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TPN-induced Priapism; a case report with literature review

Priapism is a prolonged, unwanted erection, in the absence of sexual desire or stimulus for more than 4 hours. The priapism mechanism is not fully understood and may be caused by disorders of neurogenic control, interference with the penile blood flow, changes in blood viscosity and hypercoagulability as well as haematological disease, pelvic masses & malignancies, local infections, and illicit drug use.

In this presentation, we report a 35-year-old male with Crohn's Disease (CD) who was commenced on high lipid content Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) that induced priapism. This was able to be managed conservatively and detumescence was achieved with exercise. We have reviewed the literature on this rare complication of TPN with 9 cases reported since 1970.

Methods:

When designing the literature, keywords were searched on specific engines. "Priapism, TPN" was searched on Google scholar, PubMed, and science direct.

Results were reviewed, related articles were selected for revision, and cases were compared.

Results:

There were 9 reported incidences of TPN-induced priapism in a thorough literature review. The mean age of the patients was 33 (range 23-47) with the median timing from TPN infusion to priapism being 11 hours (range 0.75-264). The lipid content for all TPN-induced priapism was 20% and all but a single case required surgical management with shunts.

Conclusion:

Whilst a rare complication, TPN-induced priapism is reported in the literature and appears to be more associated with high lipid content of 20% and high rates of infusion. The management principles remain the same as for all priapism, with detumescence achieved through a mixture of conservative, medical and surgical approaches. Clinicians should be aware of the chance of TPN-induced priapism and recognize it early in order to minimize complications of prolonged priapism.

Biography:

Sami Mohamed Siddig Mustafa, I have been working in the UK for the last 5 years in various surgical specialities and I'm currently a senior clinical fellow at Salford Royal NHS trust part of the Northern Care Alliance.

One of the biggest centers of urology in the UK. My main interest is Urology and I aspire to become a robotic surgeon which I am working towards.