Vol.15 No.P66

Cerebellar Ataxia, an Unusual Symptom of COVID 19 Pneumonia in an Elderly Patient

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Background: Neurological manifestations in SARS-CoV-2 are heterogeneous, ranging from mild symptoms such as anosmia and hypogeusia/ageusia to more severe pictures such as stroke, seizures, ataxia, polyradiculoneuropathy, encephalopathy and movement disorders [1-2]. Between the neurologic disorders, ataxia is a uncommon manifestation of CNS involvement by SARS-CoV-2.

Case history: A very well patient with 76 years of age, was admitted to the emergency room after the onset of ataxia associated with the ideomotor slowdown. He had no active disease until the beginning of ataxia. He had as a single episode of fever (39 C). He performed nose pharyngeal swab, resulted in positive. The value of his blood gas analysis was always acceptable, but he had a mild reduction of SpO₂ during the walking test. During the hospitalisation, imaging included a chest computed tomography (CT) that showed pneumonia. A brain

CT showed a mild hypodensity of the cerebral white matter as chronic cerebrovascular disease.

Discussion: The particularity of this case is the presence of ataxia as a single symptom of Covid disease in an elderly patient with SARS COV 2 pneumonia. In elderly has been often reported the absence of typical symptoms such as fever, dry cough and dyspnoea.

References

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