



A REVIEW ON USE OF FIRST LINE ANTI TUBERCULOSIS DRUGS IN SPECIAL SITUATION AND THEIR CLINICAL COMPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Anti-Tubercular drugs are the class of drugs used to treat Tuberculosis. The main aim of tuberculosis treatment is treat to the patient and reduce the transmission of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in healthy individuals. Tuberculosis treatment cause possible adverse drug reactions in the patient .In this we briefly review the mechanism of action, adverse drug reactions, Drug-Drug and Drug-food interactions and their use in specific individual.

Key Words:- Tuberculosis, Isoniazid, Mycobacterium, Clinical complications.

Access this article online

Home page:

<http://ijptjournal.com/>

DOI:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.21276/ijpt.2020.11.2.3>

Quick Response
code



Received:12.01.20

Revised:02.02.20

Accepted:22.02.20

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INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis is an airborne disease that usually effects the lungs and cause severe cough, fever, and chest pain It is caused by mycobacterium tuberculosis and it was announced by Robert Koch in 1882.and it is a major global health burden. Drug interactions are common cause of adverse drug reactions, resulting undesirable or unexpected effects. and these adverse drug reaction is common in elderly patients because of usage of several drugs (Gallelli L *et al.*, 2002 & Gallelli L.*et al.*,2003 & Gallelli L *et al.*, 2007 & Gallelli L.*et al.*,2010).

Adverse reactions to antituberculosis drugs are related to various factors such as dose, time at which the medication is administered, patient age, nutritional status,

together with the presence of Pre-existing diseases or dysfunctions, such as alcoholism, impaired liver function, impaired kidney function, and HIV coinfection (Pai MP, Momary KM *et al.*,2006).

At present first line treatment for tuberculosis is a regimen of Isoniazid (INH), Rifampicin (RMP), Pyrazinamide (PZA), and Ethambutol for 2 months, followed by 4 months of INH and PMP and/EMP (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

In this review article, we describe the principal characteristics of each of the drugs that constitute its mechanisms of action, interaction and possible adverse drug effects (Conde MB *et al.*,2007).

ISONIAZID

Isoniazid is one of the most commonly used drugs in the treatment of tuberculosis

Mechanism of action

It inhibits the formation of mycolic acids of the bacterial cell wall, resulting DNA damage and, leads to death of the bacteria (Zhang Y *et al.*,2005& Slayden RA, Barry CE 3rd *et al.*,2000).

Metabolization and excretion

Isoniazid is metabolized in the liver through N-acetyltransferase enzyme and excreted mostly by the kidney (70-96%) and little proportion is excreted through faeces. The half-life of isoniazid is approximately 1 h (range: 0.5-1.6 h) and in cases of liver and kidney disease

patients the half-life of isoniazid can be even more (Srivastava A *et al.*,2010).

Adverse effects

Isoniazid, rarely cause adverse reaction when used in isolation for tuber-culosis prophylaxis (at a dose of $10 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{day}^{-1}$, up to 300 mg), in individuals without liver disease or kidney failure (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003). This is the dose that is presently recommended in Brazil that isoniazid is used in combination with other drugs for tuberculosis treatment (Conde MB *et al.*,2007).

Minor adverse effects

Nausea, vomiting, and epigastric pain occurs when the isoniazid is administered at initiation of the treatment and it can be prevented by taking the drug after 2 hr of meal and by using medications such as metoclopramide, ranitidine or omeprazole can relieve the symptoms

Major adverse effects

- Psychosis, convulsive seizures, mental confusion, and coma (Thwaites G *et al.*,2009 & Tai WP, Yue H, Hu PJ *et al.*,2008).
- Haematological alterations or vasculitis (Silva Jr JB *et al.*,2004).
- Peripheral neuropathy (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Nisar M *et al.*,1990).

Use during pregnancy

Isoniazid is C category drug and it is considered safe during pregnancy. However, there is a risk of developing hepatitis in the postpartum period. Neonates born to mothers who have been under the treatment with isoniazid are at risk of developing convulsive seizures (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Nardiello S *et al.*,2002).

