

history of autoimmune disease at the time of initiation of CPI treatment. One patient developed arthritis 8 weeks after the completion of anti-CTLA-4 antibody treatment. Two patients were receiving anti-PD-1 antibody when they developed arthritis. Patient 2 continued to receive anti-PD-1 antibody despite of arthritis-irAE while patient 3 discontinued anti-PD-1 antibody due to arthritis-irAE. The pattern of arthritis was symmetric polyarthritis involving small and large joints. Patient 1 had a positive rheumatoid factor (unknown baseline) and patient 3 had a positive ANA (known positive prior to CPI treatment). All patients were treated with anti-IL-6R antibody, which was well tolerated. All patients experienced a 40–100% reduction in global assessment, swollen joint count, and tender joint count, and these effects were maintained for up to 15 months of treatment (Figure 1). As of December 2016, all patients were alive; one patient was in complete remission and two patients had experienced progression of their melanoma.

**Conclusions:** These three cases suggest that anti-IL-6R antibody is an effective alternative to TNFi for the treatment of arthritis-irAE.

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### FRI0605 THE USE OF HAND PERFUSION SCINTIGRAPHY TO ASSESS RAYNAUD'S PHENOMENON ASSOCIATED WITH HAND-ARM VIBRATION SYNDROME

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**Background:** Raynaud's phenomenon (RP) is a prominent manifestation of hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS). Previous studies have evaluated the diagnostic validity and characteristics of hand perfusion scintigraphy. However, no study to date has classified or differentiated the findings of this technique based on the aetiology of RP.

**Objectives:** This study aimed to evaluate the hand perfusion scintigraphic features of hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS) and to compare these with the features of primary and secondary Raynaud's phenomenon (RP) associated with connective tissue disease (CTD).

**Methods:** Hand perfusion scintigraphy was performed in 57 patients with primary RP, 71 patients with HAVS-related RP, and 36 patients with CTD-related RP. We calculated 6 ratios by using the time-activity curve and static blood pool images, the chilled to ambient hand and wrist ratios of the first peak height, initial slope, and blood pool uptake. We analysed 3 morphologic characteristics: slow progress pattern, paradoxically increased uptake pattern in the time-activity curve, and the inhomogeneous radioactivity uptake in the blood pool image.

**Results:** All of the 71 patients with HAVS-related RP were mine workers. The onset of RP after exposure to vibration was at 21.8±7.3 years, with 26.3±7.0 years of vibration exposure time. The chilled to ambient hand ratios of the first peak height and the initial slope were significantly lower in patients with HAVS-related occupational RP than in patients with primary RP. The presence of a paradoxically increased uptake pattern was significantly lower in HAVS than in primary RP.

Table 1. Comparison of the 6 quantitative variables of patients with Raynaud's phenomenon

Parameter		HAVS	Primary RP	CTD	P value
First peak height ratio	Hand	0.90±0.89 <sup>c</sup>	1.50±1.50 <sup>c</sup>	1.03±1.12	0.034 <sup>a</sup>
	Wrist	0.72±0.31	0.87±0.57	0.80±0.46	0.161 <sup>a</sup>
Initial slope ratio	Hand	0.75±0.63 <sup>d</sup>	1.43±1.26 <sup>d</sup>	1.06±1.29	0.002 <sup>a</sup>
	Wrist	0.87±0.83	0.87±0.71	0.84±0.86	0.981 <sup>b</sup>
Blood pool uptake ratio	Hand	0.85±0.39	1.10±0.72	0.87±0.67	0.071 <sup>a</sup>
	Wrist	0.72±0.18	0.73±0.40	0.73±0.24	0.982 <sup>b</sup>

Data are presented as mean ± standard deviation. HAVS: hand-arm vibration syndrome; CTD: connective tissue disease. <sup>a</sup>Significant using analysis of variance (ANOVA). <sup>b</sup>Significant using Welch test. <sup>c</sup>Primary > HAVS ( $P=0.015$  by multiple comparisons), <sup>d</sup>Primary > HAVS ( $P=0.001$  by multiple comparisons).

Table 2. Comparison of presence of the 3 scintigraphic characteristics in the chilled hand of the patients

Characteristics	HAVS (n=71)	Primary RP (n=57)	CTD (n=36)	P value
Slow progression pattern	61 (86.0)	51 (89.5)	32 (88.9)	0.809
Inhomogenous radio-activity uptake pattern	17 (24.0)	18 (31.6)	8 (21.2)	0.513
Paradoxically increased uptake pattern	15 (19.7) <sup>a</sup>	27 (43.9) <sup>a</sup>	10 (27.8)	0.012

Data are presented as number (%). HAVS: hand-arm vibration syndrome; CTD: connective tissue disease. <sup>a</sup>Primary > HAVS ( $P=0.004$ ) on the basis of Chi-square test.

