



## Effect of an oral $\beta_2$ -adrenoceptor agonist in a patient with idiopathic interstitial pneumonia

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A 63-year-old man was referred to our hospital because of a dry cough. His chest roentgenogram revealed ground-glass opacities and honeycomb formations bilaterally in the lower lung fields. Pulmonary function tests showed a depleted lung volume and decreased arterial oxygen tension. He was clinically diagnosed as having idiopathic interstitial pneumonia (IIP). A  $\beta_2$ -adrenoceptor agonist was administered because the patient's symptoms improved after its inhalation. Following treatment with an oral  $\beta_2$ -adrenoceptor agonist, the dry cough disappeared, lung function tests remained unchanged and an improvement in arterial oxygen tension was observed. Although  $\beta_2$ -adrenoceptor agonist therapy does not improve disease activity or progression in patients with IIP, its use may mitigate symptoms associated with the disease.

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