

SNAKE ENVENOMATION SIMULATING ST ELEVATION MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

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Case Presentation

Introduction

- Approximately 5000 venomous snakebites are seen in united states annually.
- Local tissue reaction, coagulopathy, nephrotoxicity, and neurotoxicity are common envenomation syndrome
- Cardiotoxicity commonly involve dysrhythmias and tachycardia
- myocardial infarction associated with venomous snakebite are reported but rare

Case Presentation

- 49-year-old male with no pertinent past medical history (PMH) who presented as a transfer after snake bite to left hand.
- Crotalidae polyvalent immune fab (Crofab) was initiated
- Labs: Troponin was 3.363. EKG showed ST elevation in leads 2, 3 and avF (figure 1).
- Code STEMI called. Patient taken to catheterization lab. 40% stenosis in right coronary artery was seen (figure 2).

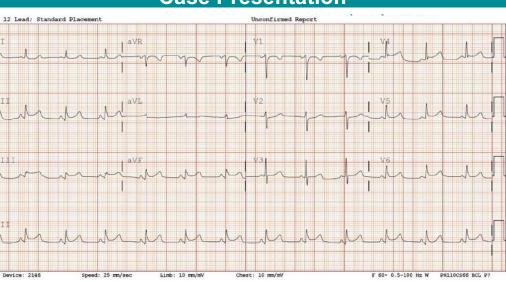


Figure 1: EKG on admission Cath lab results: left ventricular dysfunction with an LVEF of 20-30%, elevated filling pressures, and decreased gradient across the aortic valve.

- Patient developed acute kidney injury, compartment syndrome of left hand, pneumatosis intestinalis.
- Patient was treated appropriately. He was discharged to a rehabilitation facility after 3 months.

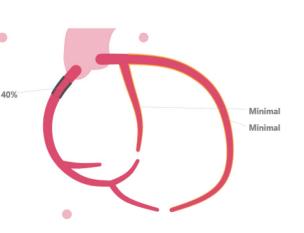


Figure 2: Admission Coronary Angiography Diagram

Discussion

- Our case illustrates severe cardiotoxicity after snake envenomation.
- Snake venom has thrombotic, vasoconstrictive, and inflammatory properties
- Viper venom contain endopeptidases which lead to depletion of coagulation factors putting a patient in a hypercoagulable state
- Treatment is warranted toward prompt initiation of antivenom to decrease toxic complications
- Further research is warranted on STEMI following snake bite.

References

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