**Conclusions:** There were significant differences in hand perfusion scintigraphic features between primary RP and HAVS. These results suggest that the underlying pathophysiology of the two diseases differs; thus, different criteria might be applied for their evaluation

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### FRI0606 CHARACTERISTICS AND TREATMENT OF NEW ONSET ARTHRITIS AFTER CHECKPOINT INHIBITOR THERAPY

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**Background:** The recent introduction of biologic agents targeting immunologic checkpoints (immunologic checkpoint inhibitors (ICI)) established immunotherapy as a highly effective cancer therapy. ICI that trigger an anti-tumor response by activation of T cells, may also cause immune-related adverse events (irAEs). Characterization of rheumatic adverse events such as arthritis and data on treatment of irAEs are scarce.

**Objectives:** To characterize patients with new-onset arthritis under ICI therapy and to assess the efficacy and safety of treatment that aimed to balance anti-tumor and anti-inflammatory therapy.

**Methods:** In this prospective observational study, patients with melanoma receiving ICI therapy who experienced arthralgias were evaluated for the presence of musculoskeletal inflammation. Data on demographics, ICI regime, time of onset and response to therapy of musculoskeletal irAEs, imaging, joint count, CRP/ESR, and immune serology were collected. Further, response to anti-inflammatory therapies including NSAR, glucocorticoids (GC) and methotrexate was assessed.

**Results:** Of 7 patients with arthralgias after initiation of ICI therapy, all had objective signs of musculoskeletal inflammation. Arthritis was demonstrated in 6 patients, 3 oligoarthritis (SpA pattern), 2 polyarthritis (RA pattern), 1 monoarthritis. PMR-like disease with typical ultrasound findings was evident in 1 case. The time from start of ICI therapy to onset of synovitis symptoms varied from 1 to 259 days without a timely association to other irAEs. Upon first visit in our clinic, CRP levels were elevated in 6 of the patients (5.5 to 107 mg/l) while immune serology was positive only in one patient (high titer RF and ACPA). Interestingly, in this patient low RF and ACPA titers had been detected when she presented with arthralgias without synovitis five years prior. This patient developed highly active RA one day after the first infusion of nivolumab. Retrospective analysis of cancer staging imaging studies revealed good sensitivity for PET-CT in the detection of synovitis, as opposed to contrast-enhanced CT. The baseline mean overall disease burden (assessed by VAS for pain, 0–10) was 7.6±0.8 and was significantly reduced after 3 months of anti-inflammatory treatment to 1±1.4. Initially, all patients were treated with systemic and four patients also with intraarticular GC. Four of 7 patients flared on GC treatment upon tapering and were given methotrexate. Remission was achieved in all and prednisolone could be tapered. Patients were followed for a median of 152 days, and no safety signal with regard to tumor reappearance was detected.

**Conclusions:** All patients with arthralgias upon ICI therapy had arthritis or PMR-like disease suggesting a need for increased awareness for musculoskeletal irAE. Inflammatory manifestations were associated with high disease burden and not self-limiting. While GC therapy is effective, flares were frequent after tapering and, thus, potential side-effects including attenuation of the anti-tumor efficacy of ICI are a concern. This is the first report on the efficacy and safety of methotrexate as a GC-sparing agent in ICI-induced arthritis.

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### FRI0607 LONG-TERM AND OPTIMIZATION OF INFLIXIMAB IN REFRACTORY UVEITIS ASSOCIATED TO BEHÇET DISEASE. MULTICENTRE STUDY OF 100 PATIENTS

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**Objectives:** To assess the long term efficacy and optimization of Infliximab (IFX) in refractory Uveitis of Behçet Disease (BD)

**Methods:** Multicentre study of Uveitis associated-BD refractory to conventional immunosuppressive drug. Ocular inflammation was evaluated with "SUN criteria" (Am J Ophthalmol 2005;140:509–516) and the macular thickening with OCT. Results are expressed as mean±SD or median [IQR] (comparison, Wilcoxon test)

**Results:** We studied 100 patients/180 affected eyes (54M/46W), mean age 40.7±10.1. The ocular pattern was panuveitis (n=62), posterior (27) and anterior uveitis (11). Before IFX they received IV MP (28), cyclosporine (75), azathioprine (56), methotrexate (43) and others (33). IFX dose ranged between 3–5mg/kg/4 or 8 weeks. In patients in remission IFX was optimized (n=28) or stopped (n=20).

