

Abstract

Background

Though central nervous system cryptococcosis is a common opportunistic infection among AIDS patients, its occurrence when CD4 count is 300 is rare. Usually, the central nervous system cryptococcosis manifests when the CD4 count is 100/microliter.

We report a patient with AIDS and central nervous system cryptococcosis who had a CD4 count of 300 on presentation.

Case presentation

A 33-year-old Sri Lankan man with AIDS on antiretroviral therapy presented with a 2-week history of headache, fever and intermittent vomiting.

He was found to have multiple ring-enhancing lesions in brain parenchyma with the CSF showing very high protein, lymphocytosis, and low glucose.

Subsequently, both CSF and serum cryptococcal antigen became positive. His CD4 count was 300/microliter.

We commenced him on treatment for central nervous system cryptococcosis with conventional IV amphotericin and oral flucytosine. By the end of the induction phase, he made a good clinical and biochemical recovery with negative CSF cryptococcal antigen.

Conclusions

Central nervous system cryptococcosis can manifest while on antiretroviral treatment and with CD4 count 300.