

An Unusual Cause of Myoglobinuria

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Abstract

Rhabdomyolysis is characterized by the acute breakdown of skeletal muscle, which can lead to AKI in severe cases. A number of etiologies have been identified in rhabdomyolysis with drugs and trauma account for the majority of cases. Rhabdomyolysis following a massage session is rare. We report a unique case of rhabdomyolysis with AKI following an aggressive massage session. 57 year old gentleman with history of diabetes and hypertension presented with fever, breathlessness and decreased urine output. On investigations it was found that his serum creatinine was 5.7 mg%. Further investigations revealed a Hb of 12.7 gm% and the TLC was 21400/cumm. His other blood tests showed: LDH 1095U/l, CPK 58928U/l with 100% of CPK-MM form, potassium 6.7 mEq/l, creatinine 6.3mg/dl and BUN 76 mg/dl. In view of the hyperkalemia and fluid overload he was dialyzed once and the potassium was corrected. The qualitative test of urine for myoglobin was positive. The time concentration curve of CPK and LDH was similar to that of WBC and CRP level. Downward trend of creatinine also associated with fall in CPK, LDH, CRP and WBC levels. After 2 weeks, patient was discharged with a stable creatinine. To determine the etiology of raised CPK a detailed history was taken and he confessed that he regularly received body massage for 1 hour. However a day prior, he received prolonged body massage session for 2 hours served by two masseurs simultaneously with higher intensity. Compression-induced rhabdomyolysis has been reported in coma or immobilized patients, but it has rarely been associated with body massage. Myoglobinuria is a key player in the complex pathogenesis of AKI only in presence of hypovolemia, hypotension and aciduria. Sinert et al., reported that AKI is not observed when nephrotoxic cofactors are absent. The people receiving body massage should drink adequate amount of water to prevent rhabdomyolysis-associated AKI which is exacerbated by volume depletion.

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Biography

Abhishek Dixit is currently specializing in Nephrology and already is selected for fellowship in Harvard.

Valedictorian at Medical school level and has special interest in AKI and Transplantation.

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