Multiple fractures in Sjogren’s syndrome

Dear Editor,

Stathopoulos et al has discussed the course of a 76 year old lady presenting with multiple fractures despite having been treated for osteoporosis1. In a patient with Sjogren’s syndrome, presenting with multiple fractures and delayed fracture healing, the possibility of distal renal tubular acidosis and osteomalacia should be considered. Few cases have been described in literature2,3. In Sjogren’s syndrome, renal tubular acidosis is an extraglandular manifestation occurring as a result of autoimmune tubulointerstitial nephritis4. This can lead to secondary osteoporosis as well. The therapeutic implication is that in case of a metabolic bone disease, it has to be tackled before commencing treatment for osteoporosis. Also, bone mineral density cannot differentiate osteomalacia from osteoporosis. Was this patient evaluated for renal tubular acidosis?

Keywords: Sjogren’s, Osteomalacia, Fracture

Sincerely,

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References