

World Journal of *Clinical Cases*

World J Clin Cases 2022 December 16; 10(35): 12804-13147



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Joob B, Wiwanitkit V

ABOUT COVER

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WJCC mainly publishes articles reporting research results and findings obtained in the field of clinical medicine and covering a wide range of topics, including case control studies, retrospective cohort studies, retrospective studies, clinical trials studies, observational studies, prospective studies, randomized controlled trials, randomized clinical trials, systematic reviews, meta-analysis, and case reports.

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RESPONSIBLE EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE

Production Editor: Hua-Ge Yin; Production Department Director: Xiang Li; Editorial Office Director: Jin-Lei Wang.

NAME OF JOURNAL

World Journal of Clinical Cases

ISSN

ISSN 2307-8960 (online)

LAUNCH DATE

April 16, 2013

FREQUENCY

Thrice Monthly

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Bao-Gan Peng, Jerzy Tadeusz Chudek, George Kontogeorgos, Maurizio Serati, Ja Hyeon Ku

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS

<https://www.wjgnet.com/2307-8960/editorialboard.htm>

PUBLICATION DATE

December 16, 2022

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ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGE

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/242>

STEPS FOR SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS

<https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/239>

ONLINE SUBMISSION

<https://www.f6publishing.com>



Immunoglobulin G4 associated autoimmune cholangitis and pancreatitis and nivolumab

Beuy Joob, Viroj Wiwanitkit

Specialty type: Immunology

Provenance and peer review:

Unsolicited article; Externally peer reviewed.

Peer-review model: Single blind

Peer-review report's scientific quality classification

Grade A (Excellent): 0

Grade B (Very good): B

Grade C (Good): C

Grade D (Fair): 0

Grade E (Poor): 0

P-Reviewer: Kaneko J; Notohara K, Japan

Received: September 8, 2022

Peer-review started: September 8, 2022

First decision: October 12, 2022

Revised: October 18, 2022

Accepted: November 25, 2022

Article in press: November 25, 2022

Published online: December 16, 2022



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Abstract

This letter to editor discussing on the publication on immunoglobulin G4 associated autoimmune cholangitis and pancreatitis following the administration of nivolumab. Concerns on confounding factors are raised and discussed.

Key Words: Immunoglobulin G4; Autoimmune; Cholangitis; Pancreatitis; Nivolumab

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Core Tip: This letter to editor discussing on the publication on immunoglobulin G4 associated autoimmune cholangitis and pancreatitis following the administration of nivolumab. Concerns on confounding factors are raised and discussed.

Citation: Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Immunoglobulin G4 associated autoimmune cholangitis and pancreatitis and nivolumab. *World J Clin Cases* 2022; 10(35): 13146-13147

URL: <https://www.wjgnet.com/2307-8960/full/v10/i35/13146.htm>

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.12998/wjcc.v10.i35.13146>

TO THE EDITOR

We would like to share ideas on the publication "Immunoglobulin G4 associated autoimmune cholangitis and pancreatitis following the administration of nivolumab: A case report." In a patient who had nivolumab treatment for anal squamous cell carcinoma, Agrawal *et al*[1] documented a case of immune-related pancreatitis and cholangiopathy. The patient's IgG4 Levels were normal at the time of presentation[1]. Nivolumab was probably what caused this case of IgG4-related cholangitis and

pancreatitis, according to Agrawal *et al*[1].

We both believe that the clinical problem in this case may be related to the nivolumab. Recognizing the potential confounding impact of co-morbidity is necessary, though. For instance, a parasite infection may be the primary cause of pancreatitis and cholangitis in a tropical environment. For a conclusive diagnosis, a thorough study is required to rule out all alternative options[2]. It is challenging to draw a firm judgment without knowing the case's health or immune status prior to the injection of nivolumab.

In conclusion, IgG4-related cholangitis and pancreatitis developed after the administration of nivolumab, according to a case report that was mentioned. Nivolumab may have generated IgG4 Linked cholangitis and pancreatitis based on time course, however even pathologic evidence cannot prove the participation of IgG4-associated cholangitis and pancreatitis and nivolumab. In order to get a firm diagnosis, all potential treatments for comorbidities must be ruled out.

FOOTNOTES

Author contributions: Joob B gave ideas, wrote, analyzed, revised and approved for final submission; Wiwanitkit V gave ideas, revised, supervised and approved for final submission.

Conflict-of-interest statement: the authors declare for no conflict of interest.

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S-Editor: Ma YJ

L-Editor: A

P-Editor: Ma YJ

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- 2 **Jani N**, Buxbaum J. Autoimmune pancreatitis and cholangitis. *World J Gastrointest Pharmacol Ther* 2015; **6**: 199-206 [PMID: 26558153 DOI: 10.4292/wjgpt.v6.i4.199]



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