



PROCHLORERAZOINE INDUCED PARKINSONISM: A CASE REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

The first study of the extrapyramidal side effects (EPS) of the antipsychotic chlorpromazine found that about 40% of these patients exhibited parkinsonism,^[7] and several subsequent epidemiological studies found that DIP is the second most common etiology of parkinsonism. Drug-induced movement disorders include drug-induced parkinsonism (DIP), tardive dyskinesia (TD), tardive dystonia, akathisia, myoclonus, and tremor. Among these, DIP is the most common movement disorder induced by drugs that affect dopamine receptors.^[1,3] Since the clinical manifestations of DIP are very similar to those of Parkinson's disease (PD), patients with DIP are frequently misdiagnosed as having PD.^[1,4] These patients are often prescribed antiparkinsonian drugs unnecessarily for long periods of time, despite recovery being possible simply by discontinuing the offending drugs. Dopamine transporter (DAT) imaging may be used in the differential diagnosis of various etiologies of parkinsonism, including DIP.^[5,6] The aim of this review was to provide clinicians with updated information about the clinical characteristics and DAT imaging findings of patients with DIP, and about the correct treatment for DIP.

CASE REPORT

A 69 years old male patient was admitted with Alleged h/o sustained hit over occipital region and right side ain hip following skip and fall in bathroom. She had medical history of diabetes mellitus, systemic hypertension and dyslipidemia and medication history were T. Atorva (Atorvastatin) 10mg, Tab. Okamet (Metformin) 500mg, Tab. Amlapres (Amlodipine) 5mg, Tab. Nausetil (Prochlorperazine) 5mg. Hematological investigations showed elevated ESR (105), RBS (286), CRP (22.5) and decreased parameters are Hb (7.2), sodium (130). Renal and lipid profile were normal. USG Abdomen shows fatty liver and right adnexal cyst. Magnetic resonance imaging shows diffused cerebral atrophy, bilateral lateral ventricles show mild disproportionate dilatation with mild periventricular T2WI FLAIR hyperintensities, mild dilatation of bilateral sylvian cisterns noted with narrowing in the high arietal convexity likely due to normal pressure hydrocephalus. CT brain shows age related brain atrophy with small vessel ischemic changes. Based on his clinical features and review of the laboratory evaluations, he was diagnosed to have prochlorperazine induced parkinsonism. The drug induced parkinsonism is treated by cessation of the prochlorperazine. On the hospital stay the ast medications were continued. Tab Clopilet (Cloidogrel) for preventing clot formation, Inj. Viatran (Cefoerazone+sulbactam) for treating bacterial infection. T. Selgin (Selegiline), T. Pramix (Pramipexole) for treating parkinsonism.

Over the next few days, the patient became afebrile. The patient was discharged after 12 days with ongoing medicines.

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF PROCHLORERAZOINE

Dopamine receptors in the brain consist of those of the D₁ family, comprising D₁ and D₅ receptors, and the D₂ family, comprising D₂, D₃, and D₄ receptors.^[55] The central dopaminergic system consists of the mesolimbic, mesocortical, tuberoinfundibular, and nigrostriatal pathways. All antipsychotic drugs have potent D₂ receptor blocking capacity and the therapeutic effects of these drugs on psychosis are related to their action on the limbic system, where they reduce dopamine transmission. The blockage of D₂ receptors by antipsychotic drugs in the striatum leads to disinhibition of GABA- and enkephalin-containing striatal neurons at the origin of the indirect pathway without alteration of the direct pathway, followed by disinhibition of the subthalamic nucleus. This leads to increased GABAergic inhibition of the thalamocortical projection by facilitation of the inhibitory projection from the globus pallidus/substantia nigra pars reticulata (Fig. 1A). This pathway resembles the model of disturbance of the basal ganglia-motor loop in PD. More than 80% of D₂ receptors were found to be occupied in patients with EPS who were taking neuroleptics,^[56] in agreement with results showing that clinical symptoms of PD began when over 80% of nigral neurons had degenerated.

