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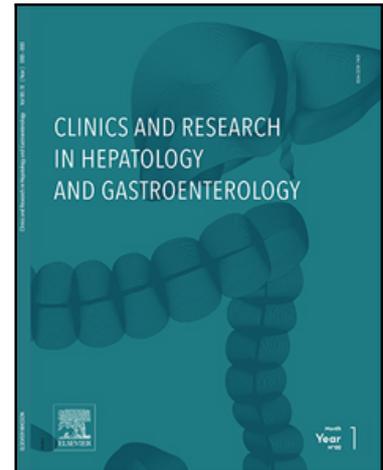
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Lichenoid eruption during antiPD-L1 immunotherapy with avelumab in metastatic colorectal cancer

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Various toxicities, including cutaneous immune-related adverse reactions, are associated with immune checkpoint inhibitors. While several cases of lichenoid eruption are described during anti-programmed cell death-1 (PD-1) therapies with Nivolumab and Pembrolizumab, only few cases are reported with anti-programmed cell death-ligand-1 (PD-L1) therapy.

A 76-years-old man received Avelumab, an antiPD-L1, for a deficient mismatch repair metastatic colon adenocarcinoma in second-line setting, in the SAMCO PRODIGE 54 trial (1) sponsored by Fédération Francophone de Cancérologie Digestive FFCD (NCT03186326; EudraCT n°2016-004575-49). Neither him nor his family had a history of dermatological illness.

After 13 cycles of Avelumab at 10 mg/kg every 2 weeks, he developed lichenoid dermatitis on hand, foot, wrists and low back (Figure 1). Skin biopsy confirmed lichenoid dermatitis. Despite topical steroids, lesions extended gradually to papular lesions on limbs and trunk with gluteal erythrodermic squamous lesions, palmoplantar keratosis, keratosis pilaris on anterior chest and palm cracks, affecting more than 60% of body surface but sparing face and scalp (Figure 2). Avelumab was stopped and the patient was hospitalised. Treatment with Acitretine 20mg daily (oral retinoid used for psoriasis) was followed by a slight improvement with peeling after 6 days. After 1 month, residual lesions are still observed. Avelumab (75%) was re-introduce 3 months after. One year after, there is still a disease partial response with no recurrence of lichenoid dermatitis.



Figure 1. Lichenoid eruption with palmoplantar keratosis after 13 cycles of Avelumab



Figure 2 Lichenoid eruption with papular lesions on limbs after 13 cycles of Avelumab

Reference

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Declaration of interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

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