

Horton's Disease with Multifocal Colic Degeneration

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: It has been noted an over-risk of malignant diseases associated to Horton's disease (HD)(Ungrasert P et al 2014) with sometimes even true paraneoplastic forms (Aguiar T et al 2015). Colorectal cancers remain exceptional in this vasculitis (Kehler T et al 2006). We report an original observation.

Case report: An 80-year-old patient was hospitalized for left temporal headaches with no articular or ocular signs. The ESR was at 70 and the biopsy of the temporal artery was compatible with sequelae of temporal arteritis. The patient was put on steroids 0.5mg/kg/d with a good evolution. During her follow-up, the patient presented rectal bleeding 5 years after the diagnosis of HD. A colonoscopy was performed showing multiple polyps whose histology revealed the presence of several foci of high-grade intraepithelial neoplasia. The patient was then referred to surgery.

Discussion and conclusion: A retrospective study by Liozon E et al, collecting 250 cases of HD, found a high prevalence of neoplasia: 41 cases or 16.4% of which 25 cases of solid cancers and 16 cases of malignant hemopathies. The cases of digestive cancers are the most frequent (Liozon E et al 2004). The link between the two pathologies is however not established today. Few cases fulfill the criteria of a real paraneoplastic syndrome, with a parallel evolution of both pathologies (Deshayes S et al 2016). In our observation the delay of the degeneration as well as the multifocal character of the neoplasia would be arguments in favor of a possible causal link.