

Publication

Acute Fatal Liver Toxicity under Erlotinib

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We describe the case of a never-smoker who received second-line erlotinib as a treatment for his non-small cell lung cancer. Within one month, acute hepatic failure developed as well as a thrombotic-thrombocytopenic microangiopathy, with fatal outcome. In patients with non-small cell lung cancer, hepatic toxicity of erlotinib is a rare but severe complication; so far three fatal cases have been reported. Patients' liver function should be assessed before starting erlotinib and special care is recommended if pretreatment bilirubin is elevated.

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