

Abstract: ILD Induced Nitrofurantoin

Nitrofurantoin is commonly used for urinary tract infections and long-term prophylaxis but is a recognized cause of drug-induced pulmonary toxicity. This complication can occur at any stage of therapy and is often underdiagnosed, leading to progressive lung injury and possible irreversible fibrosis.

We present a 76-year-old female on prolonged nitrofurantoin therapy who developed progressive dyspnea and hypoxemia, ultimately diagnosed with drug-induced interstitial lung disease after initial misdiagnosis as pneumonia.

Nitrofurantoin-induced lung disease spans acute, subacute, and chronic presentations, making recognition challenging. Risk factors include prolonged use and female sex. Management primarily involves prompt drug discontinuation, with corticosteroids used in more severe cases. Delayed diagnosis may result in persistent fibrosis despite treatment.

This case underscores the importance of maintaining suspicion for medication-induced pulmonary toxicity and proactive monitoring in patients receiving long-term nitrofurantoin.