Use during breastfeeding

Isoniazid is able to exist with breastfeeding; the infant should be recommended to be monitored for jaundice.

Use in patients with liver failure

Isoniazid causes hepatotoxicity and it has more evidence, so the patients should be closely monitored in case of liver disease (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Sun HY *et al.*,2009).

Use in patients with kidney failure

Isoniazid dose adjustment of isoniazid is not required in case of kidney failure and haemodialysis patient (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Vikrant SI *et al.*,2005).

Interactions

Foods

It should be taken with empty stomach and it should not be taken with foods rich in tyramine and histamine such as cheese, fish, alcohol, etc. The symptoms of these interactions include palpitation, sweating, flushing of the face, chills, headache, diarrhoea, erythema, and pruritus.

Antacids

Antacids such as Rantac and aluminium compound should be taken 1 hr after isoniazid administration because it increases gastric pH and delays isoniazid absorption.

Other drugs

It should not be taken with drugs such as diazepam and triazolam, as well as with theophylline, valproic acid, disulfiram, acetaminophen, and oral anticoagulants. The combination of isoniazid and levodopa can cause hypertension, palpitation, and flushing of the face (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Pai MP *et al.*,2006 Self TH *et al.*,1999).

RIFAMPICIN

Rifampicin is the most important drug which is used in treatment of tuberculosis. It is given at about 0.05-0.50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ (Zhang Y *et al.*,2005).

Mechanism of action

Rifampicin inhibits DNA dependent RNA polymerase enzyme resulting in blocking of RNA synthesis and causing death of the cell (Ramaswamy S, Musser JM *et al.*,1998).

Metabolization and excretion

Most of the drug is metabolised in liver by microsomal enzyme that is about 85% and the drug is excreted through biliary tract at about (60-65%) and small portion of the drug is excreted in urine, and the half-life of rifampicin is reduced from 3-5 h to 2-3 h.

Adverse effects (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003):

Minor adverse effects

- Gastrointestinal reactions: Nausea, anorexia, and abdominal pain
- Orange coloured tears, sweat, and urine
- Skin reaction
- Flulike syndrome.
- Fatigue, dizziness, headache, dyspnoea, and ataxia can also occur in patients treated with rifampicin.

Major adverse effects

- Exanthema
- Hepatotoxicity
- Immunological reactions

Use during pregnancy

It belongs to C category drug and do not have any teratogenic effect which can be used during pregnancy (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Zhang Y *et al.*,2005).

Use during breastfeeding

Rifampicin is compatible with breast feeding, the infant should be monitored for jaundice.

Use in patients with liver failure

In liver failure patient the rifampicin clearance get reduced and serum drug concentration get increased.so,the the patient who is taking rifampicin is closely monitored through frequ'ent laboratory tests and clinical evaluation (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Use in patients with kidney failure

As rifampicin is metabolized in the liver, the kidney failure patient can take the drug even at full doses (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Interactions**Foods**

As food decreases absorption of rifampicin, it should be taken at empty stomach (Pai MP *et al.*,2006).

Antacid

Antacid such as aluminium hydroxide delays the absorption of rifampicin (Pai MP *et al.*,2006).

PYRAZINAMIDE

Pyrazinamide is a nicotinic acid derivative and its molecular structure is similar to isoniazid (Zhang Y, Yew WW *et al.*,2001 & Somoskovi A *et al.* 2001).

Mechanism of action

Pyrazinamid enters in mycobacterium tuberculosis and impairs mycolic acid biosynthesis in bacillus .results in impairment of bacteria

Metabolization and excretion

About 70% of drug is metabolised in liver and 3% excreted in urine its half-life is 9-10h but can be as long as 26h in patients with kidney failure if the dosed are not adjusted (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Adverse effects**Minor adverse effects**

Nausea, vomiting, and anorexia, Hyperuricemia and arthralgia in non-gouty individuals Exanthema and pruritus, Dermatitis (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Major adverse effects

Severe exanthema and pruritus, Hepatotoxicity.

