

PREVENTION OF TOXOPLASMIC ENCEPHALITIS AND PNEUMOCYSTIS JIROVECI PNEUMONIA IN PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HIV: EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF DAPSONE/ PYRIMETHAMINE/LEUCOVORIN

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Background

- In Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)-infected patients, adverse effects of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (TMP/ SMX) involving skin and bone marrow, are frequently developed
- Alternative primary prophylaxis regimen against *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia (PCP) and Toxoplasma encephalitis (TE) should be considered, in these settings.

Purpose

To evaluate the efficacy and safety of dapson 50 mg daily + (pyrimethamine 50mg + leucovorin 25 mg) weekly (DPL) as primary prophylaxis of PCP and TE in patients with HIV infection, which developed intolerance to TMP / SMX.

Material and Methods

Retrospective, observational study



Electronic registration
Medical records
Pharmacological dispansions

Patients selected :

- Chronically infected with HIV
- CD4 count <200 cells /mm³
- IgG+Ab against Toxoplasma
- Intolerance to TMP/ SMX

September
2013

December
2014



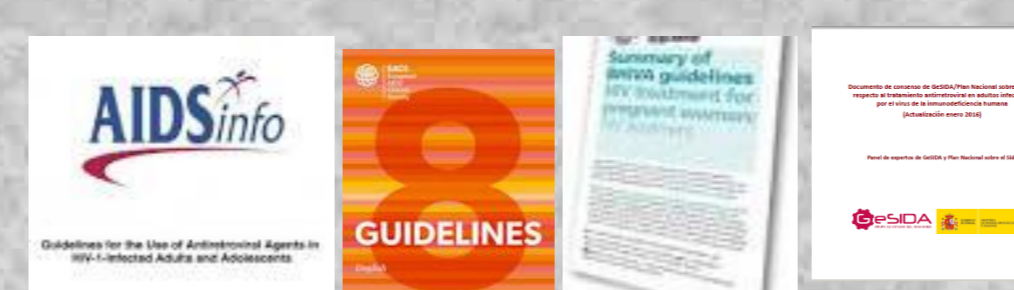
- Demographic and laboratory data
- CDC stage at inclusion
- Antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- CD4 at the beginning and the end of DPL
- Mean time of DPL
- Adverse events

Before starting dapson, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency was ruled out

The indication for discontinuation was CD4 > 200 cells/ mm³ for > 3 months

Revision of DHHS, EACS, BHIVA, GESIDA clinical guidelines as scientific evidence support

An off-label use form was requested from Hospital Pharmacy to prescribe DPL



Results

469 HIV-infected patients followed

Three male patients were included

Mean age 48 years

Patients characteristics

CDC stages	A2, B3, C3
ART	Two nucleoside(tide) analogues and one protease inhibitor
CD4 count(cells /mm ³)	At the beginning of DPL 119 At the end of DPL 296
Average time of DPL	Four months

No patient developed PCP or TE

The combination was well tolerated

No adverse effects were recorded

Conclusion

The combination of dapson daily + pyrimethamine and leucovorin weekly is an effective and safe alternative to TMP / SMX, as primary prophylaxis of PCP and TE in patients with HIV infection. One limitation of our study is the small size of the sample, scarcely representative to draw definitive conclusions

Authors have no conflict of interest in this study

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