

Clinical outcome in complex perianal Crohn's disease after using infliximab and azathioprine: case report

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Abstract

We present a case of a 25 year old male patient, with severe active Crohn's disease, treated with corticosteroids and mesalazine. Due to worsening of the disease, he was referred to the University Clinic of Gastro entero hepatology with anal, scrotal fistula and anal perineum fissure. His condition required total colectomy, terminal ileostomy and excision of granuloma, fistulotomy and fistula drainage. Postoperatively, he was administered mesalazine, corticosteroids, antibiotics and azathioprine. He did not respond and anti-TNFa was started. During a period of 14 weeks, he received 4 cycles of infliximab (5 mg/kg) in combination with azathioprine (100 mg). Despite the combination therapy, he failed to respond and his perianal disease worsened. The patient was a primary non-responder, infliximab was stopped after the end of the 4th cycle. He continued taking azathioprine for 2 years, since no other biologic agent was available. Remission was achieved. This long-term administration resulted in fistulas healing and anal fissure closure. The patient continued being treated with azathioprine for maintaining of the remission with regular laboratory control and close monitoring of possible adverse events. The limited alternative biological therapies, i.e., no possibility to switch to another biologic agent with other mechanisms of action, and no therapeutic concentration monitoring, time to achieve remission for this patient was extended and his quality of life was significantly declined. It is important to point out that in developing countries, biological agents are expensive therapeutic options and are not available in the public health program. This results in poor clinical outcome of the disease.



Biography:

Kristina Pavlovska is a medical doctor, specialists of Internal medicine. Her present place of employment is the Department of Preclinical and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, Medical faculty, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, R.of North Macedonia. She holds a MASTERS Degree and PhD Degree in Medical Sciences. Presently she holds faculty position as Associate Professor at the Department of Preclinical and Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, Medical faculty, Skopje. Dr Pavlovska has built her experience as investigator/principal investigator in clinical trials and bioequivalence studies. She is author and co-author of more than 20 scientific papers and communications to national and international conferences.

Speaker Publications:

1.Pavlovska, Kristina (2018) DIFFERENTIAL EFFECTS OF PEROXISOME PROLIFERATORACTIVATOR RECEPTOR (PPAR) ALPHA AND GAMMA AGONISTS ON BODY WEIGHT AND ADIPOSE DEPOTS IN FRUCTOSE FED WISTAR RATS. Journal of Morphological Sciences. 1, (1), p. 62-72.

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2.Pavlovska, Kristina (2017) High Performance Liquid Chromatographic Method for Direct Determination of Diazepam in Whole Blood and Serum - Optimization of Solid-Phase Extraction Method. National Liberty of Medicine. 38(3):89-9.

3.Pavlovska, Kristina (2019) Importance of 6-Thioguanine Nucleotide Metabolite Monitoring in Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients Treated with Azathioprine. National Liberty of Medicine 40(1):73-79.

4. Pavlovska, Kristina (2019) A New Solid-Phase Extraction Method for Determination of Pantoprazole in Human Plasma Using High-Performance Liquid Chromatography. Open Access Maced J Med Sci 1757–1761.

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