

Response to the letter on “Versatile Use of Mycobacterium indicus pranii (MIP) Vaccine”

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Dear Editor,

Thank you for the letter from Dr Rakesh Bharti regarding our review article on the MIP vaccine with an additional case report from him. We value this letter from Dr Bharti who is an experienced health care professional. As mentioned, it is a quite nice case report where the presentation of the vaccine site reactions is delayed and finally healed with a scar. Such local side effects are known, are rare and associated with the problems with route of administration. Such local reactions are self-healing in most of the cases. Here in the case described is an off-label indication of Mw (MIP) vaccine in COVID-19 and this delayed cutaneous reaction adds information to the literature that may be relevant to its use in settings of other viral infections or may be other conditions.

Here, WHO causality and Naranjo scales need to be mentioned (Zaki 2011). These scales are needed in causality assessment for reporting of such cases, that is the mandate of all health care professionals as well as the drug consumers.

The commonly used scale is WHO causality assessment scale. It has scales namely certain, Probable/likely, Possible, unlikely, conditional/unclassified and unassessable/unclassifiable. So here in the case reported it is falling under Probable/likely as event as there was a reasonable time relationship to drug and unlikely to be because of disease or other drugs. Also when a Naranjo causality scale was used again it was coming as Probable. So, the event that occurred has a probable correlation and there is need of collection of these kinds of data for strengthening the evidence in future. Such approach is recommended to all healthcare professionals regarding the adverse drug reaction (ADR) reporting to Pharmacovigilance Program of India (PVPI) through available ADR reporting form. A red form is for the use of the healthcare professionals and the blue color form for the consumer reporting (IPC 2023) or toll-free number 1800 180 3024 is available from Monday to Friday Timing: 9 AM - 5:30 PM; All working days.

Keywords : Mycobacterium indicus pranii, MIP, Mw, Naranjo Causality Scale, Adverse Drug Event, Delayed Cutaneous Reaction

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