Methods: This retrospective cohort study used the EGB (*Echantillon Généraliste des Bénéficiaires*) database which is a 1% random and representative sample of the French national Health insurance system. EGB contains anonymous demographic and comprehensive medical data on conditions with long-term disease (LTD) status, hospitalizations and reimbursement claims for medications dispensed in the community. The study used the data collected between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2015. Inclusion criteria were: 1) age ≥ 50 years; 2) hospitalisation for GCA or LTD status for GCA (ICD-10 codes: M31.5/6); and 3) at least 4 drug dispensing of oral GCs within 6 months around the index date. The index date was defined as the date of 1st occurrence of GCA code and cases were considered as incident if the GCA code first occurred after ≥ 2 years of follow-up. Demographics, co-morbidities, diagnostic tests and therapies were analysed. A treatment sequence was defined as the start of a new drug or the resumption of the same drug after a stop ≥ 3 months. Annual incidence was calculated by using the people recorded in the EGB as denominator.

Results: Among the 7 52 717 pts recorded in the EGB, 241 pts fulfilled our criteria. Around 24 pts were newly diagnosed/year with an annual incidence of 7 to 10/100,000 people ≥ 50 years-old. 72% of the 241 pts were females, mean age was 77.5 (± 8.9) years, mean follow-up 3.7 (± 2.6) years. In the 12 months before index date, 74.3% of the pts had at least 1 proxy for hypertension, 39.4% for depression/insomnia and 33.6% for osteoporosis. After index date, temporal artery biopsy (TAB) was performed in 43.2%, high-resolution Doppler ultrasound in 35.3% and positron emission tomography (PET) in 11.6%. Among the 235 pts (97.5%) who had at least 1 drug dispensing of oral GCs, 198 pts (84.3%) used only GCs while 37 (16.7%) also received 1 to 3 adjunctive agents. Mean 1st GCs sequence duration was 17.2 months (± 16.5) in 96.6%. 95 pts (40.4%) had a 2nd sequence, i.e. resume GCs and/or start a new drug for a duration of 6.7 months (± 8.1) for GCS alone or 12.2 months (± 8.8) for GCs+adjunctive drug. The most prescribed GCs-sparing agent was methotrexate (12.0%). Others were marginal: hydroxychloroquine 7 pts, azathioprine 4, cyclophosphamide 1, infliximab 1, adalimumab 2 and etanercept 1 pt.

Conclusions: These real-world data indicate an incidence of GCA in France of 7 to 10 cases/100,000 people ≥ 50 years-old and underline that most patients with GCA are treated with GCs alone whereas adjunctive agents, mainly methotrexate, are given to 17% of patients. The utilisation of TAB in only half of the patients might reflect a shift towards increasing use of imaging techniques to diagnosed GCA.

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FRI0519 WORK PRODUCTIVITY IS IMPAIRED IN PATIENTS WITH BEHÇET'S SYNDROME

N. Serin, Y. Özgüler, S.N. Esatoglu, V. Hamuryudan, G. Hatemi. *Istanbul University Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty, Rheumatology, Istanbul, Turkey*

Background: Behçet's syndrome (BS) is most active during young adulthood and working years, thus affecting productivity. Work disability was previously reported especially among BS patients with eye, vascular and joint involvement.

Objectives: In this study, we aimed to evaluate the work productivity and instability of patients with BS compared to ankylosing spondylitis (AS) patients and healthy controls (HC).

Methods: 100 (80 M/20 F) consecutive BS patients who were routinely followed in our dedicated BS centre were studied. Patients with AS;²⁶ 22 M/4 F) who were followed in the rheumatology outpatient clinic of our unit and HC;³⁰ 18 M/12 F) were included as controls. Work Productivity and Activity Impairment Questionnaire (WPAI), Work Productivity Survey (WPS), Work Instability Scale (WIS) were used. Quality of life was assessed with the Behçet Disease Quality of Life (BDQoL) scale and disease activity with the Behçet's Disease Current Activity Index.

Results: Table 1 shows the characteristics of the included subjects. 28 of BS patients with only mucocutaneous, 28 with eye, 23 with vascular and 21 with neurologic involvement were included. Among BS patients 41% reported missing work days (mean 1.4 days/mo), and 49% reported that their productivity was reduced at least by half (mean 4.1 days/mo). The mean WIS score was 11.7 (5.8) in BS patients. 52 BS patients had moderate and 14 BS patients had high work instability. Patients with BS had significantly higher absenteeism (8.4% vs. 1.7%), presenteeism (37.6% vs. 9.3%), and daily activity impairment (27.5% vs. 8.6%) than HCs ($p < 0.001$) assessed by WPAI. Scores were similar between BS and AS patients. WIS and WPS scores were also similar between BS and AS patients and worse than healthy controls. Work impairment was more pronounced in patients with eye involvement compared to mucocutaneous involvement ($p = 0.006$) and there were no differences between other BS groups. The WPAI presenteeism score was moderately correlated with Behçet Disease Quality of Life scale score

($r = -0.57$). Multivariate analysis showed that QoL (OR=0.77, 95% CI=0.66–0.88) and disease activity (OR=1.66, 95% CI=1.01–2.50) were related with WPAI-presenteeism.

