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A case of Norfloxacin induced Stevens Johnson syndrome reported to a tertiary care teaching hospital

Arun Jyothi G, Yunuskhan, Divyavijaymohan, Prudhwidhar and Usharani P
Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, India

Objective: Importance of pharmacovigilance awareness among common people and health care professionals to report serious Adverse Drug Reactions.

Introduction: Norfloxacin is a 1st generation synthetic fluoroquinolone used to treat commonly UTIs. Caution needs to be exercised in its usage, otherwise the patient become prone to serious side effects.

Case details: A 30 year old male patient reported to the tertiary care hospital with rash on face & chest, swelling of lips and oral-ulcers. When history was taken he revealed that he has taken Norfloxacin 250 mg for diarrhea & vomiting 1day before without physician advise, after which he developed the above symptoms. He had similar history previously 8months back, although in a milder form with norfloxacin 500 mg BD for 2days. The symptoms subsided after he stopped the drug and took tab allegra. Presently, he was hospitalized where he was evaluated to have developed Stevens-Johnson-syndrome. After treatment with supportive care he improved dramatically.

Conclusion: From the above case-report, it s clearly known that pharmacovigilance awareness is important for both common people and health care professionals. The present ADR would have been avoided if the patient would have the knowledge of ADR as it was his 2nd episode of drug reaction with the same drug. Awareness about pharmacovigilance among common people can be done by social-media e.g. : TV, Radio, News-papers etc. The pharmacists should be strictly advised not to sell drugs (other than OTC drugs) without physician's prescription.

ajjyothi9@gmail.com