Abstract

Background

Interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features is a recommended term for the patient presenting with idiopathic interstitial pneumonia who have a clinical feature of underlying connective tissue disease but do not meet the current rheumatologic criteria [1]. The diagnosis is based on three domains: clinical, serological and morphological features [2]. Idiopathic interstitial pneumonias have different clinicopathologic entities, the most common being Nonspecific interstitial pneumonia.

Presentation

A 34-year-old previously healthy female presented with the progressively worsening breathlessness for the last 1-year. Based on the diagnostic criteria such as clinical, serological, radiological features she was found to have interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features. As the patient had extensive involvement of the lung, immunosuppressive treatment was started immediately with good clinical response achieved.

Conclusion

Interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features ought to be suspect in patient who presents with autoimmune features but does not meet any criteria of a defined connective tissue disease. They warrant immunosuppression, if they have extensive involvement of lung.