

CASE REPORT OF RHUPUS SYNDROME

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Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) can coexist in a disease known as Rhupus syndrome. We are reporting a case of a 26-year-old female who first reported symptoms of joint pain for 4 years and was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis 12 months ago. She was treated with DMARDs. She was admitted to hospital with high grade fever, chest pain, and decreased appetite, she also had increased intensity of joint pain. She tested positive for ANA (Anti-nuclear antibody) and Anti-ds DNA. Complete blood count was normal. Renal and liver function tests were normal.

The patient was diagnosed as Rhupus syndrome as the patient had manifestations of both rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus and met both the SLE and the RA ACR criteria. The patient was treated with hydroxychloroquine – a disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug and steroids like prednisolone. The accurate diagnosis is the most important since Rhupus is very rare disease and are very limited cases.

Keywords: rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, rhupus syndrome

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