Clozapine



Leucocytosis: case report

A 51-year-old man developed leucocytosis while receiving clozapine [route not stated] for schizoaffective disorder.

The man was hospitalised for worsening auditory hallucinations and delusional thinking. Clozapine was initiated at a dosage of 12.5mg twice daily, and titrated up according to guidelines. At the time of treatment initiation, his WBC and absolute neutrophil counts were normal. After a few weeks of treatment, while receiving clozapine 300mg daily, his WBC and absolute neutrophil counts increased to 16.1×1000 and $11.4\times1000/\text{mm}^3$, respectively. It was noted that his cell counts were rising in parallel to his increasing clozapine dosage. His dosage was further increased to $375\,\text{mg}$, and subsequently to $400\,\text{mg}$ daily by week 12. At this time, his WBC and absolute neutrophil counts were 22.3×1000 and $18.2\times1000/\text{mm}^3$, respectively.

Clozapine was tapered to 300mg, and subsequently 150mg, prior to withdrawal. Risperidone was introduced for the man's psychotic symptoms. His WBC and absolute neutrophil counts had normalised 1 week after discontinuing clozapine. Clozapine was not reinitiated as he refused blood draws.

Liu F, et al. Leukocytosis associated with clozapine treatment: a case report. Psychosomatics 52: 488-91, No. 5, Sep-Oct 2011 - USA 803068716