

Two Cases of Hypokalemic Rhabdomyolysis Due to Thiazide Treatment

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Hypokalemia is a common metabolic cause of rhabdomyolysis. Although thiazide causes hypokalemia frequently, hypokalemic rhabdomyolysis by thiazide treatment is very rare.

Here we report two cases of hypokalemic rhabdomyolysis due to thiazide treatment. A 50-year-old woman who had been treated with thiazide for hypertension was admitted due to quadriplegia. The patient's potassium level was 1.5 mEq/L, creatinine phosphokinase (CPK) 21,346 IU/L, and lactic dehydrogenase (LDH) 2,389 IU/L, respectively. A 80-year-old man who had been treated with thiazide for hypertension was admitted due to generalized weakness. The patient's potassium level was 1.9 mEq/L, CPK 29,000 IU/L, and LDH 2,393 IU/L, respectively. There were no any other causes of rhabdomyolysis except hypokalemia due to thiazide treatment in both patients. With adequate hydration and potassium replcaement, hypokalemic rhabdomyolysis recovered completely without sequele.