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Role of Corticosteroids on Organizing Pneumonia, A Late Complication of COVID-19

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Some patients who recover from COVID-19 still remain symptomatic during the post-infectious period. The persisting inflammatory reactions during this period leads to pulmonary complications, both clinically and radiographically. Organizing Pneumonia is a late complication of COVID-19 which is documented on Chest CT Scan. Corticosteroid use is beneficial and has a significant role in addressing this complication.

We then report two patients admitted for COVID-19, who are both requiring oxygen support even after testing negative for COVID-19 during the post-infectious period. Further evaluation with Chest CT Scan was done which revealed Organizing Pneumonia. Both patients were given Methylprednisolone 16 mg tablet twice a day. They then showed marked clinical improvement, with decreased oxygen demand and was then discharged within a few days.

This report suggests that for patients who had COVID-19 infection and are not improving, a Chest CT Scan should be done during the post-infectious period. For those with findings of Organizing Pneumonia on CT Scan, corticosteroid therapy can be beneficial as an adjuvant therapy.

Biography

Ann Crizette R. Garcia has finished Medical School at University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center, took up Residency Training at the Medical City of Manila and is now a First Year Fellow in Training at ManilaMed.

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