

Abstract

Rheumatoid vasculitis is a rare complication of rheumatoid arthritis. It affects small to medium sized arteries and can present with various clinical manifestations. It usually occurs in the late stage of the disease.

We present a 65 years old male with long standing arthritis without proper treatment presenting with toe gangrene and paresthesia of legs with left side foot drop. He had deforming arthritis, rheumatoid nodules and evidence of coarse and fine crepitation in lungs suggestive of bronchiectasis with interstitial lung disease. He had a high titer of rheumatoid factor and positive anti CCP antibodies with evidence of mononeuritis of common peroneal nerve. He responded well to IV methyl prednisolone pulse therapy and disease modifying anti rheumatoid drugs.

Though rheumatoid vasculitis is rare, it can be life threatening as well. It commonly presents with cutaneous manifestations and mononeuritis. Prompt treatment with steroids and other immunosuppressive agents are needed for good outcome.