Use during pregnancy

Pyrazinamide belongs to C category drug and according to WHO it is safe it has no risk to use pyrazinamide during pregnanc (Rakotoson JL *et al.*,2009).

Use during breastfeeding

Pyrazinamide is compatible with breastfeeding, so, the infant should be monitored for jaundice (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Use in patients with liver failure

It is a hepatotoxicity drug. The liver patient who is taking these drug should be closely Monitored (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Silva Jr JB *et al.*,2004).

Use in patients with kidney failure

The dose of the drug should be reduced in kidney failure patient as there is more risk in them. when creatinine clearance is lower than 10mL/min the dose should be reduced to half and the patient with creatinine clearance lower than 30mL/min or to patient with haemodialysis should be given pyrazinamide at a dose of 25-35 mg/kg three times a week (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Interactions**Foods**

The drug can be taken at a meal time as food is having little impact on absorption of pyrazinamide

Antacids

Absorption of pyrazinamide doesn't interfere with antacids.

Other drugs

The drugs such as Probenecid, rifampicin, and ethionamide can affect the toxic effects of pyrazinamide Pyrazinamide when taken with zidovudine can reduce the effect of pyrazinamide. In gout patient the doses of allopurinol and colchicine should be adjusted as pyrazinamide increases the serum concentration of uric acid (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Yew WW *et al.* 2002 & Conde MB *et al.*,2007).

ETHAMBUTOL**Mechanisms of action**

Ethambutol inhibits the arabinosyltransferase and interfere with arabinogalactan the principal polysaccharide of bacterial cell wall resulting death of the cell (Zhang Y *et al.*, 2005.& Somoskovi A *et al.*,2001).

Metabolization and excretion

It is metabolised in liver and the serum half-life of ethambutol is 3-4h, and it can be as long as in patients 10 hr in patients with severe kidney failure. About 50-

80% of drug is excreted in urine and 20% is excreted in faeces (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Adverse effects (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003.&. Chan RY *et al* 2006):

Retrolubar neuritis, blurred vision, In rare cases ethambutol causes Retrolubar neuritis, Peripheral neuritis.

OTHER EFFECTS

Symptoms (nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and hepatotoxicity), haematological symptoms (eosinophilia, neutropenia, and thrombocytopenia), cardiovascular symptoms (myocarditis and pericarditis), neurological symptoms (headache, dizziness, and mental confusion), hyperuricemia/gout (due to a reduction in the excretion of uric acid by the kidney), hypersensitivity (skin rash, arthralgia, and fever), and (occasionally) pulmonary infiltrates (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Use during pregnancy

Ethambutol is a B category and according to WHO it is considered as safe drug during pregnancy and can use during breast feeding (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Use in patients with liver failure

Full dose of ethambutol can be used in liver failure patient dose adjustment is not necessary for the

liver failure patient who are taking Ethambutol (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003).

Use in patients with kidney failure

In kidney failure patient if the creatinine clearance is 30-50mL/min use the drug at intervals between doses usually every 36h. and if the creatinine clearance is about 15-20mg/kg the dose and the patient is on haemodialysis the doses should be administered three times a week (Blumberg HM *et al.*,2003 & Malone R *et al.*,1999).

Interactions

Antacids

Antacids such as aluminium hydroxide can reduce the concentration at about 28% of ethambutol Foods have less effect on the bioavailability of ethambutol.

Other drugs

Ethionamide can worsen the toxic effects of ethambutol (Migliori GB *et al.*, 2009).

CONCLUSION

Patients with tuberculosis treatment attains so many adverse drug reaction so it's the responsibility of clinical pharmacist to check the dose, adverse drug reactions and also their food interaction and monitor them by evaluating lab reports and should give the drug and its dose according to their individual case by applying their pharmacological knowledge.

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Cite this article:

Geervani PG, Raja Nandini K, Vaishnavi M, Chaitanya Srinivas B. A Review on Use of First Line Anti Tuberculosis Drugs in Special Situation and Their Clinical Complications. *International Journal of Pharmacy & Therapeutics*, 11(2), 2020, 56-60. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21276/ijpt.2020.11.2.3>