

Publication

Ageing with HIV: medication use and risk for potential drug-drug interactions

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Author(s) Marzolini, Catia; Back, David; Weber, Rainer; Furrer, Hansjakob; Cavassini, Matthias; Calmy, Alexandra; Vernazza, Pietro; Bernasconi, Enos; Khoo, Saye; Battegay, Manuel; Elzi, Luigia; Swiss HIV Cohort Study Members,

Author(s) at UniBasel Marzolini, Catia;

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To compare the use of co-medication, the potential drug-drug interactions (PDDIs) and the effect on antiretroviral therapy (ART) tolerability and efficacy in HIV-infected individuals according to age, \geq 50 years or <50 years.; All ART-treated participants were prospectively included once during a follow-up visit of the Swiss HIV Cohort Study. Information on any current medication was obtained by participant self-report and medical prescription history. The complete treatment was subsequently screened for PDDIs using a customized version of the Liverpool drug interaction database.; Drug prescriptions were analysed for 1497 HIV-infected individuals: 477 age ≥ 50 and 1020 age <50. Older patients were more likely to receive one or more co-medications compared with younger patients (82% versus 61%; P <0.001) and thus had more frequent PDDIs (51% versus 35%; P <0.001). Furthermore, older patients tended to use a higher number of co-medications and certain therapeutic drug classes more often, such as cardiovascular drugs (53% versus 19%; P <0.001), gastrointestinal medications (10% versus 6%; P = 0.004) and hormonal agents (6% versus 3%; P = 0.04). PDDIs with ART occurred mainly with cardiovascular drugs (27%), CNS agents (22%) and methadone (6%) in older patients and with CNS agents (27%), methadone (15%) and cardiovascular drugs (11%) in younger patients. The response to ART did not differ between the two groups.; The risk for PDDIs with ART increased in older patients who take more drugs than their younger HIV-infected counterparts. However, medication use in older and younger patients did not differ in terms of effect on antiretroviral tolerability and response.

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