

## CLINICAL IMAGE

# New onset of sinoatrial block in a young patient treated with systemic meglumine antimoniate

Najla Daadaa<sup>1</sup>  | Soumaya Youssef<sup>1</sup> | Abdeddayem Haggui<sup>2</sup> | Sarra Harbaoui<sup>1</sup> | Kahena Jaber<sup>1</sup> | Nejib Doss<sup>1</sup> | Mohamed Raouf Dhaoui<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Dermatology, Military Hospital of Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia

<sup>2</sup>Department of Cardiology, Military Hospital of Tunis, Tunis, Tunisia

**Correspondence:**

Najla Daadaa, The Military Hospital, Mont Fleury, 1008, Tunis, Tunisia.  
Email: daadaanajla1990@gmail.com

**Abstract**

The sinoatrial block is a new side effect of meglumine antimoniate. Prompt interruption of the drug results in the normalization of electrographic changes and prevents sudden cardiac arrest.

**KEYWORDS**

cardiotoxicity, cutaneous leishmaniasis, meglumine antimoniate

## 1 | CASE HISTORY

Pentavalent antimonials are the treatment of choice for leishmaniasis. It may cause hazardous side effects such as cardiotoxicity. We report a case of sudden sinoatrial block (SAB) type 2 occurring in a young patient treated with systemic meglumine antimoniate (MAT) for cutaneous leishmaniasis, which regresses after stopping the drug.

A 23-year-old man was treated with intramuscularly MAT (20 mg/kg/d of antimony) for cutaneous leishmaniasis. Pretherapeutic investigations did not reveal any significant abnormalities (Figure 1). On the 10th day of treatment, electrocardiogram showed flattened T waves in V3-V4-V5-V6, a corrected QT (QTc) prolongation, and a SAB type 2 (Figure 2). Four days after interrupting MAT, ECG returned to normal (Figure 3). Cutaneous lesions healed progressively.

Cardiotoxicity is among the most serious adverse reactions of systemic administration of MAT. T wave changes are seen in about 50% of patients.<sup>1,2</sup> Serious ECG alterations as elevated or concave ST segment, prolonged QT interval, and ventricular fibrillation are uncommon, occurring in <10% of cases.<sup>1,2</sup> Pathophysiologically, it has been proved that antimonial compounds increase cardiac calcium currents leading to QT prolongation and other electrocardiographic changes.<sup>3</sup>

In our patient, besides prolonged QTc interval and flattened T waves, ECG showed a SAB type 2. To our knowledge, SAB attributed to MAT cardiotoxicity had not been reported yet. ECG normalization is generally observed in a few days to 2 weeks after treatment interruption.<sup>1</sup> Thus, therapy should be discontinued if any sign of cardiotoxicity appears to prevent sudden cardiac arrest.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

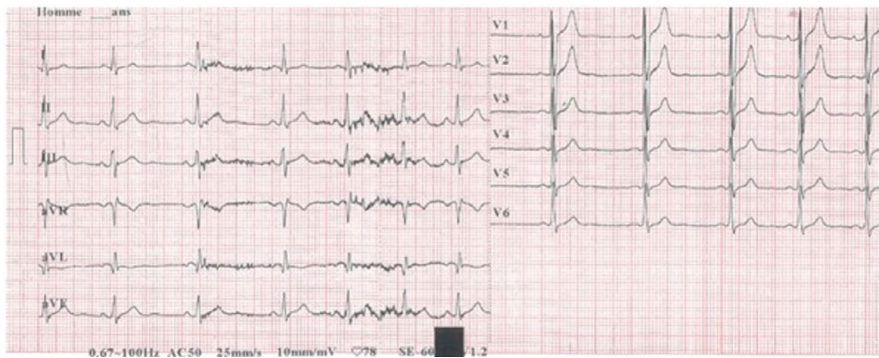
None.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

