

Beware of the Possible Association between Covid 19 and Pulmonary Aspergillosis: a Possible Subacute Form

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Background: In many studies bacterial or viruses with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) have been reported; among these pathogens, Aspergillus co-infection seems to be particularly important: Aspergillus spp. can cause co-infections in patients with COVID-19, especially in severe/critical illness [1].

Case history: We report the case of a 70-year-old woman admitted to the internal medicine unit for acute renal failure. For about two days, she had had fever, vomiting, diarrhoea and worsening dyspnoea. This patient was suffering from acute respiratory failure treated with home non-invasive mechanical ventilation (NIV). In October 2020, she was affected by COVID 19 with the need for hospitalization in intensive care for about a month. We performed negative nasopharyngeal swab, blood chemistry tests, nephrological consultation, chest CT and abdomen CT without

contrast. Chest CT scan showed nodular lesions in the lower and upper lobe of the right lung, with an image excavated in the upper lobe. We then carried out the quantiferon test, which resulted negative, and the serum galactomannan assay was positive.

Discussion: We report this case as Covid 19 may be associated with a subacute invasive pulmonary aspergillosis with aspergilloma 2, a superinfection with the SARS COV-2 virus, which can also occur at a distance from COVID 19 [2].

References

- 1 Lai CC, Yu WL (2021) COVID-19 associated with pulmonary aspergillosis: A literature review. J Microbiol Immunol Infect 54: 46-53.
- 2 Patti RK, Dalsania NR, Somal N, Sinha A, Mehta S, et al. (2020) Subacute Aspergillosis "Fungal Balls" Complicating COVID-19. Investig Med High Impact Case Rep.