Cerebral Abscess in Type I DM

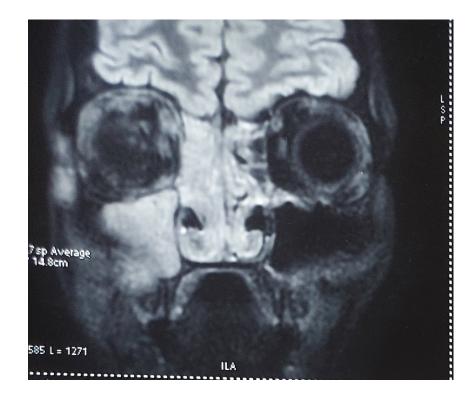
Dr. Ashish Bavishi

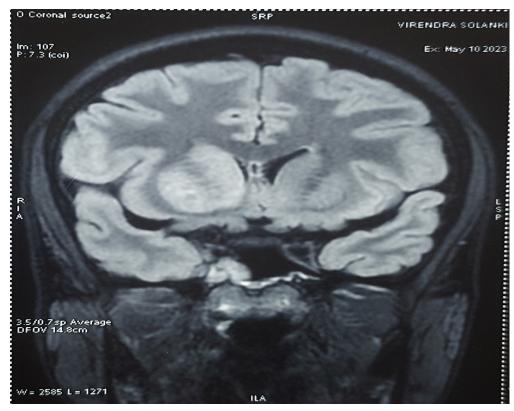
- M/18. K/C/O- Type I DM
- Presented in casualty on Jan 2, 2024 with C/o:

≻Lt. hemiparesis x 8 hrs

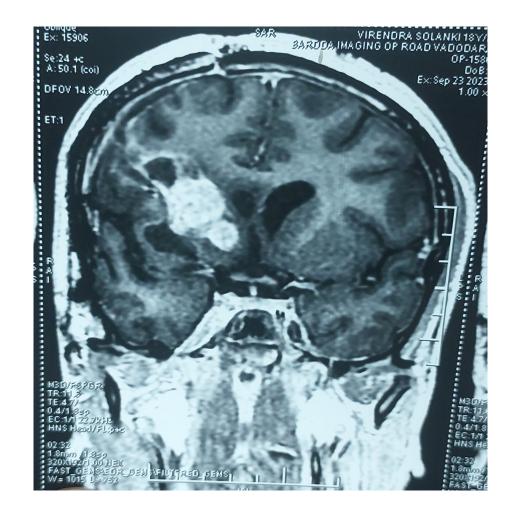
≻Rt. Facial swelling with drooping of eyelid x 1 day

- Past History/Clinical course:
- 1. May 2023-
 - Diagnosed ROCM at Civil hospital, Vadodara. (Tissue- sinus and Rt. Basal ganglia. Smear- broad aseptate hyphae. Fungal C/s- No growth)
 - Received 24 doses of Lyophilized AmB 50 mg f/b Posaconazole 300mg 12hrly x 1 day then 300 mg OD x 3 months





2. September 23rd, 2023- Repeat MRI- Reduction in lesion size. Asymptomatic. Posaconazole prescribed for 3 months by neurologist.



- O/E:
 - PR-84/m
 - BP- 120/80 mm Hg
 - RR- 18 cycles/m
 - T- 98.8°F
 - SpO2- 98% on RA

• S/E:

• CNS:

- Conscious, obeying VC. No e/o neck rigidity.
- Power- Rt UL/LL- 5/5. Lt UL/LL- 2/5
- Plantars- \downarrow
- RS- BS B/L +
- CVS- S1S2+, No murmurs
- P/A- Soft. No e/o organomegaly
- L/E: Rt. Infraorbital swelling and erythema+. Rt. Ptosis.

- Labs
 - CBC- 8.8/6,300/2.73x10⁶ (N- 50%, L-45%, E-2%, M-3%)
 - Na⁺- 132 meq/l, K⁺- 3.9 meq/l
 - Creatinine- 1.3 mg/dl, Urea- 25 mg/dl
 - Bilirubin T- 0.8 mg/dl, ALT- 11 U/L, AST- 22 U/L, ALP-298 U/L
 - Fundoscopy- N
 - RBS- 390 mg/dl
 - HbA1c- 15.2%
 - S. Ketones- Neg
 - CSF-
 - Proteins- 62 mg/dl, Glucose- 52 mg/dl (S. Glucose-108 mg/dl), WBC- 0
 - Gram stain/ ZN stain- neg.
 - KOH- neg

• MRI Brain (2nd Jan, 2024)- Increase in size of the lesion with microabscesses in capsulo-ganglionic area.



• Diagnostic aspiration of the lesion carried out. Histopathology and Culture is as below:

SUPCICAL PATHOLOGY REPORT

Specimen :

Tissue sample in case of recurrent fungal infection in basal ganglion region.

Gross Findings :

Received, a gray-white mass measuring 1.5x1.5 cm. Representative sections were subjected to H.P. examination (00243,A).
Received, a mass measuring 1.2x1.0 cm. Representative sections were subjected to H.P. examination (B,C).

Microscopic Findings :

The sections show multiple granulomas with necrotic and suppurative core. Some of them show presence of broad and branching aseptate fungal hyphae.

