polyarthritiss, dactylitis, enthesitis, psoriasis, uveitis and inflammatory bowel disease. All patients were therapeutic-naïve for glucocorticosteroids, DMARDs or TNF-α inhibitors.

Methods: First, we performed examination of the sacroiliac joint with X-ray, to exclude those patients, who already had radiographic lesions. Then an MRI was performed in the following sequences: T2- weighted STIR for the bone marrow oedema (BME) and T1-weighted sequence for the fat metaplasia (FM). The HDP SPECT/CT was used within one week to examine the sacroiliac joint. Thereafter, the MRI images were fused with HDP SPECT/CT images. On the MRI images the BME (active lesion) and FM (chronic lesion), on the CT scans the sclerotic lesions (SCL, chronic lesion) were drawn manually as volume of interest (VOI). Uninvolved cortical areas were drawn on the different modality slices as reference region (ref). Then, we determined the isotope (99mTc-labelled HDP) uptake of the different lesions and areas.

Results: Four active sacroiliac joints and five chronic sacroiliac joints without active lesions were diagnosed according to the MRI results. On the other 8 patient’s sacroiliac joints images (MRI, scintigraphy, CT scans), no inflammation-related lesions were observed. The MRI and HDP SPECT-CT findings were 100% concordant. The isotope uptake of BME was the highest, the radioisotope uptake of sclerotic lesions was moderate, whereas the isotope uptake of FM lesions was not different from the HDP uptake of reference regions.

Conclusions: According to the initial results, the different MRI lesions have different isotope uptake, which suggests, that the HDP SPECT/CT can distinguish the early and chronic stage of axial SpA from chronic lesions. Thank to whole body imaging technique we can have further information about disease activity and extent. The presented data are the first of our prospective study, and examination of new patients are still in progress and we plan to investigate our SpA patients in remission to explore the utility of this new method in subclinical activity assessment. We also plan to investigate the corner lesions of the spine to find other potential uses of the HDP SPECT-CT imaging in SpA.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared


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INITIAL DEVELOPMENT OF A WHOLE-BODY MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING INFLAMMATION INDEX FOR ACTIVE DISEASE OF PERIPHERAL JOINTS AND ENТЕHESES IN PATIENTS WITH INFLAMMATORY ARTHRITIS

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Background: Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) allows objective assessment of inflammation in peripheral joints and entheses. MRI scoring systems have until now focused on assessing specific parts of the musculoskeletal system in detail, e.g. the Rheumatoid Arthritis MRI Scoring System (RAMRIS), which is applied to wrist and metacarpophalangeal joints and adjacent tendon sheaths. The interest in a whole-body MRI approach is growing as modern MRI scanners now permit whole-body scanning within an acceptable time frame, and future improvements in MRI hardware and pulse sequences are expected to improve scan time and image resolution further.

Objectives: To develop a whole-body MRI scoring system for inflammation of peripheral joints and entheses and to investigate its feasibility and reliability.

Methods: Definitions of the key pathologies and locations for assessment have been agreed upon in the OMERACT MRI Working Group 1. In a first round in June 2017, 9 readers (AJM/DF/GF/IM/MD/PP/SJP/SK/WPM) scored MR images of 2 patients with spondyloarthritits using a draft web-based scoring system. Results were discussed and the scoring system was slightly modified. Hereafter, in a second round in October 2017, 14 MRI readers (3 musculoskeletal radiologist (IE/ JL/RGL) and 11 rheumatologists with varying experience to MRI (AJM/DF/GF/MS/MD/PP/RP/SJP/SKP/FLWPM), scored 5 similar patients by the modified scoring system. Using a semiquantitative scale 0–3 (none/mild/moderate/severe), synovitis and osteitis were scored separately for 83 joints, and soft tissue inflammation and osteitis were scored separately for 33 entheses. Discrepancies between readers were discussed during an online meeting to obtain consensus, to train inexperienced readers, and to identify potential pitfalls when applying the scoring system.

Conclusions: In patients with Behcet’s disease, the dynamic thiol-disulfide homeostasis balance shifted towards thiol disulfide formation due to thiol oxidation. It may be used as a novel marker in BD because it is easy, practical, fully automated and relatively inexpensive.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared