Secondary IRCT (Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease) for Aminoglycosides

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ABSTRACT

The adverse renal effects of aminoglycosides are increasing, up to 20% in patients treated with this class of antibiotic, nephrotoxicity is manifested by the renal insufficiency with a variable degree, usually clinically silent but the return to the former state is not always obtained which progresses towards chronic kidney disease. After studying a declaration of an adverse case at the pharmacovigilance service of the UHE of Oran. The impact of nephrotoxicity of aminoglycosides in the aggravation of pre-existing renal insufficiency has been demonstrated according to the French and Anglo-Saxon method of accountability that is why information on pharmacological therapeutic monitoring of STP should be recommended. In conclusion, the knowledge of the factors favoring the nephrotoxicity of aminoglycosides, the respect of the dosages and the reduction of the duration of the treatment allows the practitioner to take measures in order to prevent and to reduce the frequency of the renal complications.

INTRODUCTION

Renal involvement of iatrogenic origin is a common occurrence in clinical practice and is often poorly understood. This is a serious event that is associated with significant morbidity and mortality.1-3.

Aminoglycosides are widely used antibiotics; their major risk is the nephrotoxicity following the accumulation leading to a tubular necrosis.

The adverse renal effects of aminoglycosides are increasing up to 20% in patients treated with this class of antibiotic; nephrotoxicity is manifested by the renal insufficiency with a variable degree.

The objective of this work is to demonstrate the impact of nephrotoxicity of aminoglycosides in the aggravation of a pre-existing renal failure, following the study of a case of adverse reaction.

METHODS

Patient A. N., weighing 75 kg, 35 years old, admitted to the nephrology service of EHUO (Renal Transplant Unit) for a kidney transplant. This patient had moderate renal insufficiency (IR) with severe anaemia.

Following a high CRP and VS and no antibiogram, a probabilistic treatment of a urinary tract infection was
based on aminoglycoside. In fact, the patient took 160 mg of gentamicin with two intramuscular injections per day (2.133 mg/kg/d) for eight days.

The infection persisted and the clinician introduced netromicin ® (netilmicin), two 150 mg injections (4 mg/kg/day). She took in parallel folic acid, doxycycline, cefalexin, metronidazole, omeprazole, tardyferon, bicarbonate and magnesium. The patient was diagnosed with chronic end-stage renal insufficiency (IRCT), plasma creatinine at 90 mg/l corresponds to a creatinine clearance of 12.15 ml/min according to Cockcroft; 7.17 ml/min MDRD and 6.81 ml/min CKD-EPI, requiring dialysis sessions.

The causality assessment was analyzed with the French and the Anglo-Saxon methods.

The French method was first devised in 1978 (Dangou-mau et al.), revised in 1985 (when it was published simultaneously in French and English) (Begaud et al.). It is the only imputability method to have legal statu. It is probably one of the most widely used, if not the most widely used.

Imputability method, having been applied to more than 10000 reports, and yet it remains widely misunderstood.

The French method is algorithmic, and is based on the evaluation of eight criteria divided into three groups: chronology, semiology and bibliographic data. Seven criteria enable the establishment of a chronological score (C) and a semiological score (S), which, once combined, yield the “Intrinsic” causality score (I), which is allocated on the sole basis of the case of adverse reaction considered.

The eighth criterion, which is the known potential of the drug to generate an adverse reaction, is used to derive an “extrinsic” or bibliographic score (B) for the reaction from a categorization of the scientific literature available for the drug or adverse reaction association.

The Naranjo algorithm, Naranjo Scale, or Naranjo Nomogram is a questionnaire designed by Naranjo et al. for determining the likelihood of whether an adverse drug reaction is actually due to the drug rather than the result of other factors.

Probability is assigned via a score termed definite, probable, possible or doubtful.

RESULTS

The accountability study of the two aminoglycosides, according to the French method, shows an intrinsic accountability score at I4, which means very likely, (Tables 1-3). Similarly, the well-known well-described effect of the two drugs leads to an extrinsic B3 accountability.

When evaluating according to the Anglo-Saxon method, estimates that aminoglycosides are probably responsible for this effect (with a score of + 8).

DISCUSSION

Often kidney failure occurs after the discontinuation of the treatment, which may ignore the responsibility for aminoglycoside. Renal impairment is usually acute, reversibility is not always obtained, and some of it progress towards chronic renal disease: lesions of interstitial fibrosis are frequently observed on the renal histological examination and it can lead to chronic end-stage renal insufficiency2, and this is the case of our patient11.

The prevalence of nephrotoxicity due to aminoglycosides varies between 7 and 20% of patients treated with this class of antibiotic. The percentage of patients who develop renal insufficiency increases with the duration of exposure, reaching 50% after 14 days of treatment2,12,13. The mechanism of toxicity is related to a direct dose-dependent cytotoxic effect due to the excessive accumulation of these drugs in the renal cortex. Schematically, the aminoglycosides are filtered in a non-metabolized form and reabsorbed by the renal tubules. After its fixation on the phospholipid membrane receptors, they penetrate into the tubular cells where they induce structural or functional modifications (inhibition of phospholipases, release of free radicals, anomaly of mitochondrial function, etc.) leading to cell death. This accumulation is also correlated with the residual serum concentrations of aminoglycoside14,15.

