RESULTS: Increased frequencies of ILC2 and ILC3 were observed in patients compared to controls, while decreased frequency of ILC1 was found in patients compared with controls ($p = 0.008$, $p = 0.004$, and $p = 0.006$, respectively). We also found the expression of T cell surface markers, CD4 or CD8, on ILCs and their subsets. The results showed that decreased frequencies of CD4^+CD8^- ILCs, CD4^+CD8^+ ILC1, CD4^+CD8^- ILC2, and CD4^+CD8^-CD336^+ ILC3 were found in patients compared with healthy controls ($p = 0.001$, $p = 0.017$, $p = 0.004$, and $p = 0.002$, respectively). Furthermore, frequencies of CD4^+CD8^- ILCs and CD4^+CD8^+ ILC2 were positively correlated with the SLEDAI-2000 score ($r = 0.548$, $p = 0.005$ and $r = 0.613$, $p = 0.001$, respectively). Frequencies of CD4^+CD8^- ILCs and CD4^+CD8^+ ILC1 were positively related with serum C3 level ($r = 0.519$, $p = 0.008$ and $r = 0.528$, $p = 0.007$, respectively), and were positively related with serum C4 level ($r = 0.623$, $p = 0.001$ and $r = 0.643$, $p = 0.001$, respectively).

CONCLUSIONS: In the present study, we demonstrated that frequencies of circulating ILCs and its subsets were altered in SLE patients and some subpopulations were negatively correlated with SLE disease activity.

REFERENCES:

Disclosure of Interest: None declared