ALTERNATING ANCA SPECIFICITY FROM cANCA TO pANCA IN A STAGE 5 CKD PATIENT WITH PALPABLE PURPURA.

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Drug induced ANCA and associated disease are well known. We present a case of stage 5 CKD who developed an interesting phenomenon of alternating specificities to ANCA associated with palpable purpura over lower extremities. Eighty six year old Hispanic man with diabetes mellitus for about 10 years, hypertension, hypothyroidism, gout and coronary artery disease came to Emergency department with generalized weakness, loss of appetite and not feeling well. Patient was found to have BUN 104 mg /dl and Creatinine 11 .3 mg/dl.Patient had a baseline Creatinine was 6-7 mg/dl. Patient was found to have palpable purpura over lower extremity for few weeks. Renal sonogram revealed kidneys to be about 9 cm in length bilaterally, Urine analysis revealed 17 RBCs, protein 3+, no casts. ANA was unequivocal, hepatitis serology, complements and ASO titer, SPEP, UPEP, cryoglobuline and rheumatoid factors were negative. ANCA screen was positive for c ANCA at a titer 1:320 and p ANCA negative. Patient had ESR 73 mm/hr. CT scan of chest was negative. Patient was started on hemodialysis. On medication review patient was found to be on allopurinol among his medications which was discontinued. Patient was started on prednisone 60 mg orally. Patient had complete resolution of skin lesions in 3-4 days. ANCA titer was repeated in a week of admission revealing pANCA positive 1:320 and cANCA negative. Patient continued to do well on dialysis and no recurrence of skin lesions noted. ANCA titers repeated after 6 weeks reveled c ANCA negative and p ANCA 1:80, ESR 10mm/hr. Positive ANCA is reported in patients on allopurinol but change in ANCA specificity is only reported by Choi et al in a case of Wegener's granulomatosis treated with propyl thiouracil. It is not clear that the dramatic disappearance of the lesions and normalization of ESR was related to discontinuation of allopurinol or was an effect of steroids. Variability of ANCA specificity and dramatic disappearance of skin lesions make this case report quiet unique.