functional class I, II or III. An open-label prospective trial of 138 adults patients (120 female and 18 male) with OA was conducted. Patients with OA in whom the knee or hip was the primary source of pain were included. Patients received either 12.5 mg or 25 mg rofecoxib once daily. Patients whom did not benefit from 12.5 mg were allowed to receive 25 mg. Clinical efficacy and safety were monitored during a 6 week of therapy. Clinical efficacy were evaluated by comparing pretreatment and treatment values of the WOMAC (Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index), investigator global assessment of disease status and Hip or Knee osteoarthritis and Lequesne-Algofunction Index. Physical examination, vital signs, body weight, laboratory examinations and adverse event reporting were monitored for safety purposes.

Results The Lequesne-Algofunction Index and WOMAC demonstrated that patients with knee osteoarthritis were significantly better starting from the 3rd visit ($p < 0.001$). The number of patients with hip osteoarthritis ($n = 9$) were very low. Thus the evaluations of hip efficacy did not reach to statistical significance even though the indexes were showing a numerical improvements in hip osteoarthritis patients. The investigator global assessment of disease status were significantly better in 4th and 5th visits comparing to 3rd visit. The efficacy data shows that, rofecoxib 12.5 mg once daily or 25 mg once daily provides efficacy clinically comparable with the pretreatment period on all primary end points. Treatment with rofecoxib was generally well tolerated. There were no serious adverse event during the entire period.

Conclusion The Lequesne-Algofunction Index and WOMAC demonstrated that patients with knee osteoarthritis were significantly better starting from the 3rd visit ($p < 0.001$). The number of patients with hip osteoarthritis ($n = 9$) were very low. Thus the evaluations of hip efficacy did not reach to statistical significance even though the indexes were showing a numerical improvements in hip osteoarthritis patients. The investigator global assessment of disease status were significantly better in 4th and 5th visits comparing to 3rd visit. The efficacy data shows that, rofecoxib 12.5 mg once daily or 25 mg once daily provides efficacy clinically comparable with the pretreatment period on all primary end points. Treatment with rofecoxib was generally well tolerated. There were no serious adverse event during the entire period.

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AB0142 A CASE OF DIFFUSE IDIOPATHIC SKELETAL HYPEROSTOSIS (DISH) WITH AN EXTREMELY RARE COMPLICATION

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Background Diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis (DISH) is a disorder characterised by new bone growth at entheses. In the literature, it has been reported that the anterior bony excrescences in the cervical region due to thickening and ossification of the anterior longitudinal ligament may be up to maximum 12 mm thick. Advanced forms of cervical DISH may give rise to dysphagia, cervical myelopathy, and very rarely dyspnea. We present a 70-year-old man with advanced DISH whose only complaint was severe dyspnea. Cervical computed tomography revealed the large excrescences reaching to 15 mm in thickness. Surgical excision of his anterior cervical osteophytes resulted in relief of his symptoms.

Objectives

Methods

Results

Conclusion

AB0143 GASTROPROTECTIVE EFFECT OF LANSOPRAZOLE IN OSTEOARTHRITIS PATIENTS LONG-TIME RECEIVING DICLOPHENAC

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Background

Objectives To compare efficiency and safety of 4-week treatment by nimesulid, diclophenac and diclophenac in a combination with lansoprazole in osteoarthritis patients.

Methods We observed 167 patients (130 women and 37 men, mean age 54 years). During 4 weeks in the first group 74 patients received diclophenac 100 mg per day, in the second group 31 patients – diclophenac in a combination with lansoprazole 30 mg per day and in the third group 62 patients received nimesulid 200 mg per day. Before and after 4-weeks treatment were estimated of a clinical symptomatology, upper GI endoscopy, 24 h Öt-metry (Digitrapper MkIII, Syntectics, Sweden), histological research of biopsy of a mucosa from antral part of a stomach. For a estimate of clinical efficiency was used a questionnaire of a quality of life SF-36.

Results The clinical efficiency of therapy by diclophenac or nimesulid in osteoarthritis patients was comparable. The frequency of development of erosions and ulcers of a stomach was higher at diclophenac group (41%), than at nimesulid group (24%). The combination of diclophenac and lansoprazole has allowed to lower frequency of development of erosions and ulcers of a stomach mucosa to 16%. Positive dynamics of morpho-functional of parameters of a stomach mucosa in lansoprazole group was found.

Conclusion Our results prove gastroprotective effect of lansoprazole. The application lansoprazole for osteoarthritis patients long-time receiving diclophenac is accompanied by positive dynamics morphofunctional parameters of a mucosa of a

stomach, lowering of frequency of development of erosions and ulcers of a stomach.

AB0144 STUDYING OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SYNVISK IN OSTEOARTROSIS

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Background

Objectives At present for improvement of life quality in patients with osteoarthritis is necessary to solve some problems: precluding of development of degenerative process in cartilage of affected joint, relieving of pain and improvement of the function of the joint.

