Reversible methotrexate-induced dementia; a case report

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Low-dose oral methotrexate is an established and highly effective treatment for severe psoriasis and rheumatoid arthritis, but its mechanism of action for these indications remains unclear. Folate antagonism and inhibition of polyamines are known to contribute to the antiproliferative effects. In patients with haematological cancer, methotrexate is known for its central neurotoxic side effects after long-term intrathecal administration, ranging from acute aseptic meningitis to delayed toxicities comprising cognitive deficits and progressive ementia, but all these cases concerned long-term intrathecal administration in children. A case with reversible dementia after withholding low-dose oral methotrexate for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis is reported.

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