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De novo mixed cryoglobulinemia in Egyptian patients with Hepatitis C after successful treatment with direct acting antiviral drugs

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Introduction: The side effects profile of the new direct antiviral agents (DAA) for the treatment of hepatitis C virus (HCV) is not fully elucidated. A few reports have described adverse renal effects of sofosbuvir (SOF) based regimens. In this case series, we describe 50 cases of de novo renal cryoglobulinemic glomerulonephritis after successful treatment with DAA.

Methodology: Patients with HCV (genotype IV) who did not receive antiviral therapy with peg interferon before (naïve) were referred to the Nephrology Department after successful treatment with DAA for an opinion for assessment of deranged renal functions or proteinuria; the clinical manifestations ranged from lower limb edema to development of purpuric skin lesions. Cryoglobulins were tested in the serum using the PCR detection.

Results: All patients had a detectable de novo cryoglobulins in the serum. The most common glomerulonephritis in renal biopsies was membranoproliferative (52%) and CKD developed in 46% of cases.

Conclusion: The use of the DAA for the treatment of HCV infected patients may result in unfavorable renal outcome. The observed adverse effects included de novo cryoglobulinemic glomerulonephritis and the development of CKD.

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