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Hypopigmentation of the Skin and Hair Associated with Dasatinib Therapy

Dasatinib ile İlişkili Deri ve Saç Hipopigmentasyonu

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Figure 1. Baseline appearence of patient.

Figure 2. Notable facial hypogmentation seen after 6 months of dasatinib threapy.

We present the case of a 48-year-old man who initially presented with fever and left upper abdominal discomfort who was subsequently diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia in the chronic phase with a high Sokal score (1.31) and started on dasatinib therapy at 100 mg/day. The patient responded well to dasatinib (*BCR-ABL* undetectable at 6 months). However, compared to the baseline pigmentation, a notable change in facial skin tone and scalp hair color was observed after 6 months of dasatinib therapy along with generalized hypopigmentation over the body (Figures 1 and 2).

Cutaneous adverse reactions are commonly seen with tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs). Imatinib, another TKI, is frequently associated with mucocutaneous side effects encompassing both hypo- and hyperpigmentation [1]. In contrast, dasatinib has relatively few cutaneous side effects, primarily manifesting as nonspecific maculopapular rashes, skin exfoliation, and irritation [2]. Pigmentary changes in the skin and hair are considered rare with dasatinib therapy, although a few reports have documented cases of hypopigmentation in the skin and hair due to dasatinib treatment [2,3,4]. The mechanism underlying this phenomenon is believed to involve TKI through the blockade of the c-Kit/SCF signal transduction pathway by dasatinib, which plays a key role in melanocyte physiology [5].

Keywords: Chronic myeloid leukemia, Dasatinib, Hypopigmentation, Tyrosine kinase inhibitors

Anahtar Sözcükler: Kronik myeloid lösemi, Dasatinib, Hipopigmentasyon, Tirozin kinaz inhibitörleri

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Ethics

Informed Consent: Informed consent was obtained from the patient.

Authorship Contributions

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