

ANAPHYLAXIS IN HEMODIALYSIS PATIENT AFTER THROMBIN INJECTION OF FEMORAL PESUDOANEURYSM

Bhargavi Degapudi, Amir Jundi , Ziauddin Ahmed - Drexel University
College of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

We report a case of a patient who had an anaphylactic reaction after a bovine thrombin injection of femoral pseudo aneurysm who was later found to have multiple prior exposures to topical bovine thrombin during Haemodialysis (HD).

A 71 year old female with past medical history of hypertension, hyperlipidemia and end-stage renal disease (ESRD) on HD, was admitted to hospital with acute shortness of breath, diarrhea and abdominal pain. At admission, patient was found to have increased troponin level. Patient had a catheterization and had a stent placed in right coronary artery. After catheterization she developed a large right groin pseudo aneurysm. A decision was made to treat the pseudo aneurysm with ultrasound guided thrombin injection. Within minutes after receiving thrombin injection, she developed itching, hypotension and became unresponsive. She was immediately intubated and was placed on IV norepinephrine. Examination after the event showed swelling of her lips, tongue and generalized edema. She was treated with IV steroids and benadryl. Tryptase levels were sent off immediately after the event, as elevated tryptase level is a marker for mast cell degranulation. Patient's tryptase level was found to be 195µg/l (Normal range 1.9-13.5µg/L) after the event while her baseline was 16.3µg /l confirming anaphylaxis as the cause of the event. She recovered rapidly and was extubated the next day. On further probing into the history after the event, the patient was found to have prior recurrent exposure to topical bovine thrombin during dialysis.

This case illustrates one of the rare complications of ultrasound guided thrombin injection for post-cathetrization pseudo aneurysm. It emphasizes the importance of inquiring about the prior history of exposure to bovine thrombin before the procedure, especially in haemodialysis patients as they often may be exposed to it. Before injecting bovine thrombin in hemodialysis patient's skin prick test should be considered to detect the possible allergy.