gutflix
GI learning, personalised

Summary

HERPES SIMPLEX ESOPHAGITIS IN IMMUNOCOMPETENT HOST

Xavier Garcia Aguilera

UEG Week Copenhagen 2023 | Poster

Oesophagus

October 15, 2023

A case report describes herpes simplex esophagitis in an immunocompetent 22-year-old malnourished woman who presented with refractory epigastric pain and vomiting without dysphagia or odynophagia.

KEY POINTS

- Endoscopy revealed round and serpiginous ulcers with yellowish exudate in the lower esophagus, and histopathology confirmed herpes simplex esophagitis in a patient with negative HIV serology and normal immunoelectrophoresis.
- Malnutrition (BMI 14.2) was identified as the only risk factor despite normal vitamin and protein levels.
- Treatment with intravenous acyclovir 5mg/kg every 8 hours led to significant improvement within 48 hours, followed by oral acyclovir 400 mg every 8 hours for 10 days with complete symptom resolution and weight gain.
- The authors emphasize that infectious esophagitis should be considered in immunocompetent hosts, classic symptoms like dysphagia or odynophagia may be absent, and endoscopy findings alone are insufficient for definitive diagnosis without histopathology.
- This case may be relevant for clinicians evaluating persistent upper gastrointestinal symptoms unresponsive to standard acid-suppression therapy in young patients.

VIEW THIS CONTENT ON GUTFLIX

https://gutflix.eu/search/d/3cf3f936-743b-11ee-a741-0242ac140004

AI-generated summary

This summary was generated by an AI large language model based on the content transcript. It is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a substitute for clinical judgment. Always rely on your professional expertise and the full clinical context when making clinical decisions.