Methods For these aims we studied the efficiency of the chondroprotective drug Synvisk by Boehringer Ingelheim in 25 patients with arthrosis of the knee in medium age of $61,2 \pm 1,7$ years, 16 women and 8 men, with duration of the disease $5,8 \pm 0,9$ years.

Results Conform X-ray data the distribution of the patients by stages of the disease was as follow: I grade ? 20%, II grade ? 64%, and III grade ? 16%. In experimental group the drug was administered intraarticular by blind method in dose of 2,0 ml one time in a week, 3 injections for the course, which were repeated after 6 and 12 months. The control group was matched by gender, duration of disease and X-ray date; in this group was administrated placebo conforming same scheme.

Evaluation of the effectiveness and tolerability of compared drugs was carried out in evolution of clinical (pain, functional index by Lesquesne, volume of movement on affected joints), X-ray parameters and functional methods (ultrasonography, scintigraphy with Tc99m).

In the basic group were mentioned decreasing of the pain intensity and improvement of the joint functions after single injection in one third of the patients, while in control groups similar cases were absent. After 3 courses of the treatment in the basic group the effects were obtained in 86,7% of the patients, including 33,3% very good effect, in 53,4% moderate effect and only in 13,3% the effects were absent. In control group there were no effect in 80% of the patients, and in 20% of the patients there were mentioned moderate effects; good effects were are not observed.

Conclusion Thus, a presented result suggests that administration of Synvisk lead to significant improvement of the life quality in the patients with arthrosis of the knee.

AB0145 THE TREATMENT OF OSTEOARTHRITIS WITH DOLGIT CREAM IN KAZAKHSTAN

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Background

Objectives

Methods The two weeks open trial of Dolgit (5% ibuprofen) cream was carried out in 49 patients (pts) with osteoarthritis (OA) (10 men and 39 women, age range 43–71 years) with disease history about 6,4 years. The 30 pts had gonarthrosis, 6 pts

had OA of shoulder joint and 13 pts had lesion of interphalangeal joints. Patients were given an application of 5% ibuprofen cream at the affected joints 3 times a day (600 mg of ibuprofen per day) during 2 weeks.

Results Results obtained after 1st cutaneous application showed that reducing of joint pain was marked in 40 min in 10 pts (77%) with OA of interphalangeal joints and in an hour in half of pts with gonarthrosis and OA of shoulder joint. At 7th day joint pain score reduced in all pts from 1,9 to 1,3 ($p < 0,05$), joint score – from 1,7 to 0,7 ($p = 0,05$), pain in movement had also reduced but not significantly ($p > 0,05$).

At the end of trial joint pain score decreased to 0,5 ($p < 0,05$) in pts with OA of interphalangeal joints and OA of shoulder joint, and in pts with gonarthrosis it reached 1 ($p > 0,05$). Joint score had the similar trend.

Conclusion The final patient's treatment efficacy assessment was ?good? in 35 pts (71%) and satisfactory in others. Tolerability of Dolgit cream was good, but in one case were signs of light skin irritation that disappeared without interruption of treatment.

Thus we consider the cutaneous application of Dolgit cream to be real alternative to systemic usage of NSAIDs in treatment of OA because of its good efficacy and tolerability.

AB0146 OXIDATIVE STRESS EXPERIMENTS WITH SINOVITIS AND PERIOSTEAL ACUPUNCTURE INFLUENCE

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Background

Objectives For analysing different methods of influence to immunological mechanisms of inflammation with arthrosis complicated sinovitis various clinical and immunological tests with 105 patients have been analysed. For testing redox regulation of neutrophils and antioxidizing ferment system plasma [AFS] hemiluminescenciya of the blood [XL], XL of the blood plasma with H₂O₂ [pXL], NBT-test have been used to define the contents of superoxiddismutase [SOD] in the neutrophils. The results have been analysed before and after the course of usual anti-inflammatory therapeutics and also together with periosteal acupuncture.

Methods At ill with the various forms and the stages of arthrosis complicated sinovitis are presented a generality of changes oximetabolism neutrophils neutrophils and activity AFS plasma as the increase of its activity in compare with parameters of group of the control. The higher meanings oximetabolism neutrophils and SOD neutrophils are registered at ill female, and the activity AFS according to the data pXL of the blood plasma at men, that corresponds to distinction of clinical current of disease at different by weeding – “soft arthrosis to a condition” at men, that and painful arthrosis among women. The clinical distinction monoarthritis, arthrosis without knotes and knotes arthrosis at ill female proves to be true by distinction oximetabolism neutrophils, which consists in dynamics of growth of parameters of NBT test and XL of blood at the ill various forms. At the knotes arthrosis, as against other forms arthrosis complicated sinovitis, increase of parameters of the NBT-test is observed at backlog of growth XL of blood, probably connected with blockade receptors neutrophils by immune complexes, the quantity of which is increased in blood regular with growth of pain of the form arthrosis complicated sinovitis. At ill knotes arthrosis by the form of disease arises infragment of antioxidizing ferment