Abstract FRI0519 – Table 1. Characteristics of the included subjects

	Behçet's syndrome (n=100)	Ankylosing spondylitis (n=26)	Healthy controls (n=30)
Male, n (%)	80 (80)	22 (85)	18 (60)
Mean (SD) current age,	36 $\pm$ 7.8	36 $\pm$ 6.4	31 $\pm$ 8.1
Mean (SD) disease duration	8 $\pm$ 5.5	7.46 $\pm$ 4.6	N/A
WIS (mean $\pm$ SD)	12 $\pm$ 6	11 $\pm$ 5.5	6 $\pm$ 4
WPAI-Absenteeism (mean $\pm$ SD)	8 $\pm$ 15	8 $\pm$ 19	2 $\pm$ 7
WPAI-Presenteeism (mean $\pm$ SD)	38 $\pm$ 29	32 $\pm$ 26	9 $\pm$ 21
WPS-Absenteeism (mean $\pm$ SD)	1.4 $\pm$ 3	1.2 $\pm$ 3	0.1 $\pm$ 0.3
WPS -Presenteeism (mean $\pm$ SD)	4 $\pm$ 7	4 $\pm$ 6	1 $\pm$ 3
BDCAF (mean $\pm$ SD)	4.47 $\pm$ 2.79	N/A	N/A
BSAS (mean $\pm$ SD)	21.47 $\pm$ 17.5	N/A	N/A
BDQoL (mean $\pm$ SD)	19.53 $\pm$ 8.3	N/A	N/A
BASDAI (mean $\pm$ SD)	N/A	3.3 $\pm$ 1.8	N/A
BASFI (mean $\pm$ SD)	N/A	2.8 $\pm$ 2.9	N/A

N/A: Not applicable; Behçet Disease Quality of Life: BDQoL; Behçet's Disease Current Activity Index (BDCAI); Behçet's Syndrome Activity Score (BSAS)

Conclusions: Work productivity is impaired in BS patients, especially among those with eye involvement. Work instability is frequent and correlated with disease activity and quality of life.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared

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FRIDAY, 15 JUNE 2018: Osteoarthritis

FRI0520 DISCOVERY OF POTENTIAL BIOMARKERS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF EROSIVE AND NODAL HAND OSTEOARTHRITIS

M. Camacho Encina¹, V. Calamia¹, F. Picchi¹, I. Ortega², P. Fernández Puente¹, L. González Rodríguez¹, C. Ruiz Romero¹, F.J. Blanco¹. ¹Rheumatology Research Group (GIR), ProteoRed, PRB2-ISCIII, INIBIC-Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de A Coruña (CHUAC), A Coruña; ²Proteomics core Facility, PRB2-ISCIII, INIBIC-Hospital Universitario Reina Sofía, Córdoba, Spain

Background: Two different phenotypes of hand osteoarthritis (HOA) have been defined: nodal hand osteoarthritis (NHOA) and erosive hand osteoarthritis (EHOA). NHOA involve bone enlargement of the underlying interphalangeal joints, which may typically give rise to Heberden's nodes, synovitis and swelling. EHOA is a particularly aggressive form characterised by an abrupt onset, as well as signs of inflammation and subchondral erosions. In the absence of efficient diagnostic methods, searching for specific biomarkers for each subtype may help to characterise them.

Objectives: To define a panel of specific protein markers for the characterisation of EHOA and NHOA and its potential use in clinic.

Methods: A proteomic approach based on peptide labelling with Isobaric tags for relative and absolute quantitation (iTRAQ) was performed using two different sets of sera (n=55). Samples were classified in 4 groups of study (EHOA, n=10; non-EHOA, n=10; NHOA n=10; non-NHOA, n=5) and 2 control groups (rheumatoid arthritis (RA), n=10 and psoriatic arthritis (PSA), n=10). Serum proteins were digested and peptides from each condition to be compared were differentially labelled with iTRAQ reagents (Sciex). Then, samples were combined and analysed by two-dimensional liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry in a TripleTOF 5600 Mass Spectrometer System (Sciex). Protein identification and quantitation was carried out using ProteinPilot software v.5.0.1.

Results: A total of 257 different proteins were identify with more than two peptides and a total score ≥ 2 at 95% confidence. In order to identify specific biomarkers for the characterisation of NHOA and EHOA phenotypes, each group was compared with the non-NHOA or non-EHOA respectively, and also with the control groups. After all the comparisons were made, 26 unique different proteins were found specific of the nodular phenotype. Vasorin (VAS) showed elevated levels in patients diagnosed with NHOA when compared to non-NHOA, RA and PSA groups. On the other hand, 36 unique proteins were identified in those patients with EHOA. Extracellular matrix protein 1 (ECM1) was found with higher concentrations in EHOA than in non-EHOA, RA and PSA patients. In addition, both HOA phenotypes were compared to the control groups and a panel of 30 different proteins