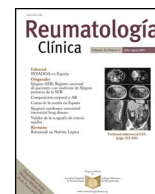




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Letter to the Editor

Systemic lupus erythematosus myocarditis and COVID-19 vaccination: Comment



Miocarditis por lupus eritematoso sistémico y vacunación contra la COVID-19: comentario

Dear Editor,

We read with great interest the publication *Systemic lupus erythematosus myocarditis after COVID-19*¹ by Sogbe et al. describing a 72-year-old woman with pleuritic chest pain one week after receiving the third dose of BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine.¹ Serological tests for cardiotropic infections were negative, but autoimmune screening revealed positive results for antinuclear antibodies at 1:160 dilution, anti-dsDNA, and anti-histone antibodies.¹ Sogbe et al. suggested a diagnosis of systemic lupus erythematosus with cardiac affection.¹ According to Sogbe et al., this is the first case report of lupus myocarditis after COVID-19 vaccination.¹

It is understandable that the COVID-19 vaccine may cause a rheumatological problem. However, any possible background disease and co-morbidity must be ruled out. It is impossible to rule out pre- or post-vaccination immunological/rheumatological problems without laboratory investigation data. This is a clinical

problem that might go unnoticed as a side effect of vaccination due to the presence of a confounding factor.² Last, but no less important, silent and asymptomatic infection with COVID-19 is possible and may develop during or after vaccination.³ COVID-19 is another potential contributor to lupus myocarditis.

References

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