TOXIC FASCICULATIONS – AN UNUSUAL PRESENTATION OF ORGANOPHOSPHATE POISONING

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Abstract

The nicotinic symptom in Organo-Phosphate (OP) poisoning is an unusual presentation in an adult, as in our case of a 38-year-old man who also experienced decreased motor power of all limbs and diffuses fasciculation of the tongue and lower limbs.

INTRODUCTION:

A 38-year-old male was brought to Emergency department with a history of ingestion of organophosphate insecticide (Chlorpyrifos) of around 100 ml in a suicidal manner. His complaints were mainly tongue (Video S1) and diffuse lower limb fasciculation with generalized muscle weakness plus minimal vomiting and sweating. On examination, 4/5 muscle power in both upper and lower limbs bilaterally with intact neck muscle strength. Following admission, a Ryle's tube gastric lavage was performed, and a total of 66 mg of atropine was administered intravenously. After 8 hours, the fasciculation stopped, and the power of his limbs returned to normal (5/5). Children often have OP poisoning with isolated nicotinic receptor-mediated symptoms, whereas adults rarely do [1]. This case/video highlights the importance of isolated/predominant nicotinic symptoms of OP poisoning in adults and the treating/emergency physician should be aware of such findings to initiate early treatment.

Video S1: Tongue showing diffuse fasciculation in our patient who presented to ED after OP ingestion.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

None declared.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION:

All the authors contributed equally in drafting, editing, revising and finalizing the case report.

ETHICAL APPROVAL:

The ethical approval was not required for the case report as per the country's guidelines.

CONSENT:

Written informed consent was obtained from the patient to publish this report.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT:

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The data that support the findings of this article are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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