Comments :

The features are those of suppurative granulomatous reaction to fungal infection, most compatible with mucor spp. ------ End Of Report ------

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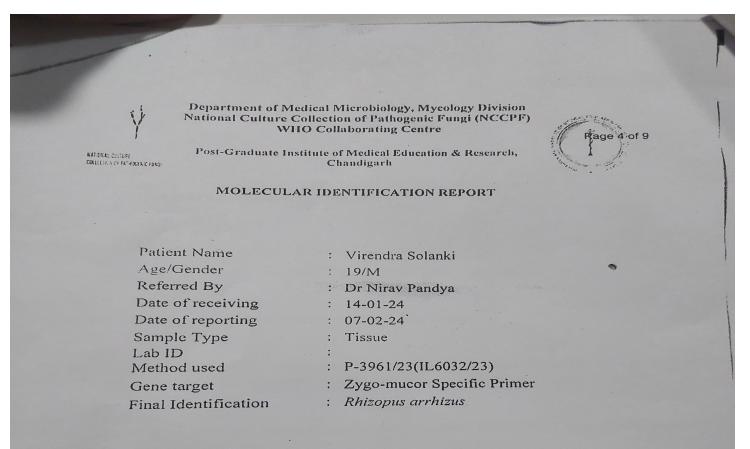
Factors to consider

• Posaconazole monotherapy for cerebral mucormycosis requires frequent TDM to optimize outcome.

H. Ruth Ashbee, Rosemary A. Barnes, Elizabeth M. Johnson, Therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) of antifungal agents: guidelines from the British Society for Medical Mycology, Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, Volume 69, Issue 5, May 2014, Pages 1162–1176

- Culture negative, histopathological diagnosis may miss an alternative differential.
- Lyophilized AmB is inferior as an initial treatment for cerebral mucormycosis. Maertens J, Pagano L, Azoulay E, Warris A. Liposomal amphotericin B-the present. J Antimicrob Chemother. 2022
- Isavuconazole may be considered as a viable alternative owing to better pk/pd characteristics.
- Uncontrolled Type I DM is a major risk factor for recurrence/relapse of mucormycosis

- Citing the above factors, following steps were taken:
 - 1. Serum Posaconazole trough levels were sent.
 - 2. IV Meropenem + Vancomycin was added for possibility of bacterial brain abscess (although laboratory features and CSF study were not suggestive of bacterial infection, uncontrolled DM was considered as an important risk factor)
 - 3. Brain tissue was sent to PGI Chandigarh for molecular identification.
 - 4. Liposomal Amphotericin B was started at dose of 5mg/kg. Isavuconazole was advised but declined owing to financial considerations.
 - 5. Strict glycemic control was commenced and maintained.



Technologist

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Dr M.R. Shivaprakash Professor & In-charge Mycology Division Department of Medical Microbiology

Unique characteristics of R. *arrhizus* (aka R. *oryzae*)

 Less susceptible to host defenses as compared to other zygomycetes due to higher content of chitin which stimulate TNFα and IL-6 by mimicking mononuclear cells.

Roilides E, Kontoyiannis DP, Walsh TJ. Host defenses against zygomycetes. Clin Infect Dis. 2012 Feb;54 Suppl 1:S61-6.

 ERG11, the gene responsible for lanosterol 14 α demethylase synthesis, which is the major target site for triazole antifungals, are duplicated throughout its genome resulting in multiple copies. Hence, associated with variable susceptibility and increased virulence.

Ma LJ, Ibrahim AS, Skory C. Genomic analysis of the basal lineage fungus Rhizopus oryzae reveals a whole-genome duplication. PLoS Genet. 2009 Jul;5(7):e1000549.

Serum Posaconazole levels

Name : VIRENDRAH Ref. By : DR.ASHISH Bill. Loc. : Labcore spec	c lab baroda	Sex/Age Dis. At	: Male : lab	/ 19 Years	Case ID : 4020020461 Pt. ID : 3357431
Reg Date and Time Sample Date and Time Report Date and Time	: 16-Feb-2024 14:12 : 16-Feb-2024 14:12 : 17-Feb-2024 16:06	Sample Coll. By	: Serum / : non		Pt. Loc : Lab Collecti Mobile No. : 92652404 Ref Id1 : - Ref Id2 :
TEST	RESU	LTS	UNIT	BIOLOGICAL REF	RANGE REMARKS
Posaconazole	0.006		µg/mL	Therapeutic level:	>0.7
	-	End (Of Report		

Clinical course

- IV Meropenem and Vancomycin were stopped i/v/o negative Blood, CSF and Tissue cultures.
- LAMB (5 mg/kg) was given for 4 weeks with Posaconazole (Gastro resistant tab).
- Posaconazole was continued in therapeutic doses with weekly TDM.
- Clinical improvement was noticed- weight gain, reduction in focal neuro deficit, optimal glycemic control and improved gait.
- Patient was advised to take Posaconazole tablets after meals. Compliance to treatment was ensured.
- Patient was discharged after 4 weeks on Posaconazole monotherapy and is currently on weekly follow up.

Final Diagnosis

✓ Proven Rhino-Orbital-Cerebral mucormycosis (EORTC-MSG criteria) in uncontrolled Type I Diabetes Mellitus.

Learning Points

- Liposomal Amphotericin B (LAMB) is initial drug of choice for Rhino-orbitalcerebral mucormycosis.
- Posaconazole (delayed release or gastro resistant tablet formulation) is an acceptable alternative to LAMB, provided regular TDM, compliance and follow up is ensured.
- Molecular diagnosis provides an unequivocal evidence of Invasive Fungal Infection and is a valuable aid to diagnosis.
- Adequate redressal of risk factors is essential to improve clinical outcomes and prevent relapse.

Thank You