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Title: Spectrum of adverse drug reactions during MDR TB treatment

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Body: Introduction: A wide range of adverse drug events have been reported with MDR TB treatment which may contribute to treatment default. Aim: To identify potential adverse drug reactions(ADRs) in MDR TB patients on treatment. Methods: 50 patients (30males & 20 females) on MDR TB treatment were regularly followed up in outpatient clinic to understand any potential ADRs arising from the treatment. Results: 80% of the patients developed GI disturbances (nausea / vomiting / dyspepsia / loss of appetite). Depression was the commonest neurological ADRs (15%) in addition to peripheral neuropathy (5%) and giddiness (2%). 10% patients developed skin discoloration, in addition to rash (5%) and pruritus (4%). Anemia and thrombocytopenia were noted in 6% and 3% patients respectively. 70% patients complained of distressing arthralgias while 30% had uric acid elevations. Jaundice developed in 5% of the patients. Most prominent endocrine problem was hypothyroidism (20%). No cardiac, renal or visual side effect was reported during the study. Conclusions: A wide variety of ADRs are seen during MDR TB treatment. Many are significant enough to contribute to treatment default. The treating physician has to look out for these signs during every consultation. Patients must be educated regarding these events and counseled to not default, but seek consultation for the same.