Table

	Baseline	1 <sup>st</sup> week	1 <sup>st</sup> month	3 <sup>rd</sup> month	6 <sup>th</sup> month	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	3 <sup>rd</sup> year	4 <sup>th</sup> year
VA (mean±SD)	0.5±0.35 n=193	0.5±0.3* n=189	0.6±0.3* n=187	0.6±0.3* n=183	0.6±0.3* n=176	0.6±0.3* n=159	0.6±0.3* n=130	0.6±0.3* n=88	0.7±0.3* n=60
Cells in the anterior chamber (median [IQR])	1 [0-2] n=190	0 [0-1]* n=187	0 [0-0]* n=184	0 [0-0]* n=180	0 [0-0]* n=171	0 [0-0]* n=153	0 [0-0]* n=126	0 [0-0]* n=82	0 [0-0]* n=58
Vitritis (median [IQR])	1 [0-2] n=188	0.5 [0-2]* n=182	0 [0-0]* n=182	0 [0-0]* n=177	0 [0-0]* n=168	0 [0-0]* n=149	0 [0-0]* n=122	0 [0-0]* n=84	0 [0-0]* n=58
Retinal vasculitis (% affected eyes)	53.4% n=188	43.1% n=183	22.2% n=182	10.9% n=177	7.4% n=171	2.4% n=153	1.9% n=124	0.4% n=84	0.4% n=54
OCT (μ) (mean±SD)	331.5 ± 136.1 n=59	324 ± 123.8* n=53	298.7 ± 101.8* n=52	283.2 ± 83.6* n=49	265.8 ± 65.9* n=42	264.1 ± 61.3* n=46	263.6 ± 65.2* n=27	239.8 ± 26.8* n=14	231.2 ± 33.7* n=8

\*p < 0.05. VA=visual acuity. Data are of affected eyes.

**Conclusions:** IFX is an effective long term-treatment in refractory Uveitis of BD. Optimization and even discontinuation of IFX after remission is possible.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None declared

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#### FRI0608 STUDY OF ARTICULAR SARCOIDOSIS IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

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**Background:** Sarcoidosis is a systemic granulomatous disease, being the joint involvement a poorly studied manifestation.

**Objectives:** To describe the clinical and demographic characteristics of patients with sarcoidosis, paying particular attention to the joint involvement and its possible relationship with other extra-articular manifestations, as well as the treatment received.

**Methods:** A retrospective, observational study that included 104 patients who were admitted to the Hospital of León between January 2011 and December 2015 with main or secondary diagnosis of sarcoidosis; according to clinical onset, imaging tests and/or anatomopathological study. The variables studied were: age at the time of diagnosis, sex, type of joint involvement, forms of extra-articular involvement, serologic parameters and drugs received. Statistical analysis was performed using SPSSv22.0, p < 0.005.

**Results:** 57.7% of the patients included in the study were women with a mean age of 53.42±18.4 years. At the systemic level, 35% of them presented fever, 66.3% lymphadenopathy and 4.8% splenomegaly. 97.1% of the patients presented pulmonary involvement, with stage II being the most common (46.2%). Only 8 patients had cardiac abnormalities. Ocular involvement was observed in 10.6%, predominating uveitis. The most common renal manifestation was hypercalciuria in 6.7%. The presence of neurological involvement was exceptional, detecting 3 cases of neurosarcoidosis. In the cutaneous involvement (2.9%), erythema nodosum predominated (17.3%). The CRP levels were normal in 44.3% (<5mg/dl) and high levels of CRP were found in 25.3% of the sample (>30mg/dl). 62.6% presented pathological figures of ACE. The joint involvement was present in 38.5% of the patients (14.4% in the form of arthralgia, 2.9% as peri-arthritis, 13.5% as acute arthritis, 4.8% as chronic arthritis and 2.9% as sacroiliitis). The 19.23% debuted as Löfgren syndrome, being seen an association between the presence of acute arthritis and erythema nodosum (p0,000). The mean age observed in patients with acute arthritis was lower than the one of the other patients with other joint manifestations (p0,044) and a statistically significant relationship was observed between the absence of joint and ocular involvement (p0,011). Regarding the treatment of joint manifestations, 30.77% of the cases were resolved with NSAIDs, 46.15% with corticosteroids in a monotherapy and 15.38% required an immunosuppressant. In our study, most patients treated with corticosteroids did not show articular nor ocular involvement (p0,018), although when analysing the ocular involvement separately, many received corticoid treatment (42.86%). Only one patient required Adalimumab for refractory uveitis and another presented anti-TNFα-induced sarcoidosis (Infliximab).

