

P25. ANTICOAGULANT RODENTICIDE POISONING IN PREGNANCY

Zeynep ÖZTÜRK^{1*}, Serap ÇUHADAR²

¹ İzmir Atatürk Training and Research Hospital, Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, İzmir, TÜRKİYE

² İzmir Atatürk Training and Research Hospital, Department of Medical Biochemistry, İzmir, TÜRKİYE

Rodenticides are the most commonly used toxic agents for the suicide attempts because of their ready availability. Most of them are warfarin-type anticoagulants and the long-acting anticoagulant products (e.g., brodifacoum, bromadiolone, etc.) known as “second generation” or “superwarfarins”. For humans, even a single dose of these agents can be lethal. The purpose of this report is to increase the awareness of rodenticide poisoning and suicide attempts.

A 24-year-old multiparous and 11 weeks pregnant woman attempted suicide by taking brodifacoum as rodenticide. On arrival in the emergency department, she had no sign of hemorrhage, but nonspecific complaints such as nausea, numbness and feeling unwell. According to her medical history, she had taken psychotropic medication, but discontinued abruptly because of the pregnancy. Laboratory test results included hyponatremia, hypocalcemia, slightly lower blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine levels and shortened activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT). The patient was monitored for 72 hours and discharged home after normal laboratory test results of renal functions, electrolytes and APTT. A few days after, she consulted to Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Counselling Service for toxicity risk assessment. The information about the teratogenic risks of the agent was provided and was followed till delivery. No sign of perinatal complications was noticed.

Superwarfarins are long-acting anticoagulants that may cause bleeding, internal hemorrhage and prolonged blood clotting times (PT, APTT). In this case, the shortened APTT might be due to stress and pregnancy. In conclusion, this clinical presentation can be defined as a simulation or atypical intoxication.