Pharmacovigilance study of iron chelators in Thalassemic patients

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Aim: In this study we aimed the documentation of AEs of iron chelators seen in thalassemic patients treated in thalassemia center of Antalya Research and Training Hospital.

Methods: Adverse reactions detected in 276 patients between years of 1989-2014 were recorded retrospectively DFO (20-60 mg/kg, flacon), DFP (75 mg/kg, tablet, suspension) and DFX (10-30 mg/kg tablet) were used as chelators.

Results: Total of 393 AEs were recorded from 276 patients (139 female, 137 male). Uncompliance was detected in 53 patients. Twelve patients discontinued the therapy because of pregnancy. Resistant to iron chelators was recorded in five patients. Some patients used more than one drug in years. Number of usage of DFX, DFO and DFP were 674, 215 and 125, respectively. Adverse reactions were observed as follows: 266 in DFX patients, 59 in DFO patients and 68 in DFP patients. The most frequent adverse effects of DFX were proteinuria (62, % 9.2), liver dysfunction (51, % 7.5) and GIT complaints (50, % 7.4). The most frequent adverse effects of DFO were allergies (10, % 4.6). The most frequent adverse effects of DFP were GIT complaints (21, % 16.8) and neutropenia (19, % 15.2).

Conclusion: In this retrospective study adverse effects of iron chelators were recorded. There is no difference between sexes regarding adverse effects. Adverse effects were seen the most in DFP patients and the least in DFO patients. No serious adverse effects were recorded during the study in general.

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