**Conclusions:** The pulmonary involvement is the predominant one in patients with sarcoidosis. The acute arthritis occurs in younger patients and is associated with the onset of erythema nodosum. The joint involvement is usually not severe and, although it has not been demonstrated, it seems that the use of corticosteroids

predominates in the extra-articular manifestations. Only 1 in 4 patients showed an increase of acute phase reactants.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None declared

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#### FRI0609 USEFULNESS OF FDG-PET/CT IMAGING AND SEROLOGICAL BIOMARKERS TO PREDICT RELAPSE IN IGG4-RELATED DISEASE

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**Background:** IgG4-RD shows relapses frequently. It is important to search to the factors to predict relapse. Recent research has shown the usefulness of FDG-PET/CT for IgG4-RD because it is more sensitive than conventional imaging to detect organ involvement of the disease. It has been suggested that FDG-PET/CT is also useful for monitoring therapeutic response of IgG4-RD.

**Objectives:** We investigate the usefulness of FDG-PET/CT imaging and serological biomarkers to predict relapse in IgG4-RD.

**Methods:** We analyzed 24 patients with IgG4-RD treated for more than 1 year between 2008 and 2016 in our facility. The diagnosis for IgG4-RD was based on comprehensive diagnostic criteria for IgG4-RD. All cases underwent FDG-PET/CT at least once, and laboratory data were collected from their medical records retrospectively. Levels of serum C-reactive protein (CRP), eosinophil/leukocyte ratio, serum IgG, IgG4, IgA, IgM, IgE, sIL-2R and serum complement were investigated.

**Results:** The patients had a mean age of 67.9 years (range: 50–87 years). In the cases with high FDG uptake on FDG-PET/CT, they had a greater number of organ involvements, higher serum IgG and sIL-2R levels. Eight patients experienced relapses following treatment. Higher serum IgG predicted relapses of IgG4-RD. FDG-PET/CT findings at baseline were not associated with relapse. FDG-PET/CT was performed in 13 patients after initiation of treatment and 4 patients had a relapse. There were no significant reduction of abnormal FDG uptake in 6 patients, and 4 of 6 patients relapsed.

**Conclusions:** In this study, we examined the factors to predict relapse in IgG4-RD. Patients with higher serum IgG were regarded as a risk of relapse, but FDG-PET/CT findings at baseline were not associated with relapse. FDG-PET/CT reexamined after initiation of treatment is useful to predict relapse of IgG4-RD.

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#### FRI0610 PROBLEMS IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER IN TURKEY

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**Background:** The diagnosis of FMF (Familial Mediterranean Fever) can be missed or delayed even in a country like Turkey, one of the most prevalent places for FMF (1).

**Objectives:** We compared the duration of delay in diagnosis before and after year 2000, and assessed the problems related with the diagnosis of FMF.

**Methods:** We studied 143 (102 F, 41 M) consecutive patients with FMF seen at the rheumatology outpatient clinic, between November 2016 and January 2017. Patients completed a self-administered questionnaire that assesses initial symptoms, previous diagnosis and treatments received before the formal diagnosis of FMF. Patients were divided in 2: as Group 1, which includes 70 patients seen for the first time by a physician before 2000 and Group 2, which includes 73 patients seen after 2000.

**Results:** The median age of the patients was 34 years [IQR:27–45]. The F/M ratio was 2.4. The initial symptom was abdominal pain in the majority (n=134, 89%), followed by fever (n=114, 75%), arthritis (n=66, 44%), pleuritic pain (n=21, 14%), arthralgia (n=11, 7%) and other complaints (n=14, 9%).

The median age at initial symptom was 10 years (IQR:6–23). The median delay in diagnosis was 8 years [IQR:2–15]. This was significantly shorter in Group 2 (median: 4 years [IQR:0–11]) than that observed in Group 1 (median: 10 years [IQR:6–17]), as shown in Table.

A total of 110 patients (73%) were diagnosed with one or more diseases or syndromes other than FMF. These were appendicitis (n=50, 45%), gastrointestinal diseases (n=44, 40%), acute rheumatic fever (n=36, 33%), inflammatory