Autoinflammatory Disease Damage Index (ADDI): a possible newborn also in hidradenitis suppurativa daily practice

To the Editor:

Ter Haar et al report a new tool, Autoinflammatory Disease Damage Index (ADDI), to measure damage caused by autoinflammatory diseases. Although this preliminary instrument was for patients with familial Mediterranean fever, cryopyrin associated periodic syndrome, tumour necrosis factor receptor-associated periodic fever syndrome and mevalonate kinase deficiency, we found a great utility also in another autoinflammatory disease (AD), namely hidradenitis suppurativa (HS). HS is a chronic, relapsing, debilitating autoinflammatory disease affecting apocrine gland-bearing skin which is estimated to affect 1% of the population. It is occasionally inscribed into other dysimmune conditions such as Crohn’s disease, or concurrent with other systemic damage caused by chronic inflammation in HS, thus we preliminarily adopted ADDI for our cohort of 47 cases consisting systemic damage caused by chronic inflammation in HS, such as Crohn’s disease, or concurrent with other dysimmune conditions such as Crohn’s disease.

HS severity is variously assessed by static scores, such as Hurley’s score. However, no scores are still present to quantify the persisting systemic damage caused by chronic inflammation in HS, thus we preliminarily adopted ADDI for our cohort of 47 cases of severe Hurley III HS. Interestingly, our patients manifested characteristically high scores for musculoskeletal (97.87%), reproductive (46.88%), developmental (38.3%), ocular (23.4%), renal/amyloidosis (25.5%), neurological (17.15%), serosal (6.38%) and ears (2.13%) items (table 1).

Cognitive impairment was calculated as positive if IQ<80 as defined by neuropsychological assessment, namely Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Adults (WAIS) IV, or if Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) results in a score<23. Prospective validation in longitudinal studies is needed to validate ADDI also for HS in daily practice.

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