Fulminant liver failure during interferon beta treatment of multiple sclerosis

Recently, Yoshida et al. reported a patient who developed fulminant liver failure, requiring urgent liver transplantation, 7 weeks after commencing interferon β-1a (Rebif, Serono-Canada, Oakville, Ontario, Canada). The patient received a liver transplant in September 2000 and the authors have received new information that she had been started on nefazodone (Serzone, Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada, Montreal, Quebec) in February of 2000. Nefazodone has recently been reported in association with acute liver failure.\textsuperscript{2,3} The manufacturer of nefazodone has reported 23 cases of liver failure and 109 cases of hepatic adverse events out of 8.3 million users of this drug worldwide.\textsuperscript{4} The patient’s liver enzymes were stable prior to starting interferon β-1a and two-thirds of nefazodone-associated liver failure occurred within 4 months.\textsuperscript{4} Interferon β-1a appears to be temporally implicated in the patient’s liver failure but the authors cannot exclude the possibility that nefazodone may have been a factor or cofactor. The authors regret that they were unaware of this patient’s nefazodone use until their paper appeared in print.

References

A 24-week, randomized, double-blind study of donepezil in moderate to severe Alzheimer’s disease

The authors of the article “A 24-week, randomized, double-blind study of donepezil in moderate to severe Alzheimer’s disease” (Neurology 2001;57:613–620) would like to amend the disclosure in this article to add that between the time of submission (November 14, 2000) and publication of the article (August 28, 2001) in Neurology, honoraria received from the sponsor exceeded $10,000 for the past year. All other aspects of the disclosure are unchanged.
To: A 24-week, randomized, double-blind study of donepezil in moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease
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