Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Pediatric HIV Infection

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Table 15k. Antiretroviral-Therapy-Associated Adverse Effects and Management Recommendations—Peripheral Nervous System Toxicity  
(Last updated May 22, 2018; last reviewed May 22, 2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse Effects</th>
<th>Associated ARVs</th>
<th>Onset/Clinical Manifestations</th>
<th>Estimated Frequencya</th>
<th>Risk Factors</th>
<th>Prevention/ Monitoring</th>
<th>Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARV Toxic Neuropathyb</td>
<td>d4T, ddl</td>
<td>Onset:</td>
<td>Children: • Around 1% overall • 10% to 25% in children taking d4T</td>
<td>• Pre-existing neuropathy • Elevated triglyceride levels • Poor nutrition • More advanced HIV disease • Concomitant use of other neurotoxic agents (e.g., INH) • Some mitochondrial DNA haplogroups may have increased risk.</td>
<td>Do not use d4T, ddl, or IDV. Co-administration of ddl and d4T is contraindicated (no exceptions).</td>
<td>Investigate potential causes, including non-ARV medications and nutritional deficiencies.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>d4T or ddl are no longer recommended for use in an ARV regimen.</td>
<td>Prevalence:</td>
<td>Adults: • Up to 50% in adults taking d4T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Discontinue offending agent.</td>
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<td>PIs rarely, primarily IDV</td>
<td></td>
<td>Presentation:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Topical capsaicin 8% may be helpful.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Decreased sensation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Consider referral to a neurologist.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Aching, burning, painful numbness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Data are insufficient to allow the Panel to recommend use of any of the following modalities: tricyclic antidepressants, gabapentin, pregabalin, mexiletine, lamotrigine, and acupuncture or other complementary approaches.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Hyperalgesia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Allodynia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Decreased or absent ankle reflexes</td>
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<td>Distribution:</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Bilateral soles of feet, ascending to legs and fingertips</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

a Peripheral neuropathy may be underreported in children because symptoms are difficult to evaluate in young children.

b HIV infection itself may cause a distal sensory neuropathy that is phenotypically identical to ARV toxic neuropathy.

Key to Acronyms: ARV = antiretroviral; d4T = stavudine; ddl = didanosine; IDV = indinavir; INH = isoniazid; PI = protease inhibitor; the Panel = The Panel on Antiretroviral Therapy and Medical Management of Children Living with HIV

References


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