

COMMUNITY-ACQUIRED PNEUMONIA ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19: THE TREATMENT PERSPECTIVES

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Abstract

The pandemic, caused by novel SARS-CoV-2 infection, is one of the greatest challenges of present days, responsible for the development of severe acute respiratory syndrome due to lung injury and respiratory failure in up to 15 % of patients. Current review is dedicated to the use of etiological and pathogenetic therapy in COVID-19 associated community-acquired pneumonia patients. A special attention the authors have paid on antibacterial therapy in this cohort of patients.

A systemic inflammatory response, manifested with “cytokine storm”, is extremely important in the development of acute respiratory distress-syndrome (ARDS). This fact attracts the attention of medical scientists due to a possibility of effective use of tocilizumab, which is IL-6 receptor antagonist.

Management of comorbidities plays an important role in the treatment of coronavirus infection patients. In cases when acute respiratory failure occurs the respiratory support should be based on weighted use of both non-invasive and invasive lung ventilation along with high-flow oxygen therapy. Major indications and contraindications for these ventilatory support procedures have been listed.

Basic principles of ARDS and septic shock management have been presented. Administration of systemic corticosteroids and symptomatic relief medicines requires strict justification in COVID-19 associated pneumonia patients.

Key words: COVID-19 associated pneumonia, therapy, antibiotics, tocilizumab, respiratory support.

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