

Management Of Amlodipine Induced Gingival Overgrowth Via Non-Surgical Approach

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Abstract:

Gingival enlargement is one of the most common complication, that are also associated with certain drugs. The pathogenesis of drug –induced gingival enlargement is uncertain. Ca channel blockers are a group of anti-hypertensives drugs, and the patients who are hypertensives used to take Ca channel blocker, which is antihypertensives . Seymour et al. reported the gingival overgrowth attributed to amlodipine and also discussed that several factors may affect between the Ca channel blocker and gingival tissues which are efficient to plaque control, alternative drug modification, scaling & root planning. Amlodipine induced gingival overgrowth was diagnosed & treated thorough scaling & root planing, curretage and drug modification.

Keywords: Amlodipine, Ca Channel Blockers, Gingival Overgrowth

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Introduction:

The term ‘gingival overgrowth’ refers to an abnormal growth of the gingival tissues around the teeth that occurs due to various adverse effects of some drugs including anti-convulsants (mainly phenytoin), immune-suppressants (mainly cyclosporine) and Ca channel blocker (mainly nifedipine). Ca channel blockers are the drugs developed for the treatment of cardiovascular conditions such as- Hypertension, angina pectoris, coronary artery spasms, cardiac arrhythmias and are considered as one of the etiologic factors for drug induced gingival overgrowth. [1] With the control of local factors gingival overgrowth reduces conspicuously. Instead of this, patients who are susceptible to gingival overgrowth, that may

impedes aesthetics, mastication, difficulty in speech & maintaining oral hygiene, increased susceptibility to bacterial infections, root caries & periodontal disease. Amlodipine is being used for longer in time, where there is a increasing in frequency rate and also reported the first for causing the gingival overgrowth attributed to amlodipine, Seymour et al. (1994). Ellis et al. was the first to report AIGO & sequestration of amlodipine.[2] Amlodipine is a dihydropyridine derivative of new anti-anginal CCBs that acts by decreasing myocardial contractility and oxygen demand and that dilates coronary arteries and arterioles which are being used for the treatment of hypertension & angina .[3]

Case Report:

A 43 old female patient reported to the department of Periodontology, with a chief complaint of swollen and bleeding gums and generalized sensitivity of teeth to hot & cold beverages since 3 months. Patient is hypertensives since 10 years and was undergoing the treatment of Ayurvedic medicine since 10 years. From last 3 months, she was started antihypertensives drugs, taking [Amlodipine 5mg (OD) + Telmisartan 40 mg (OD)] since 3 months.[4]After that she noticed small bead like nodular enlargement of the gums that gradually progressed to the present size covering almost the entire front teeth. Intraoral examination revealed very poor oral hygiene with generalized gingival enlargement, which was covering one-third to half of the tooth surface. A diffuse gingival overgrowth involving marginal, papillary as well as attached gingiva. Gingiva was pink in colour with erythematous area and lobulated surface. Margins of the gingiva were rolled out with loss of normal gingival scalloping. On palpation gingiva was firm and resilient in consistency, which was severely inflamed with spontaneous bleeding and staining of teeth. The probing of gingival sulcus revealed presence of pseudopockets and elicited the bleeding. [5]



Figure:1 Preoperative view



Figure:2 Buccal view (Right Side)



Figure:3Buccal view (Left Side)



Figure:4 Post-operative view on maxillary arch (1 monthsfollowup)



Figure:5Post-operative view (2 monthsfollowup)



Figure:6 OPG View

Investigations:

OPG revealed generalized horizontal bone loss.

Blood investigations such as – CBC , BT, CT were done which were in the normal limits.

Treatment:

The treatment of the patient was started with non-surgical approach. After the Phase-1 therapy patient was advised Chlorhexidine mouthrinse and Metrohex-plus gel. Patient is referred to consulted physician regarding drug substitution. Treatment included the substitution of Amlodipine to Telmisartan 40mg (OD). After 2 weeks of recall visit professional scaling & root planning and curretage was performed. Patient was instructed and motivated for maintaining good oral hygiene with the use of chlorhexidine mouth rinses . At 4 weeks , 6 weeks & 8 weeks of recall visit, inflammation was markedly reduced & also the reduction of gingival enlargement.

Discussion:

The widespread use of calcium channel blocker began in 1980s. The dihydropyridones (e.g. nifedipine) tend to be more commonly associated with the gingival enlargement than with other sub groups of calcium channel antagonists such as amlodipine. Amlodipine is a 3rd Gen. dihydropyridine derivative of new Ca channel blocker (CCBs), with a mode action similar to Nifedipine, which commonly causes gum hypertrophy. Generally, amlodipine induced gingival overgrowth occurs within 3 months of drug's initiation, when the dose rate is 5-10 mg/day. And the half-life of Amlodipine has long (30-50) hrs. Jorgensen (1997) reported the prevalence of amlodipine induced gingival overgrowth as 3.3% .[6] 43 years old female patient, the enlargement occurred after 3 months of taking the drug at a dose of 5 mg once a day. So, the time duration of gingival hypertrophy occurs due to variety of multifactorial causes such as- genetic susceptibility , interleukins , MMPs & host response to drug induced gingival fibroblasts. When the gingival tissues grows , it can create pockets and making the host are more susceptible to bacterial infections, dental caries & periodontal disease. So, the first step for managing gingival hypertrophy, to stop the offending drug and replace it with an alternative. And, the patient was instructed and motivated for maintaining good oral hygiene practices and professional plaque cleaning .[7]

Conclusion:

Gingival enlargement was treated via non-surgical approach including mechanical instrumentation and full mouth curretage was performed, and the patient was instructed & motivated for maintaining a good oral hygiene, followed by substitution of amlodipine by Telmisartan 40mg (OD). Meticulous oral hygiene maintenance by patient that also may be responsible for gingival overgrowth. Therefore patient must be informed of this tendency and the importance of maintenance of the effective oral hygiene as key factors in preventing and managing gingival overgrowth.

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