Case report

Daratumumab-induced transient myopic shift

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: To describe an unprecedented case of transient myopic shift induced by a chemotherapeutic agent, daratumumab.

Observations: A 43-year-old emmetropic female with multiple myeloma experienced sudden onset of myopic shift during her first intravenous dose of daratumumab, an increasingly common FDA-approved chemotherapeutic agent. Her myopia was corrected with -4D lenses in both eyes, and the patient reports cessation of symptoms and disuse of lenses after two days.

Conclusions and importance: A number of medications have been documented to induce transitory myopic shift, and this report now includes daratumumab among such agents. Further clinical findings regarding the mechanism and frequency of daratumumab-induced myopic shift are needed to further develop our understanding of its tangential effect on the eye.

1. Introduction

Sudden onset of transient myopia is a rare consequence of both systemic and topical use of certain medications, including topiramate, chlorthalidone, sulfonamides, and isotretinoin.1–5 This case study describes a unique case of drug-induced transient myopia in a patient being treated with daratumumab (Darzalex), an increasingly common medication for patients with multiple myeloma.6

2. Case report

A 43-year-old female with a history of multiple myeloma presented to the clinic with sudden onset of symmetrical decrease in distance uncorrected visual acuity (UCVA). She had received her first dose of single-agent intravenous daratumumab, an increasingly common FDA-approved chemotherapy drug for multiple myeloma, the day before her visit at the maximum infusion rate of 200ml/hr with continuous blood glucose monitoring.7 The patient reported dizziness, mild blurred vision, and headache during the infusion without any significant change in blood glucose. She noticed an improvement in her headache, but a persistence of blurred vision, after pausing the infusion for 3 hours. Daratumumab was then continued at 50ml/hr for 30 minutes, and the patient returned home after completion of the infusion in no apparent distress. She indicates that the blurred vision continued through her second dose of daratumumab at an infusion rate of 100 ml/hr, which was delivered the morning afterward, only hours before she presented to the clinic for an ophthalmologic evaluation. Daratumumab was discontinued for the next week, with plans to resume in the future.

Daratumumab was the patient’s only new medication at the time. In addition to the chemotherapy, chronic medication use included cyanocobalamin, turmeric, acetylcarnitine, acyclovir, sertraline hydrochloride, ondansetron, cholecalciferol, and B complex vitamins. The patient was not pregnant, nor diabetic. Upon evaluation, the patient’s distance UCVA was 20/400 in the right eye and 20/200 in the left. Best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) of 20/25 in the right eye and 20/20 in the left was achieved with −3.75D spherical soft contact lenses was prescribed with instructions to return immediately with symptoms of worsening vision, eye pain or redness.

At six-day follow up visit, the patient reported progressive improvement in UCVA over three days and had stopped contact lens use after two days due to noticeably improved vision. An anterior segment

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optical coherence tomography (OCT) scan showed an open angle with normal physiological position of the iris in both eyes (Fig. 1A and B, respectively). Ultrasound biomicroscopy (UBM) allowed visualization of the ciliary body and lens-diaphragm complex without effusion or mass. The angle was measured as 24.0° in the right eye at T7 and 35.5° in the left at T8 (Fig. 2A and B, respectively). Due to instrument unavailability, neither UBM nor OCT was performed at the initial time of myopic shift.

3. Discussion

Idiosyncratic drug complications resulting in transient myopia are well described. An array of case reports document systemic medications associated with transient myopic shift including topiramate, chlorothalidone, sulfonamides, and isotretinoin, but chemotherapy agents are currently absent from this list.2–5 Mechanistically, different sources have been identified, such as forward movement of the ciliary body-lens complex due to effusion or mass effect, changes in the corneal refractive surface, and changes in the lens hydration status. Acute attention to clinical history and use of adjunct imaging can help delineate amongst the various causes. One limitation of our report is the lack of UBM or OCT at the time of the patient’s presentation with myopic shift. We recommend these modalities to confirm any suspicion of drug-induced myopic shift. As newer medications continue to be developed, sustained reporting of potential causative agents and their unanticipated side effects remains the predominant source of increasing awareness in the clinical arena.

4. Conclusion

The case presented here documents a previously undescribed immediate complication of daratumumab, an increasingly common multiple myeloma treatment. While the symptoms in this case were self-limiting, the ocular side effects of daratumumab necessitate further study at large, and in particular to characterize their potential to produce myopic shift.
Patient consent

Consent to publish the case report was not obtained. This report does not contain any personal information that could lead to the identification of the patient.

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Conflicts of interest

None of the authors have financial disclosures (MAM, HJ, AC, BB, JGC).

Authorship

All authors attest that they meet the current ICMJE criteria for Authorship.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajoc.2018.12.017.

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Fig. 2. UBM of the patient’s right eye at T7 (panel A) and left eye at T8 (panel B) showing ciliary bodies and lens-diaphragm complexes without effusion or mass.