Gentamicin penetrates into the tubular cell via the megaline multi-ligand of the receptor and then the absorption takes place through a clathrin-coated pit (Figure 1), it passes through the lysosomes, the Golgi apparatus and Endoplasmic reticulum in the cytoplasm where it forms complexes with iron that catalyze the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS). In the lysosome, gentamicin causes the release of pro-apoptotic cathepsins and, in the endoplasmic reticulum, the release of Von Hippele Lindau binding protein 1 (VBP1). Either directly or indirectly (via ROS), it causes the release of cytochrome C from the mitochondria, a key step in apoptosis. It may have intracellular effects without actually entering the cell by quickly increasing the intracellular Ca²⁺ concentration and then increasing the anti-apoptosis and pro-proliferative signals Akt and Erk16.
This nephrotoxicity is usually clinically silent. Polyuria, due to a lack of concentration of urine, may be one of the early signs. It is the elevation of blood urea and creatinine which asserts the renal involvement, which usually appears between the fifth and the eighth day of treatment\textsuperscript{12}.

Currently, renal damage can be detected earlier by recent labeling techniques such as the determination of lysosomal enzymes in urine released by the brush border of the injured proximal tube, the main target of excessive and prolonged concentration of The aminoglycoside at the tubular cell.

In this case, the renal complication is the consequence of three factors potentiating its occurrence. The use of this therapeutic class without taking account of the fragile terrain, pre-existent IR, inadequate dosage and the role of associated drugs, also very important to consider, emphasizing the more or less dangerous associations of two nephrotoxic drugs.

It’s known that gentamicin forms complexes with mitochondrial Fe+2 to catalyse the formation of free oxygen radicals, but the physician have prescribe Iron only to treat anemia.

**TDM Practical Recommendations According Pharmacokinetics Unit Pharmacovigilance Laboratory EHUO**

The respect of dosage, reducing the duration of treatment (up to four to five days), the adequate hydration, close monitoring of residual drug levels and administration of a single daily dose (DUJ) are the most effective means to prevent the nephrotoxicity of the aminoglycosides.

Indeed, a single administration of the drug results in a very high peak of plasma and urinary concentrations that exceeds the reabsorption capacity of the proximal tubule (Figure 2) so that most of the drug is excreted and is not reabsorbed by the tubular cells. Conversely, if the dose of the drug is fractionated, the tubular reabsorption is not limited and the recovery of the drug by the proximal tubular cells is more significant.

In patients with renal insufficiency, the dose should be adjusted according to creatinine ratio and the value of creatinine clearance, so the gentamicin should be used at a dose of 1 mg/kg (75 mg), the netilmicin at 2 mg/kg (150 mg), every 72 hours\textsuperscript{14}.

The serum dosage performed one hour after intramuscular injection or within 30 minutes following intravenous infusion determines the peak (C max). The latter must be 5-10 μg/ml in DUJ and between 5-12 μg/ml in fractionated form. Whereas the residual concentration (C min) before the new injection should be in DUJ<0.5 μg/ml and <2 μg/ml in fractionated form.

**CONCLUSION**

In order to reduce the incidence of end-stage renal disease, it is necessary to prevent the occurrence of the nephrotoxic effects with iatrogenic origin and it should be at the forefront because they can be the subject of a genuine primary prevention. Patients with chronic renal failure have a high risk of escalating quickly to an end-stage renal disease when either drug class exerts a nephrotoxic effect.

As far as a patient treated with an aminoglycoside is concerned, the prevention of superadded nephrotoxicity requires the plasma dosage of the aminoglycoside and it’s monitoring during the course of treatment, knowing that it should be as short as possible with the weaker dosage.

Although aminoglycosides are excellent antibiotics, they are no longer the only ones to be effective in infections where their prescription has been specific in a long time. Primary prevention in patients with risk requires the use of non-nephrotoxic antibiotics for comparable efficacy, hence antibiogram interest.

Secondary prevention of end-stage renal insufficiency in patients with drug-induced nephrotoxicity involves discontinuation of the drug in question. The need to continue treatment is an exceptional circumstance.

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Table 1. Chronological and evolving criteria of the intrinsic accountability according to the French method

| Drug administration          | Appearance time limit of the event | Drug re-administration |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
|                             | Very suggestive | Compatible | Incompatible |
| Drug discontinuation        | R+ R0 R- R+ R0 R- |
| Suggestive Evolution        | C3 C3 C1 C3 C2 C1 |
| Non-conclusive Evolution    | C3 C2 C1 C3 C1 C0 |
| Non-suggestive Evolution    | C1 C1 C1 C1 C1 C0 |

Table 2. Semiological criteria of the intrinsic accountability according to the French method

| Semiology (clinical et paraclinical) | The role of this drug (and / or very well-validated factor) | Other non-semiotic contingencies |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Non-medication explanations          | Reliable Specific Exams (L) |                              |
| Absence                              | L (+) L(0) L(-) L(+)| L(0) L(-) |
| Possible                             | S3 S3 S1 S3          | S2 S1    |
|                                      | S3 S2 S1 S3          | S1 S1    |

Table 3. Intrinsic accountability score

| Chronology | S1 | S2 | S3 |
|------------|----|----|----|
| C0         | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| C1         | 11 | 11 | 12 |
| C2         | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| C3         | 13 | 13 | 14 |

Figure 1. Mechanism of apoptosis due to gentamicin
Figure 2. Saturability and accumulation of aminoglycosides in the fractional dose (DF) against the daily single dose (DUJ)