment for pneumonia (levofloxacin) with no response
 - No known comorbidities
 - No allergies
 - No previous TB treatment
 - No immigration history, occasional short travels for tourism (India, South Africa)
- Active smoker (10 pack-year), moderate drinker (5 alcohol units/week), occasional use of injectable recreational drugs
 - Recent unprotected sex with different partners



Case 1 – Diagnostic work-up

Full blood count and biochemistry

- Full blood count: normal
- Electrolytes, renal function: normal
- ALT: 90 U/L (3 x ULN), AST: 62 U/L (2 x ULN)
- Bilirubin (total, direct), HbA1c, Serum albumin: normal

Serology

- HIV: negative, HBV: all negative
- HCV: positive, HCV-RNA: 5.7 log copies/mL; HCV genotype: 3



Case 1 – Imaging

Any other imaging?

- Abdomen US: no signs of liver cirrhosis, no focal lesions in the liver
- Fibroscan: F1 (minimal fibrosis)





Case 1 – Diagnostic work-up (2)



Microbiology

- Sputum smear (x3): positive (+)
- Sputum cultures for mycobacteria: ongoing

Anything else?

GeneXpert MTB/RIF Ultra on sputum: MTB detected, *rpoB* mutation detected

GeneXpert MTB/XDR on sputum sample: MTB detected; isoniazid: *inhA* & *katG* mutation; no mutations conferring resistance to FQ & second-line injectables



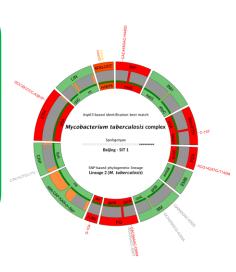
Case 1 – Diagnostic work-up (3)



GeneXpert MTB/XDR on sputum sample: MTB detected; isoniazid: *inhA* & *katG* mutation; no mutations conferring resistance to FQ & second-line injectables

Deeplex (targeted NGS) on sputum sample:

- MTB detected
- Confirms mutations: inhA promoter (-15 C/T), katG (S315T) & rpoB (S450L)
- Other mutations: *embB* (M306V) & *pncA* (V180I)
- Wild type: gyrA, gyrB, Rv0678, atpE, pepQ, rplC, rrl, etc





Case 1 – Management



And now?

Pre-treatment evaluations:

- ECG: sinus rhythm, QTcF 484 ms
- Clinical assessment of signs/symptoms of peripheral neuropathy (BPNS), optic neuritis (visual acuity/colour perception)

TB treatment:

- Start with BPaLM (Bdq 400 mg daily [then 200 mg x 3/week] + pretomanid 200 mg/d + Lzd 600 mg/d + moxifloxacin 400 mg/d) -> delamanid may be a reasonable alternative to pretomanid [BDLM]
- Target treatment duration: 6 months



Case 1 – Management (2)



Anything else?

HCV & TB treatment:

- There are no major known DDI between DAA for HCV and second-line TB drugs (conversely to rifamycins!)
- WHO recommends concomitant treatment of the two diseases -> timing unclear

March 2024



Co-administration of treatment for drugresistant tuberculosis and hepatitis C

Rapid Communication

Therefore:

- After 4 weeks (?), start HCV treatment (after checking: https://hep-druginteractions.org/checker)
- Sofosbuvir/velpatasvir for 12 weeks (or glecaprevir/pibrentasvir but may increase Bdq and pretomanid blood levels)



Case 1 – Treatment monitoring



- Monthly blood tests: full blood count, electrolytes, liver function
- Monthly sputum smear/culture
- Monthly visual acuity/color vision testing
- Monthly BPNS
- Monthly ECG
- HCV viral load (12 wks after end of HCV treatment)

Subjective symptom screening

- Pain, aching, or burning in feet, legs
- "Pins and needles" in feet, legs
- Numbness in feet, legs







Case 1 – and then...



Follow-up visit (3 months):

- Blood tests:
 - Transaminases stable at 3xULN (M1), then decreasing (M2) & normal (M3)
 - Other blood tests: ok
- Microbiology:
 - Drug susceptibility testing: HRZE: resistant to all; Bdq, FQ, delamanid & pretomanid, linezolid, etc: susceptible
 - Sputum smear: positive at M1 and M2, negative at M3
 - Sputum culture: positive at M1, ongoing at M2
- ECG: QTcF 478 (M1), 485 (M2), 504 (M3)
- BPNS, visual acuity/colour vision: normal

What would you do?



Case 1 – QT prolongation



- Test electrolytes (correct if needed)
- Stop Mfx (continue BPaL [or BDL])
- Repeat ECQ weekly
- Reintroduce Mfx when QTcF decreased; if needed, consider replacing Mfx with Lfx



Case 1 – but of course...



Follow-up visit (at 4 months):

- HCV treatment finished; HCV-RNA undetectable
- Blood tests:
 - All ok
- Microbiology:
 - Sputum smear: negative at M4
 - Sputum culture: negative at M2
- ECG: QTcF 472
- Visual acuity/color vision: normal
- BPNS: numbness (Grade 2) in left foot, paresthesia (Grade 3) in both feet

What would you do?



Case 1 – Peripheral neuropathy



- Exclude other causes of PN
- Electromyography not so helpful for clinical decision making
- Administer pyridoxin if helpful for other causes
- Stop Lzd (continue (BPaM)
- Administer symptomatic treatment (gabapentin, pregabalin, etc NOT together with Lzd)
- Two options:
 - Permanently discontinue Lzd (recommended), likely no need to replace it
 - Reintroduce at lower dose when PN resolved



Case 1 – Conclusion





Sustained treatment success with no sequelae and no post-TB lung disease



Case 1 – EXTRA



What about people who were in contact with this patient?





Thank you!

