

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Anaphylactoid reactions to N-acetylcysteine

To the Editor:

We were greatly interested in the results of a recent observational case series in which Schmidt described an inverse correlation between the admission paracetamol (acetaminophen) plasma concentration and the development of systemic anaphylactoid features, following treatment with a standard regime of intravenous N-acetylcysteine (NAC).¹ This observation, as the author acknowledges, has previously been described² but lacks a comprehensive mechanistic explanation.

We have observed that paracetamol is capable of modifying NAC-induced histamine secretion from both human peripheral blood mononucleocytes (PBMCs) and the non-IgE-expressing human mast cell line 1 (HMC-1) *in vitro*.³ We suggest that our results both support Schmidt's finding and provide a degree of mechanistic insight.

*Dr. James Michael Coulson and Dr. John Paul Thompson
Clinical Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Toxicology,
Institute of Molecular and Experimental Medicine,
School of Medicine, Cardiff University,
Cardiff, UK*

Declaration of interest

The authors report no conflicts of interest. The authors alone are responsible for the content and writing of the paper.

References

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Address correspondence to Dr. James Coulson, Clinical Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Toxicology, 2nd Floor, Academic Centre, Llandough University Hospital, Penlan Road, Cardiff CF64 2XX, UK. Tel: + 44(0)2920 716944. Fax: + 44(0)2920 703454.
E-mail: coulsonjm@cardiff.ac.uk