

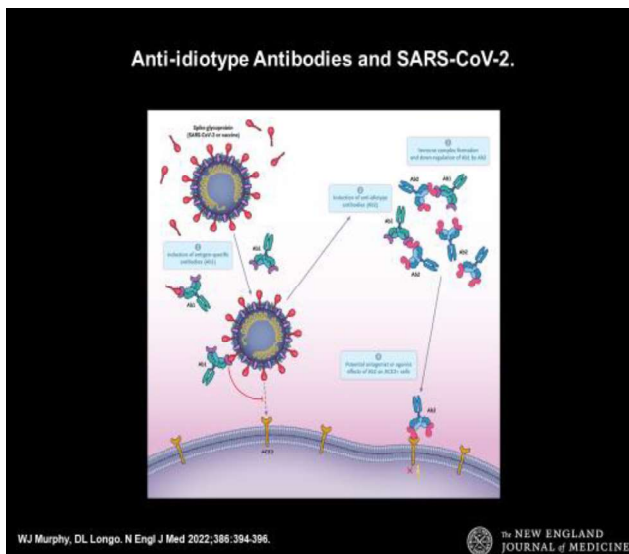
Worsening of Lethargy post SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in a patient with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis /Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS)

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Case Report

A 46-year-old male with a previous history of Sarcoidosis and Haemochromatosis had ME/CFS since 2016. He was followed up at Noosa Hospital clinic related to his ME/CFS. His general symptoms related to this condition were under control and he was able to work and study at the University. After the second dose of his SARS- CoV-2 (Pfiser –BioNTech COVID-19) vaccination in August 2021 his general condition deteriorated. During September—October 2021 his cognitive skills declined and he had to stop his university studies. The patient also stopped driving his car because of lethargy and could not do any sport recreational activity. Because of ME/CFS he was on treatment with multivitamins and low dose Naltrexone and Spironolactone before vaccination. After the ME/CFS clinical deterioration the decision was to start Colchicine 0.5 mg a day (November 2021). After four weeks of Colchicine plus his previous medication, his level of energy and cognitive skills recovered to pre vaccination status.



W Murphy and Dan Longo in the NEJM November 2021 reported adverse effects associated with Anti-idiotype antibodies (Ab2) in SARS-CoV-2 vaccination or infection. These immunologic effects will end in activation of the Inflammasome and interleukin 1 beta in the target cell. There is also a description of complement-mediated and immune cell attack on ACE2 expressing cells.

The Colchicine is postulated to work by inhibiting tubulin polymerization and microtubule formation blocking the Inflammasome activation

Conclusion

The Colchicine had a beneficial effect in recovering this patient from an exacerbation of his ME/CFS induced by SARS-CoV 2 vaccination