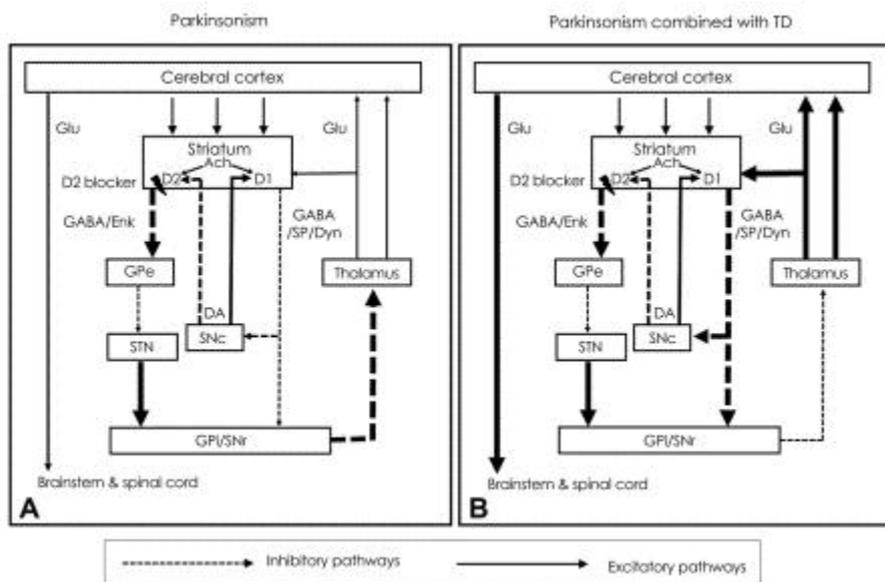


Fig. 1: Open in a separate window

Changes in basal ganglia-thalamocortical motor loop due to blockade of D_2 receptors by DRBAs. The blockage of D_2 receptors by DRBAs in the striatum leads to disinhibition of GABA- and enkephalin-containing striatal neurons at the origin of the indirect pathway, followed by a disinhibition of the subthalamic nucleus. This leads to increased GABAergic inhibition of the thalamocortical projection by facilitation of the inhibitory projection from the GPi/SNr (A). Chronic D_2 receptor blockade also induces changes in the direct pathways of the basal ganglia-motor loop to cause orolingual dyskinesia (B). DA: dopamine, DRBAs: dopamine receptor blocking agents, GABA: gamma-aminobutyric acid, GPe: globus pallidus pars externa, GPi: globus pallidus pars interna, SNc: substantia nigra pars compacta, SNr: substantia nigra pars reticulata, STN: subthalamic nucleus, TD: tardive dyskinesia.

TD, defined as hyperkinetic movement in the orolingual or oromandibular area, is caused by long-term use of dopaminergic blocking agents, and frequently accompanies DIP. The co-occurrence of TD with parkinsonism may be due to dopaminergic receptor supersensitivity resulting from long-term D_2 receptor blocking. Chronic administration of these drugs increases dopamine D_2 receptor density in the striatum. Moreover, withdrawal from neuroleptics was found to aggravate dyskinetic symptoms, whereas increased doses of neuroleptics transiently suppressed dyskinesia. D_1 receptors may also be involved in the development of orolingual dyskinesia when D_2 receptors are chronically blocked. Chronic administration of D_2 receptor blockers also induces changes in the direct pathway of the basal ganglia-motor loop to activate the striatonigral pathway and increase the inhibition of the striatopallidal pathway (Fig. 1B).^{25,57} This imbalance between direct (D_1) and indirect (D_2) motor pathways and the resulting alterations in the globus pallidus/substantia nigra pars reticulata complex may lead to hyperkinetic orolingual

movements, thus explaining the coexistent and sequential development of parkinsonism and dyskinesia.

CONCLUSION

DIP is important because it is a common etiology of parkinsonism and is frequently either unrecognized or misdiagnosed as PD. In addition, parkinsonism in DIP patients is sufficiently severe to affect daily activities and may persist for long periods of time even after cessation of the offending drug. DAT imaging may be useful for accurately diagnosing patients with DIP and may help to identify the clinical characteristics and exact prognosis of this disorder.

About 50% of patients with DIP and other movement disorders are treated with DRBAs for conditions unrelated to psychosis, including depression, GI disturbance, anxiety, and insomnia.⁴ Physicians should avoid prescribing DRBAs and CCBs for inappropriate reasons such as anxiety, insomnia, dizziness or dyspepsia in elderly patients and should monitor these patients' neurological signs, especially parkinsonism and other movement disorders, when prescribing these drugs.

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