

**Caffeine/carbinoxamine/
dihydrocodeine/guaifenesin/
methylephedrine-hydrochloride/
muramidase/paracetamol/riboflavin/
sulbutiamine**

S

Drug-induced-autoimmune hepatitis: case report

A 64-year-old man developed drug-induced-autoimmune hepatitis during treatment with caffeine/carbinoxamine/dihydrocodeine/guaifenesin/methylephedrine-hydrochloride/muramidase/paracetamol/riboflavin/sulbutiamine [Pabron Gold; route not stated]

The man, who was self-administering over-the-counter tablets of caffeine/carbinoxamine/dihydrocodeine/guaifenesin/methylephedrine-hydrochloride/muramidase/paracetamol/riboflavin/sulbutiamine

(25 mg/2.5 mg/8 mg/41.67 mg/20 mg/20 mg/300 mg/4 mg/8 mg) for upper respiratory inflammation, was hospitalised with general fatigue and liver dysfunction. He had taken 3 tablets daily for 3-4 days, 3 times during past 3 months. Thereafter, he started to develop persistent epigastric distress and general malaise. Whenever he took the medication his symptoms worsened. Currently he was hospitalised 2 days after the last dose. His investigations showed elevated autoimmune hepatitis markers. His drug induced lymphocyte stimulation test was positive. His liver biopsy on hospital day 3, showed spotty necrosis and ceroid-pigmented Kupffer cells and piecemeal necrosis with multiple plasma cells.

The man received glycyrrhizin and later he was started on steroids with prednisolone due to persistent rise in the transaminase concentrations and to control the hepatic inflammation. After 3 days, his transaminase levels began to decrease and finally normalised by the end of 2 weeks.

Author comment: *In conclusion, this case of over-the-counter drug caffeine/carbinoxamine/dihydrocodeine/guaifenesin/methylephedrine-hydrochloride/muramidase/paracetamol/riboflavin/sulbutiamine-associated liver injury, diagnosed as drug-induced-autoimmune hepatitis, underscores the need for caution in the use of over-the-counter drugs."*

Takeda K, et al. Over-the-counter drug induced autoimmune hepatitis. Internal Medicine 55: 1293-1297, No. 10, 15 May 2016. Available from: URL: <http://doi.org/10.2169/internalmedicine.55.5509> - Japan 803187532

» **Editorial comment:** Details of this case report have previously been published [see Reactions 1586 p121; 803166939]