ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

CEPHALEXIN-INDUCED BULLOUS PEMPHIGOID: A NEW CASE

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Background: Bullous pemphigoid (BP) is an acquired autoimmune disease commonly attributed as idiopathic, especially in elderly patients. It is also now commonly accepted that BP can be caused by or associated with drug therapy.

Observation: We report on a 64-year-old woman that developed BP after recent cephalexin intake. Indeed, she developed severe bullous eruptions with a clinical picture of severe flexural involvement and extensive mucosal ulceration. BP was diagnosed on the basis of clinical, histopathological and immunofluorescence findings. Cutaneous lesions improved rapidly after cephalexin withdrawal and oral prednisone. No recurrence of BP has taken place during the subsequent 6 months.

Key message: Drug-induced BP (DIBP) has been rarely described in the literature. Clinical and laboratory features are similar to those of idiopathic BP. The prognosis of DIBP is good, provided that the drug is withdrawn early in the course of the disease. We report the third case of DIBP due to cephalexin ingestion.