

Abstract

A 32 year old policeman who was previously healthy presented with sudden onset generalized tonic clonic seizures without aura or other physical symptoms. On admission he had Glasgow coma scale of 15/15 with normal hemodynamic parameters. There was generalized muscle wasting with low BMI. Neurological examination revealed hypertonia and brisk reflexes in the left lower limb together with bilateral disc oedema and retinal hemorrhages in the right eye.

The Initial blood investigations did not reveal any abnormality .Non contrast CT of the brain showed a hypo dense area adjacent to the R/ventricular region with perilesional oedema. NCCT appearance and fundoscopic appearance together with generalized wasting condition of patient the possibility of retroviral infection was suspected from the beginning.

As there was a space occupying lesion in the brain urgent neurosurgical referral was done and blood sent for retroviral antibodies and CMV PCR. While awaiting reports patient underwent MRI brain. The hypodense area was reported as a high grade glioma. As the patient was taken over by the neurosurgical team patient underwent glioma excision two days after the admission.

In post operative day 2 both retroviral screening and confirmatory test became positive with high CMV viral load.

Even though MRI was reported as high grade glioma after seeing the ring enhancement in the MRI brain primary central nervous system lymphoma (PCNSL) or cerebral toxoplasmosis were our differentials. Post operative period was uneventful and patient received intravenous gancyclovir along with HAART. After two weeks of surgery histology of brain tissue came as high grade B cell NHL. Then patient was transferred to cancer institute Maharagama for further treatment.

This case scenario was selected to highlight the fact that various clinical presentations of AIDS patients and its associated conditions. High suspiciousness, early diagnosis and commencing on highly active anti retroviral therapy (HAART) reduces the mortality.