



A Case Report: Linezolid Induced Constipation and Deep Brown Colour Stool

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ABSTRACT

The first oxazolidinone that has been approved to prevent bacterial protein production by obstructing translation is called linezolid. The bacterial 23S ribosomal RNA of the 50S subunit has a location that linezolid binds to, blocking the creation of a functional 70S initiation complex. Linezolid has been approved to treat infections of the skin and skin structure and is intended for gram-positive infections. Our report outlines the case of a 46-year-old male patient who has received a clinical diagnosis perianal abscess and does not exhibit any other coexisting comorbidities, who developed severe constipation with deep brown colour stool post treatment with Linezolid 600mg Tablet, an unusual side effect of the drug. His baseline routine investigations fell within normal limits before the initiation of Linezolid.

Keywords: Linezolid, Severe Constipation, Perianal abscess.

INTRODUCTION

Linezolid is the first approved oxazolidinone to inhibit bacterial protein synthesis by interfering with translation. Linezolid attaches to a site on the bacterial 23S ribosomal RNA of the 50S subunit, preventing the formation of functional 70S initiation complex.¹ Vancomycin-resistant enterococcal (VRE) infections, particularly those exacerbated by bacteremia, skin and skin structure infections, and gram-positive infections are all approved uses for linezolid. Gram-negative infections, bloodstream infections associated with catheter use, and catheter site infections are not approved uses for linezolid. Vancomycin is a standard treatment for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infection.² But *S aureus* isolates resistant to vancomycin have surfaced, and there are more and more reports of these isolates available globally, which makes linezolid an important chemotherapeutic drug.^{3,4} Decreased platelets, hemoglobin, white blood cell counts, headache, nausea, diarrhea, raised pancreatic enzymes, elevated liver function tests, and neuropathy are the most frequent side effects associated with linezolid use.^{5,6} We present the case of a patient who developed severe constipation with deep brown colour stool post treatment with Linezolid, an unusual side effect of the drug, which was found to be dose-dependent and reversible on dechallenge and rechallenge of Linezolid.

CASE REPORT

A 46-year-old male present with pain, swelling and tenderness in right perianal area. On physical examination, the area was swollen, tender, indurated and warm. His baseline routine investigations were within normal limits following which he was initiated on Tab Linezolid 600 mg BD, Tab chymoral forte BD, Tab zerodol BD, Tab Levoflox 500mg OD, Tab pan 40mg once a day in empty stomach

and Sitz bath of affected area 3 times in a day. After initiation of therapy patient feel severe constipation, deep brown colour stool and increase frequency of defecation. Patient report to clinician and clinician were discontinue the linezolid 600mg and continue other treatment with ultrasound of affected area for collection of pus. After 2 days patient reported with ultrasound (Thick 4-5 cc collection which was not suitable for aspiration) and complain of severe constipation, deep brown colour stool and increase frequency of defecation everything was settled. Clinician start Linezolid 600 mg BD for 5 days and other to continue and patient again reported same complain within 24 hours which proves that the above adverse effect was due to linezolid and dose dependent.

DISCUSSION

Adverse effects associated with Linezolid were found to be dose related and reversible in nature which include severe constipation, deep brown colour stool and increase frequency of defecation.

Declaration of patient consent:

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

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