Voriconazole exposure may affect SCC after lung transplant

May 9 2017

(HealthDay)—For lung transplant (LTx) recipients, prolonged exposure
to voriconazole may be associated with the development or recurrence of skin squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), according to a study published online May 2 in the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research*.

Chin Fen Neoh, Ph.D., from the Universiti Teknologi MARA in Bandar Puncak Alam, Malaysia, and colleagues conducted a retrospective cohort study to describe the extent and outcomes of new and recurrent SCC in 102 adult LTx recipients with skin SCC who had received voriconazole.

The researchers found that 13.7 percent of the LTx patients had at least one episode of skin SCC. Group 1 (seven patients) had SCC during or after voriconazole exposure; Group 2 (three patients) had skin SCC before initiation of voriconazole therapy, which subsequently recurred or worsened; Group 3 (three patients) had a history of skin SCC before voriconazole exposure but no skin SCC during treatment; and Group 4 (one patient) had multiple skin SCCs before LTx and voriconazole use and developed further SCC after voriconazole use. In Groups 1, 2, and 3, the median of voriconazole exposure was 119, 1,127, and 173 days, respectively. In three and eight patients, respectively, there was a probable and possible correlation between voriconazole exposure and skin SCC.

"Prolonged voriconazole exposure may contribute to the development, recurrence, and progression of skin SCC in LTx patients," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

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