The occurrence of digital ulcers can be associated with systemic sclerosis (SSc) and their outcomes in terms of disease severity, lung function, and overall clinical course. This study aimed to explore the relationship between the occurrence of digital ulcers and clinical outcomes in SSc patients.

**Methods:** A cohort of 1451 SSc patients were enrolled, of whom 706 had complete data available for all parameters. The digital ulcers were assessed using the SSc-Overlap Clinical Index (SSC-OCl). The outcomes were assessed using forced vital capacity (FVC), diffusion capacity of the lung for carbon monoxide (DLCO), and disease activity.

**Results:** The patients with digital ulcers had a significantly lower FVC and DLCO compared to those without digital ulcers. The occurrence of digital ulcers was associated with disease severity and lung function. The patients with digital ulcers had a higher probability of disease worsening and a poorer clinical outcome.

**Conclusions:** The occurrence of digital ulcers is associated with disease severity and lung function in SSc patients. The findings highlight the importance of monitoring and management of digital ulcers in SSc patients to improve clinical outcomes.

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**References:**

**Keywords:** Systemic sclerosis, digital ulcers, lung function, clinical outcomes.