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Hydralazine Induced Lupus Nephritis: A Case Report

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ABSTRACT:

Hydralazine-induced lupus nephritis (HILN) is a rare but significant clinical manifestation of drug-induced lupus erythematosus (DILE). Lupus nephritis is inflammation of the kidney that is caused by systemic lupus erythematous. If it is not controlled, lupus nephritis can lead to kidney failure. The most severe form of lupus nephritis is diffuse proliferative nephritis, it can also cause scars on the kidneys. Scars are permanent, and kidney function often declines if more scars forms. The association between hydralazine, an antihypertensive medication, and the development of lupus nephritis has been increasingly recognized in clinical practice.

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is an autoimmune disorder characterized by inflammation of blood vessels and connective tissues resulting in multisystem involvement. Renal involvement is a dreaded complication of SLE and one of the commonest causes of mortality in children. Life threatening complications (e.g.: class IV lupus nephritis, myocarditis, and encephalopathy) of SLE can be seen in SLE effected patients. A case of 11 year old child presenting to the physician is described. The importance of the correct diagnosis by the physician and the subsequent management is reviewed.

KEYWORDS: Hydralazine, Lupus Nephritis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Anti histone antibodies, Proteinuria

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