Sudden death occurring in a patient during intravenous infusion of fleroxacin

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ABSTRACT A 40-year-old woman with acute pyelonephritis received an intravenous infusion of cefotaxime sodium 2 g dissolved in 250 ml of sodium chloride 0.9%. No adverse reactions were found. Later, fleroxacin 0.4 g dissolved in 500 ml of glucose 5% was infused intravenously. She developed chill after receiving about 250 ml of the infusion. Her BP was 100/70 mmHg, and HR was 84 beats/min. The infusion was stopped. She was given IM promethazine and IV dexamethasone. Approximately 17 minutes later, convulsion of her extremities, undetectable blood pressure, heart arrest, and respiratory arrest occurred in the woman. Despite continuous resuscitation efforts, she died.

KEY WORDS fleroxacin; sudden death; adverse reaction