Guillain Barre Syndrome and Malaria

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Sir

I read an interesting article by Dhadke et al on clinical profile of Guillain Barre Syndrome (March 2013 issue, page No. 14-16) and an excellent editorial on the same by Nadkar et al (page No. 9-10). A lot has been said in the editorial but I would like to share my views and experience.

In malaria endemic areas we should look for antecedent or concurrent malarial illness. Autonomic involvement is also a frequent accompaniment in GBS like presentation in malaria as a presenting illness. In spite of autonomic involvement, the prognosis is excellent as observed in few case reports1,2 which is different from south african observation.3 This difference may be because of variations in Plasmodial strains or difference in secondary infecting organisms in malaria. Furthermore such patients have an excellent prognosis without plasmapheresis or intravenous immunoglobulin use, so awareness about it may help reduce the cost of therapy.

References


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Received: 12.04.2013;
Accepted: 21.06.2013