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(Article begins on next page)

New Onset of Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Three Patients Undergoing IL-17A Inhibitor

Secukinumab: A Case Series

Running Head: Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Secukinumab

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1. The author acting as the submission's guarantor is Davide Giuseppe Ribaldone

2. Davide Giuseppe Ribaldone conceived and revised the paper; Marta Vernero written the paper; Marco Astegiano revised the paper; the authors approved the final draft

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PATIENT CONSENT

All patients reported in this paper provided an informed consent form allowing the publication of their data.

To the Editor: We recently detected an alarming series of cases of suspected new diagnoses of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) in patients receiving secukinumab.

Secukinumab is an IL-17A neutralizing antibody widely used in dermatological and rheumatological diseases (1).

In the last 6 months 5 patients were referred to our IBD ambulatory for evaluation of abdominal pain and diarrhea after receiving secukinumab and three of them were diagnosed with IBD. Main features of the patients are reported in table 1.

Table 1.

The first patient was referred from another hospital for onset of bloody diarrhea after a 12-month therapy with secukinumab for plaque psoriasis unresponsive to adalimumab and etanercept. A colonoscopy was performed showing an active inflammation of the rectum and sigmoid colon confirmed by crypt distortion and abscess seen through histological examination. Secukinumab was suspended and the patient was successfully treated with intravenous steroids. After three months their disease relapsed: a second colonoscopy was performed confirming the diagnosis of active extensive ulcerative colitis (UC). As psoriasis was worsening, the patient was evaluated both from gastroenterologist and dermatologist and we are planning to start ustekinumab soon.

A second patient reported onset of non-bloody diarrhea and abdominal pain after 5-months of therapy with secukinumab for ankylosing spondylitis. A colonoscopy with histological examination showed a segmental chronical inflammation of the bowel, suggestive of IBD.

Commentato [D1]: Vedi questa frase dove va messa e come va formulata secondo le regole della rivista

Commentato [MV2]: Non sono sicura di poter usare questa citazione, ma l'ho trovata in un altro articolo quindi penso di si.

Commentato [D3R2]: Elimina questo commento

Commentato [D4]: Vedi dove vanno messe le tabelle

We decided to stop secukinumab administration and to prescribe systemic oral steroids. Three months later the patient was in clinical remission.

Regarding patient 3, he was referred to us because of onset of IBD while undergoing secukinumab for psoriasis unresponsive to immunosuppressant and anti TNF drugs; he was first admitted to another hospital for non-bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting and weight loss; the patient reported starting secukinumab three months before symptoms onset. Colonoscopy showed extensive colonic inflammation and histological examination was suggestive of IBD. After stopping secukinumab the patient was treated with adalimumab with no benefit. Due to the severe activity of both IBD and psoriasis we decided to start ustekinumab with good results on dermatological and gastroenterological symptoms.

Although IL-17 is believed to be one of the pro-inflammatory cytokines involved in pathogenesis of IBD (2), a few cases of worsening or new onset of IBD in patients undergoing IL17A inhibitor have been reported (3, 4). Moreover, during secukinumab clinical trials on psoriasis 3 ulcerative colitis (UC) and 1 Crohn's disease (CD) were reported among treatment group (whereas in the placebo group no cases of IBD were detected) (5).

The IBD incidence seen in these studies may in part be related to the underlying correlation between IBD and psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis, but the possibility that IBD is an adverse effect of the biologic itself cannot be excluded. This arouses important thoughts about the etiopathogenesis of IBD: the complete block of the action of IL-17A could contribute to the leaky intestinal epithelium found in IBD (3)?

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Commentato [MV6R5]: Casi nuovi

Commentato [MV7]: RICORDA: sposta tabella e fai titolo

Commentato [D8R7]: Cancella commento

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Non c'erano esempi di riviste online nelle indicazioni sulla bibliografia

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Commentato [D12R11]: E' ok

Table 1. Characteristics of the patients

AGE	SEX	DISEASE	FAMILY	SMOKER?	GI	SYMPTOMS	HISTOLOGI
			HISTORY		BEFORE		CALLY
			OF IBD?		SECUKINUMAB?		CONFIRMED
							IBD?
27	F	Plaque	no	no	no		Yes
		psoriasis					
46	F	Ankylosing	no	no	no		Yes
		spondylitis					
33	М	Psoriatic	no	no	no		Yes
		arthritis					

F = female; M = male