Letters to the Editor

MRI angiography and venography, these sequences were not performed. Regarding follow up, the patient was doing well at one year follow up. The issues raised by the author are well taken and while working with limited resources, there is a need to interpret data carefully and if feasible one should further investigate the patient with better imaging modalities to confirm the pathology.

Amit Agrawal
Department of Neurosurgery, Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Sawangi (Meghe), Wardha, India

Address for correspondence:
Dr. Amit Agrawal, Department of Neurosurgery, Datta Meghe Institute of Medical Sciences, Sawangi (Meghe), Wardha – 442 004, Maharashtra, India.
E-mail: dramitagrawal@gmail.com

References


Zidovudine-induced myopathy

Sir,
I read the recent publication on zidovudine-induced myopathy with a great interest. Sagar et al., concluded that "Zidovudine myopathy may be a constraint for use of the drug in the Western population; however, it is a well-tolerated drug as regards myopathy in our study on Indian patients." I have some comments on this work. First, the number of subjects in this study is very small and might have a limitation in further interpretation. Second, the actual mechanism of zidovudine myopathy is believed to be due to a zidovudine-induced mitochondrial DNA depletion. The corresponding mechanisms include azidothymidine (AZT) -induced oxidative stress, direct inhibition of mitochondrial bioenergetic machinery, and mitochondrial depletion of L-carnitine. Based on these mechanisms, there should be no race difference of this zidovudine adverse effect. The higher prevalence in the Western population might be due to the reason that is given by Authier et al., that "lengthening of the survival of HIV-infected individuals has been associated with an increasing prevalence of iatrogenic conditions."

Viroj Wiwanitkit
Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhae, Bangkok, 10160 Thailand

Address for correspondence:
Dr. Prof. Viroj Wiwanitkit, Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhae, Bangkok, Thailand 10160. E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

References