

### Propafenone



#### First report of urticaria and angioedema: case report

A 51-year-old woman developed urticaria and angioedema during treatment with propafenone [*therapeutic indication not clearly stated*].

The woman, who had hypertension and extrasystolic arrhythmia and was receiving propafenone 150mg twice daily [*duration of treatment not stated*], enalapril and aspirin, presented with urticaria and angioedema with daily manifestations. She had wheals scattered over her body, which were more abundant on her arms and trunk. Angioedema affected especially her eyelids and lips.

Aspirin was discontinued, but the woman's symptoms did not change. Enalapril was then replaced by amlodipine, but her symptoms persisted. Approximately 6 weeks after presentation, propafenone was withheld and, 48 hours later, her urticaria and angioedema started to decrease, and resolved completely in 1 week.

One month later, propafenone [*dosage not stated*] was restarted and, after an unspecified duration, the woman's wheals and lip angioedema rapidly reappeared. Her symptoms resolved after propafenone discontinuation.

**Author comment:** "[T]he present description adds a classical picture of hypersensitivity with urticaria and angioedema" to skin reactions reported with propafenone.

Incorvaia C, et al. Urticaria-angioedema reaction caused by propafenone. *Allergy* 61: 269, No. 2, Feb 2006 - Italy 801033011

» **Editorial comment:** A search of AdisBase and Medline did not reveal any previous case reports of urticaria or angioedema associated with propafenone. The WHO Adverse Drug Reactions database contained 23 reports of urticaria and six reports of angioedema associated with propafenone.