Abstract

Steroid responsive encephalopathy associated with autoimmune thyroiditis (SREAT) is a disease characterized by an encephalopathy with a high titer of antithyroid antibodies with an excellent response to steroids. It can present with behavioral and cognitive abnormalities, tremor, aphasia, myoclonus, ataxia, seizures and stroke like episodes. We present a case of a 65-year-old female who presented with a viral illness and developed generalized tonic clonic convulsions followed by persistent reduction of consciousness from the 4th day of admission. She had elevated anti thyroid peroxidase antibody titters and was diagnosed as having SREAT. She had a dramatic response to steroids and neurological symptoms settled within 48 hours of initiation of intravenous steroids. This case highlights the need for a high degree of suspicion of SREAT in patients with an encephalopathy with unknown etiology.