A COMPARISON OF CLINICAL FEATURES IN PATIENTS WITH SPONDYLOARTHRITIS AND UNILATERAL OR BILATERAL HIP ARTHRITIS

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Background: Axial spondyloarthritis (AS) is a frequent chronic and progressive disease that affects mainly young adults and is characterised by inflammation of the axial skeleton, but peripheral joints such as hips may also be involved. The incidence of hip involvement in AS is around 30%. Nevertheless, data concerning clinical features in patients with spondyloarthritis comparing unilateral and bilateral hip arthritides are lacking.

Objectives: To investigate whether IgA-anti-CD74 Abs are associated with pro-inflammatory cytokines in the sera of patients with HLA-B27-positive and -negative patients with active axSpA.

Methods: Blood samples of 62 HLA-B27-positive and 58 HLA-B27-negative patients with axSpA (44% AS) prior to starting a biologic therapy were collected. A cytometric bead-array (CBA Flex Set) was used to measure serum levels of interleukins (IL)-17A, IL-17B, IL-1α, TNF-α, and interferon (INF)-γ. IgA-anti-CD74 Abs were measured by ELISA, using the predefined cut-off of 15 U/ml. Their mean was 7.1 (range: 0.3–72.3)

Results: In 15% of patients with axSpA, IgA-anti-CD74 Abs were found. Significant correlations were found in patients with active axSpA. Tumour necrosis alpha (TNF-α) inhibitors and IL-17 antagonists are efficacious in patients with active axSpA.

Conclusions: Bilateral hip arthritides seems to be more frequent and more severe than unilateral involvement in patients with AS.

REFERENCE: