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Characteristics of Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis and Stevens-Johnson Syndrome: A 5-Year Retrospective Study

Jiranuch Thammakumpee, Somchai Yongsiri

Abstract

Background: Toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) and Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) are rare, unpredictable, life-threatening drug reaction with high mortality, and acute emergencies condition. There was no data about these patients in community base practice in Thailand.

Objective: To study the demography, causative drugs, laboratory features, treatments, complications, and mortality of TEN/SJS in Chonburi Hospital and compare factors associated with mortality between groups.

Material and Method: The medical records of TEN/SJS patients between 2005 and 2009 were retrospectively reviewed. Characteristics of the patients and factors associated with mortality were analyzed by SPSS version 19 for windows.

Results: There were 15 SJS and 9 TEN patients. The average age was 40.13±22 years. Male to female ratio was 1.4:1. The mean SCORTEN on day 1 was 1.54±1.1 and 1.79±1.59 on day 3. The overall mortality was 20.83%. Antibiotics were the commonest group of drugs causing TEN (55.6%) and SJS (66.7%). Septicemia and pulmonary infections were associated with higher mortality ($p < 0.001$ and 0.004 respectively). Steroid treatment was associated with lower mortality 13.33% vs. 33.33%.

Conclusion: Antibiotics are the most common causative agents in SJS/TEN. Sepsis and pulmonary infections are associated with higher mortality. Steroid treatment may have some survival benefit.

Keywords: Stevens-Johnson syndrome, Toxic epidermal necrolysis

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The Medical Association of Thailand

Address: 4th Floor, Royal Golden Jubilee Building, 2 Soi Soonvijai, New Petchburi Road, Bangkok 10310, Thailand

Telephone: 0-2716-6102, 0-2716-6962 press 0 Fax: 0-2314-6305

E-mail: jmedassocthai@yahoo.com, math@loxinfo.co.th