

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 76142

Title: Recurrent herpes zoster in a rheumatoid arthritis patient treated with tofacitinib: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05870203

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MBBS, MD

Professional title: Consultant Physician-Scientist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Sri Lanka

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2022-03-04

Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-04 09:14

Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-10 13:46

Review time: 6 Days and 4 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors of this interesting manuscript have described a case of recurrent Herpes Zoster in a lady with rheumatoid arthritis on tofacitinib therapy. It is well written, and authors have attempted to describe possible mechanisms of causality of recurrent HZ and tofacitinib. The clinical implications and importance of preemptive HZ vaccination prior to this therapy in susceptible patients are concurrently highlighted. There are a few things to be further clarified. Page 5: History of past illness 'Because the patient did not inform the dermatologist of her history of RA or inform the rheumatologist of her HZ diagnosis, tofacitinib was continued'. It is the duty of the clinicians to get a comprehensive medical history of the patients. A patient who was followed up with RA for three years should have clinical records. How can you justify this? It is not ethical for the patient to be pointed as responsible for not coming up with the history, specially an elderly. need to revise this sentence. 'At present, her RA is stable;- This case report is a retrospective summary of events. thus, needs to be completed in past tense. laboratory examination: better be presented as 'summary of investigations' : what is the explanation for elevated monocytes? : Was an ESR performed? How was reactivation of RA excluded? : 'urine routine and immune function, and other examinations were normal.' The meaning of the sentence is not clear and incomplete. what is meant by other examinations? : Were Retroviral studies done on this patient? : How did you exclude persistent immunosuppression with the age and RA as the causality of HZ reactivation? Was



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COVID-19 excluded in this patient? suggest to refer the case description and discussion and cite, ' Munasinghe, B. M., Fernando, U., Mathurageethan, M., & Sritharan, D. (2022). Reactivation of varicella-zoster virus following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination in a patient with moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma of rectum: A case report. SAGE open medical case reports, 10, 2050313X221077737. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2050313X221077737> OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP: The fact that the patient did not develop post-herpetic neuralgia needs to be mentioned as pain resolved within 3 months. Discussion: satisfactory. suggest the following reference which provides a good analysis of recurrent HZ: 'Shiraki K, Toyama N, Daikoku T, Yajima M. Herpes zoster and recurrent herpes zoster. InOpen forum infectious diseases 2017 Jan 1 (Vol. 4, No. 1). Oxford University Press.

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Reviewer's code: 05146264

Position: Associate Editor

Academic degree: MBBS, MD

Professional title: Assistant Professor, Research Assistant Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: India

Author's Country/Territory: China

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Reviewer chosen by: Dong-Mei Wang

Reviewer accepted review: 2022-05-13 08:20

Reviewer performed review: 2022-05-13 08:29

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors, Thank you for submitting the manuscript for review. It is an interesting manuscript which is not mentioned in past in the literature. It would definitely help clinicians to use Tofacitinib more cautiously and consider this side effect in their patients. Language definitely needs correction to make it worth publishing.