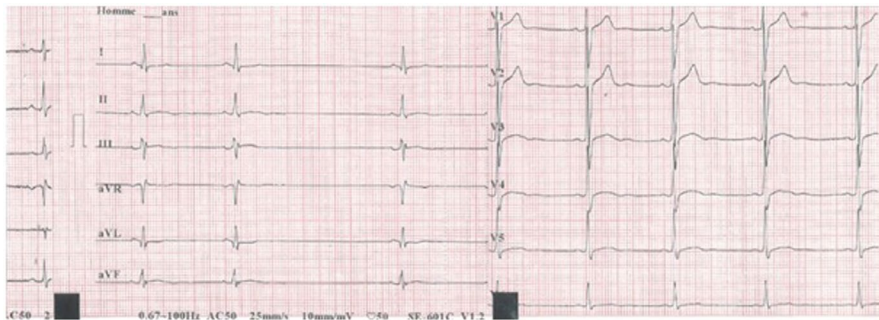
No conflict of interest.

**AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

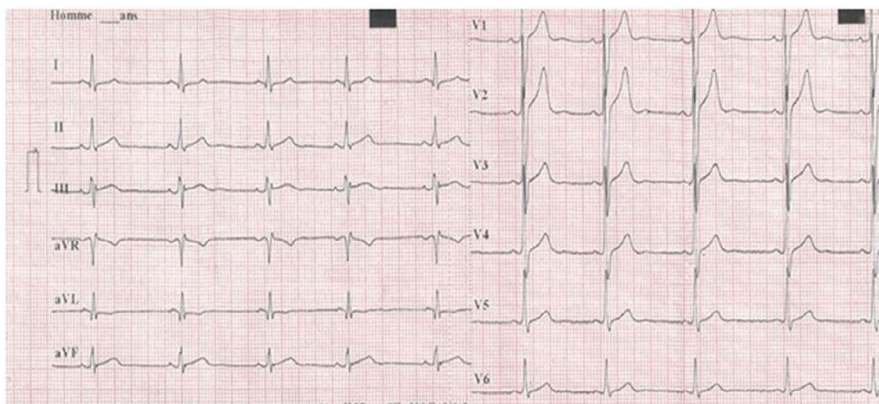
DN: collected clinical data, managed the patient, helped in writing the manuscript, and did literature search. SY: managed the patient, conceptualized the article, and did final proofreading of the submission. AH: was consulted for the electrocardiogram changes and confirmed cardiac abnormalities. SH: helped in writing the manuscript and took clinical pictures. KJ: revised the manuscript. ND and MRD: revised and approved the final version of the manuscript. All authors have approved the final manuscript.



**FIGURE 1** ECG before meglumine antimoniate: Positive T waves in V4-V5-V6, QTc = 410 ms, FC = 78 bpm



**FIGURE 2** ECG after 10 days of meglumine antimoniate: Flattened T waves in V3-V4-V5-V6, sinoauricular block type 2, QTc = 474 ms, FC = 50 bpm



**FIGURE 3** ECG 4 days after interrupting meglumine antimoniate: Positive T waves in V4-V5-V6, QTc = 428 ms, FC = 57 bpm

## ETHICAL APPROVAL

Appropriate consent has been obtained, prior to submission, for the publication of images and data.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

Data sharing not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.

## ORCID

Najla Daadaa  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6205-6737>

## REFERENCES

1. Matoussi N, Ameer HB, Amor SB, Fitouri Z, Becher SB. Toxicité cardiaque de l'antimoniate de meglumine (Glucantime) à propos d'une observation. *Med Mal Infect.* 2007;37:257-259.
2. Sundar S, Probhat R, Nutan KA, et al. A cluster of cases of severe cardio toxicity among Kala-Azar patients treated with a high osmolarity lot of sodium antimony gluconate. *Am Trop Med Hyg.* 1998;59:139-143.
3. Kuryshv YA, Wang L, Wible BA, Yuri A, Wan X, Ficker E. Antimony-based anti leishmanial compounds prolong the cardiac action potential by an increase in cardiac calcium currents. *Mol Pharmacol.* 2006;69:1216-1225.

**How to cite this article:** Daadaa N, Youssef S, Haggui A, et al. New onset of sinoatrial block in a young patient treated with systemic meglumine antimoniate. *Clin Case Rep.* 2021;9:1797-1798. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ccr3.3768>