

Abstract

Dengue fever is a very common viral illness with significant morbidity and mortality in Sri Lanka. It has a spectrum of manifestations from asymptomatic infection to dengue shock syndrome with multi organ failure. We present a 34 year old male patient who was previously healthy presented with acute febrile illness for three days duration who subsequently developed mental state changes. On following day of admission he had altered behavior with confusion but no seizures. EEG evidence were suggestive of encephalopathy. And other investigations including serum electrolytes, infection screening, CSF analysis, and blood picture were unremarkable. He was diagnosed with DHF complicated with dengue encephalopathy. Dengue encephalopathy is one of the well-recognized but comparatively rare presentation of Dengue fever. It should be considered in a patient with febrile illness especially if coming from Dengue endemic area with neurological manifestations. Early recognition and prompt treatment of triggering factors such as metabolic derangements can prevent development of dengue encephalopathy.