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Optic neuritis and multiple sclerosis developing in patient with hidradenitis suppurativa treated with Tumor necrosis factor alpha blocker

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Case report

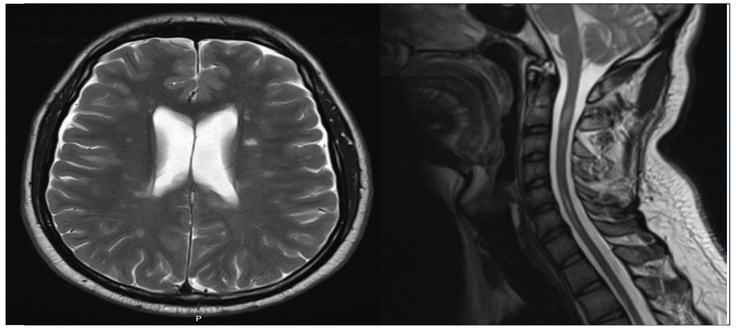
- 33 years old male presented to the eye casualty with 2 days history of left sided blurred vision.
- 3 weeks history of slow onset lower and upper limb tingling and weakness.
- He has been on Adalimumab tablets for hidradenitis suppurativa prescribed by his Dermatologist for four months.
- Initially seen by A&E team diagnosed with stroke after CT head scan showing subacute infarct.

- On examination :
- VA: RE 6/4 unaided; LE 6/60 unaided
- RAPD was noted in the left eye.
- Dilated fundus : swollen optic disc on the left side.(1)

- Bloods were done, MRI Brain, orbit and spine showed extensive demyelination areas , suggestive of Multiple sclerosis, no infarct seen.(2)
- He received 3 days of IV methylprednisolone ,then Prednisolone 60 mg, and admitted under the care of the medical/neurological team.
- VA and VF post treatment improved.



(1) Fundus image , showing left disc swelling



(2) MRI brain and spine showing scattered multiple demyelinating plaques.

Discussion

- Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) is a painful, recurrent, chronic skin disease, some cases are treated with Adalimumab (Tumor necrosis factor alpha blocker).
- (HS) has been connected with different inflammatory eye disease i.e anterior uveitis, scleritis and optic neuritis.
- There are a few reported cases of Optic neuritis and demyelinating diseases associated with TNF a blockers.
- A careful history taking is the key to reach diagnosis.

References

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