

Treatment of Chlamydia Urethritis with Azitromycin

A. Papatsoris¹, E. Livieratos², A. Gekas¹ and C.Y. Frangides²

1. Department of Urology, 2. Department of Internal Medicine, *Saint Andrew's* General Hospital of Patras, Greece

BACKGROUND

Nongonococcal urethritis (NGU) is a syndrome with several causes and not an etiologic treatment. The most important and potentially dangerous pathogen involved is *Chlamydia trachomatis*, which is responsible for the 30-50% of NGU infections. We report our results from the treatment of *C. trachomatis* urethritis in men, with azitromycin.

METHODS

Thirty four male patients, aged from 24 to 63 years (mean age: 40.57 ± 8.36) diagnosed suffering from *C. trachomatis* urethritis were treated in our Hospital from September 1996 to February 1999. All the patient were given Azitromycin orally, in the dosage of 1gr on the first and the seventh day. In 21 cases (61,76%) it was found that the female sexual partners of the patients were affected and thus the same medication was applied in them in order to avoid relapses. The isolation of *C. trachomatis* from the urethra was

performed using the kit Panthi Dx[®] in both men and women. Statistical analysis was performed with the χ^2 test.

RESULTS

Concerning the male patients the following results were recorded (Table).

In the affected female patients the *C. trachomatis* was eradicated earlier, usually before the 14th day. In particular, from the 21 women *C. trachomatis* was isolated in all of them on the 1st day, in 6 (28,57%), on the 7th day, in 2 (9,52%) on the 14th day and in none on the 24th day. During the follow up there were no serious side effects and no complications from the medication.

Conclusion: Our results suggest that the use of azitromycin in the treatment of *C. trachomatis* urethritis in men is efficient, simple and safe, provided that both sexual partners are under medication in the appropriate dosage the 1st and 7th day.

	1 st day	7 th day	14 th day	24 th day
<i>C. trachomatis</i> isolation:	100%	43,75%	15,62%	6,25%
Urethral discharge:	46,87%	37,5%	21,87%	6,25%
Dysuria:	71,85%	40,62%	9,37%	3,12%
Local itch:	43,75%	34,37%	3,12%	0%
Local erythema:	62,5%	12,5	7,5%	3,12%