

Wegener's Granulomatosis

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Introduction

Wegener's Granulomatosis is a form of disease that is accompanied by the inflammation of blood vessels. This also affects many other parts of the body like nose, lungs and kidneys. It is one of the life threatening disease that cause serious problems and illness. The rate of the survival is very low. Wegener's granulomatosis is constitutes the larger group of vasculitic syndromes. This is responsible for the formation of the circulating antibody that is known as ANCA's (antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies) in the small capillaries and vessels. They widely affect the smaller and the narrow arteries and veins (vasculitis).

Discussion

This is also known as Midline granulomatosis. The initial symptoms of the disease vary extremely that also affect the diagnosis and consequently the treatment of the disease. Rhinitis is the most common symptoms that are evident in the maximum of the patients. It affects many parts of the body like chronic renal failure. Eyes, ears and nose diseases, might cause loss of hearing due to disturbance in auditory tube dysfunction. Conjunctivitis and Trachea: sub-glottal stenosis are the example of the diseases caused (Gross, 1993). WG widely affects the lungs and the respiratory system n and nervous system occasionally. Medicine sciences have failed to find out the particular and the specific causes of WG but it is specifically assumed to be autoimmune disorder. This disease usually appears in middle-aged adults but is rarely diagnosed in children but it is more often seen in infants those are as young to the age of three months.

As it is a serious disease and affects the person on a greater extent, therefore an immediate treatment is necessary and if it is not provided, it can lead to death within a short period of time. Treatment of the disease is carried out by putting control over inflammation process that is followed by restraining the immune system.

More general symptoms that indicate the disease in the body are accompanied by weight loss, fever, joint pains, and shortness of breath, coughing up blood and sinus inflammation. In order to diagnose the disease, the first stage of the medical examination will investigate the presence of proteins called antineutrophil cytoplasmic antibodies (ANCA), in the blood. Urinalysis is followed and sometimes biopsy is carried out for the confirmation of the disease. Other examination may include Nasal mucosal biopsy, Open lung biopsy or Upper airway biopsy (Ross, 2009).

The particular medicine that is used for the treatment of Wegener's granulomatosis include the higher quantity of cortisone (prednisone) and another type of drug that is used for immunosuppressive purpose known as cyclophosphamide (Cytoxan). There are many other side effects that are caused by the treatment of WG. Prednisone can result into the high blood pressure, cataracts, changes in mood and personality, brittle bones, and weight gain. Because of these side affect the patients with WG are treated with great care (Ross, 2009).

Conclusion

Irrespective of all the treatment, there are severe chances that the disease will be followed back to the patient. Therefore, it is termed to be a fatal disease that can lead to death. There is no particular method of the prevention from the disease. So, the patient report with the symptoms that are mentioned, the doctors should take immediate notice and treatment should be provided

that should be followed by the medication and hospitalization of the patient for the intensive care.

References

- Gross, W. L. (1993). *ANCA-associated vasculitides: immunological and clinical aspects*. New York: Plenum Press.
- Ross, C. (2009). *Eye on the prize: fighting past Wegener's granulomatosis*. Bloomington, Ind.: AuthorHouse.