An unintentional baclofen intoxication in the management of alcohol use disorder.

Philipp Reichmuth¹, Anne-Laure Blanc², Damien Tagan¹

¹ Department of Internal Medicine, Riviera-Chablais Hospital, Vevey, Switzerland.

² Clinical Pharmacy, Pharmacie des Hôpitaux de l'Est Lémanique, Vevey, Switzerland.

Abstract

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in using baclofen for the management of alcohol use disorder. This *off-label* indication usually involves high doses of the medication. We report a case of severe baclofen overdose in a 66-year-old man. The patient was found severely agitated, and he presented with delirium and auditory hallucinations. At hospital admission, his daily dose was 180 mg baclofen. He was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) for sedation and supportive care. When sedation was withdrawn, the patient presented with a normal neurological status. In this clinical context, a baclofen intoxication was suspected. This was confirmed by measuring blood baclofen levels. This intoxication was probably mediated by a combination of risk factors including a high daily dose of baclofen and acute renal failure, conducive to drug accumulation.

Published in : BMJ Case Reports **2015**, published on line 22 September 2015,

doi: 10.1136/bcr-2015-212187

Contact: annelaure.blanc@phel.ch