

Sudden death of a patient with fever and positive for influenza A virus antigen by easy detection kit

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【Abstract】 We describe an autopsy case of a patient with influenza A (H1N1) virus infection who developed rapidly progressive viral pneumonia exhibiting diffuse alveolar damage. **【Case】** A 41-year-old female came to Emergency Department of Wakkanai Municipal Hospital because of fever at 38.7 degree in Celsius. She was a public health nurse with no underlying disease and contacted to elementary school students of group infection of influenza A virus at Rishiri-island a week ago. She was prescribed Tamiflu and went back to a hotel in Wakkanai city by herself. Next day, she was found to die in the hotel room. She did not intake Tamiflu. **【Autopsy】** She had obesity (BL149 cm, Waist 88 cm). Bilateral lung was voluminous (lt. 560g, rt. 550 g) and microscopically, prominent mononuclear cell infiltration with fibrinous exudates was observed entire lung. Partially, hyaline membrane formation was found, suggesting typical diffuse alveolar damage. The amounts of pleural effusions were small. Immunohistochemically, influenza A virus antigen was positive in the damaged type II pneumocytes. No pathognomonic finding was observed in other organs including the brain (1,300 g) or the heart (430 g). Real-time RT-PCR test of both pre and postmortem pharyngeal swabs confirmed novel influenza type A (H1N1)pdm virus infection. Currently, sequence analysis of the virus was in progress.