ELTROMBOPAG FOR TREATMENT OF AUTOIMMUNE THROMBOCYTOPENIA ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19 VACCINE: A CASE REPORT

B. Zurita1, Y. Campos-Baeta1, M. Estelrich1, E. Sánchez2, M. Martí-Navarro1.
1Fundació Hospital Sant Joan de Déu de Martorell, Pharmacy department. Martorell (Spain).
2Institut Català d’Oncologia, Haematology department. Martorell (Spain).

BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE
- Cases of thrombocytopenia, including immune thrombocytopenia (ITP), have been reported after receiving COVID-19 vaccine, typically within the first four weeks after vaccination.
- Very rarely, these events presented with very low platelet levels (<20×10⁹/L) and/or were associated with bleeding.
- Intravenous immunoglobulins and dexamethasone (high doses) are used to treat IPT secondary to COVID-19 vaccine.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES
- To describe a case of severe ITP secondary to COVID-19 vaccine successfully treated with eltrombopag.

MATERIAL AND METHODS
A 60-year-old male, with clinical history of hypertension, consulted to the emergency department for spontaneous appearance of ecchymosis and petechiae of 10-12 days of evolution.

RESULTS
Treatment with eltrombopag 50 mg/day was started on 22 July 2021, with a platelet count of 5×10⁹/L. After one week the platelet count was 4×10⁹/L so dose was raised to 75 mg/day. Five days after rising the dose, the platelet count rised to 21×10⁹/L. Two days after it was 41×10⁹/L so the patient was discharged with outpatient monitoring. On 14 October 2021 the platelet count was 101×10⁹/L.

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE
Mild and transient thrombocytopenia is a common adverse event described for Vaxzevria®. Cases presented with very low platelet levels are very rare. Nevertheless, the benefit of vaccination continues to outweigh the risks.

We describe a severe case of ITP secondary to the COVID-19 vaccine successfully treated with eltrombopag after failure of systemic corticosteroids.

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Contact: bzurita@hmartorell.es