

Case Report

Linezolid-Induced Near-Fatal Serotonin Syndrome During Escitalopram Therapy: Case Report and Review of Literature

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ABSTRACT

Linezolid is a synthetic antimicrobial agent of the oxazolidinone class with weak, nonspecific inhibitor of monoamine oxidase enzymes. Concomitant therapy with an adrenergic or serotonergic agent or consuming tyramine (>100 mg/day) may induce serotonin syndrome (SS). We present a case report of near-fatal adverse interaction between linezolid and escitalopram inducing SS in a 65-year-old woman with sepsis, under empirical antibiotic treatment. This report also summarizes the current relevant literature as identified via PubMed, EMBASE, and PsycINFO, supplemented with a manual search of cross references.

Key words: Adverse event, escitalopram, linezolid, serotonin syndrome

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