Interferon-α

Pulmonary arterial hypertension: 3 case reports

In a study of 222 heroin abuse patients, three patients [ages and sexes not stated] were described, who developed pulmonary arterial hypertension following treatment with interferon-α [routes, dosages, indications, times to reaction onsets and outcomes not stated]. One patient had received interferon-α for seven months, one patient had received interferon-α for 14 months before the diagnosis of pulmonary arterial hypertension while the third patient continued to receive interferon-α after the diagnosis of pulmonary arterial hypertension. Prior heroin abuse as well as interferon-α treatment were considered to be the risk factors for the development of pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Author comment: “Six patients had received interferon-α therapy before [pulmonary arterial hypertension] diagnosis, including 4 who were treated for <2 months, 1 treated for 7 months and 1 treated for 14 months; only 1 patient was still receiving interferon-α at [pulmonary arterial hypertension] diagnosis.” “Six patients had received interferon-α, and data from the French Registry suggest that it may induce [pulmonary arterial hypertension].”

Traclet J, et al. Pulmonary arterial hypertension in heroin users. Journal of Heart and Lung Transplantation 35: 932-934, No. 7, Jul 2016. Available from: URL: http://doi.org/10.1016/j.healun.2016.03.019 · France 80348399