

Pembrolizumab-induced Pneumonitis

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Introduction: Pembrolizumab is a monoclonal antibody targeting the anti-programmed death protein 1, which is present on the surface of T and B cells. Here we present a case of a 47-year-old female with diagnosed with triple negative left sided invasive ductal carcinoma stage IIIC treated with several round of chemotherapy which included Pembrolizumab. The patient subsequently developed worsening respiratory functions requiring oxygen and eventually lead to intubation with ICU admission. After extensive workup the patient was diagnosed with Pembrolizumab-induced pneumonitis.

Methods: EMR records were gathered from hospital visits. Patient was physically seen throughout her hospital course. Images were gathered with patient consent from EMR.

Results: Following intubation the patient was transferred to a university-based hospital where she was treated with 500mg of prednisone for three days as well as ventilator support. Gradual improvement led to extubation with continued improvement in oxygen requirement.

Conclusion: Pembrolizumab induced pneumonitis is a rare but life-threatening complication.