

12.

DERMATOLOGY

CHAPTER

COVID-19 OR DRUG INDUCED URTICARIA: CASE REPORT OF A 66-YEAR-OLD PATIENT

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INTRODUCTION

A novel coronavirus(COVID-19) was first appeared in Wuhan City, China presenting with respiratory symptoms. Coronavirus is an enveloped, positive-sense, single-stranded RNA virus which has the largest genome among all known RNA viruses(1). The virus was first named as 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and then named as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The first source of SARS-CoV-2 is still undiscovered but the index cases were related to the Huanan seafood market in Wuhan city. Later on, it was figured that not only seafood but wild animals like snakes and bats were sold in this market (1). The disease is a major threat to public health all over the World. The virus has passed China so fast and the disease is declared as global pandemics by WHO (World Health Organization).

It is now well known that the major transmission occurs through inhalation. The incubation period ranges from 1-14 days with an average of 5-6 days. The major symptoms of COVID-19 are dry cough, myalgia, malaise, and fever (2). There are no clinically approved vaccines or specifically targeted medications available for COVID-19 up to date.

The virus affects not only the respiratory system but other organs and systems such as renal, cardiovascular, neurological, and gastrointestinal systems (3). Skin is also reported as an involved system in COVID-19 infection. In a prospective

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TAKE HOME MESSAGES

*Dermatologists should be aware of both viral exanthems and drug-related lesions during the course of COVID-19.

*The exact mechanism of COVID-19 associated cutaneous eruptions are not still clear.

*Urticarial lesions may appear before the classical symptoms of the disease such as fever and cough.

*COVID-19 associated urticarial eruption responds to antihistamines.

*It is possible to speculate that providing psychological support in COVID-19 patients can reduce the stress level and may cause a decrease in urticaria lesions.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

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