

Infliximab

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Destructive thyroiditis and transient thyrotoxicosis followed by hypothyroidism: case report

A 57-year-old man developed destructive thyroiditis and transient thyrotoxicosis followed by hypothyroidism during therapy with infliximab.

The man had history of psoriasis and he had been receiving infliximab infusions at a dose of 5 mg/kg every 8 weeks for 4 years [route not stated]. He was presented with hyperthyroidism. His thyroid function tests were normal before initiation of infliximab. He developed symptoms of hyperthyroidism and enlargement in his neck 3 weeks before presentation. He was hospitalised and his thyroid function tests showed hyperthyroidism. In the endocrinology clinic, he complained of increased sweating. He showed slightly enlarged thyroid gland. His thyroid function tests revealed a markedly suppressed thyroid-stimulating hormone (TSH), elevated free T₄, and elevated free T₃. Thyroid uptake at 4 hours and 24 hours after the administration of 10 µCi I-123 were 0.71% and 0.42%, respectively. Thyroid ultrasonography showed a heterogeneous thyroid gland. Diagnosis of destructive thyroiditis was made. After 4 weeks, his thyroid function tests revealed elevated TSH with a normal free T₄ [duration of therapy to reaction onset not stated].

The man was treated with levothyroxine sodium [levothyroxine] and euthyroidism was achieved. His infliximab was discontinued because of clinical remission. Concurrently, his levothyroxine sodium was withdrawn. Six weeks after levothyroxine sodium withdrawal, his thyroid function tests were normal.

Author comment: *"Here, we report a male patient with psoriasis who developed destructive thyroiditis followed by hypothyroidism associated with infliximab therapy."*

Ozkan C, et al. Destructive thyroiditis followed by hypothyroidism associated with infliximab therapy. *Endocrine Practice* 20: e207-e210, No. 11, Nov 2014.
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