based on the iREACH randomization within each stratum (figure 1); [A] triple DMARD combination therapy (MTX 25 mg/wk + SASP 2 g/day+ HCQ 400 mg/ day-GCs (intramuscular or oral tapering scheme starting with 15 mg/day) [B] MTX 25 mg/wk + GCs orally starting with 15 mg/day, [C] HCQ 400 mg/day and [D] GCs orally starting with 15 mg/day. Treatment strategies were ‘tightly controlled’, with patients being examined every 3 months. Treatment decisions were based upon the Original Disease Activity Score (DAS) threshold for low disease activity (DAS <2.4). Primary outcomes were DAS and functional ability, measured with the Health Assessment Questionnaire (HAQ), over time, using a linear mixed model (LMM). In our final model we corrected for baseline DAS and HAQ and visser score, which is a confounder by indication on forehand.

Results: 162 patients were grouped into treatment arms A (n = 17), B (n = 64), C (n = 40) or D (n = 41). Patients were mostly female (67%) with an average symptom duration of 161 days (95% CI: 146–175). At baseline the average visser score was 4.0±1.3 (ICR 4–5). The difference in visser score was mainly due to the differences in figures (figure 1A). Figure 1B and C show the DAS and HAQ over time per treatment arm. Our corrected LMM showed that there was no significant difference between treatment arms for DAS over time. After 3 months 56%, 38%, 35% and 69% respectively treated with A, B, C and D had an active disease (DAS ≥2.4), and thus needed a treatment intensification (P=0.03 for C versus D). However, after 1 year there was no difference between DAS over all treatment arms. HAQ over time did differ between treatment arms. Patients who received HCO showed a better functional ability over time compared to patients receiving 1 of the other treatments (C versus respectively B (β=–0.18, p=0.000), D (β=–0.14, p=0.004) and A (β=–0.17, p=0.016)).

Abstract SAT0078 - Figure 1. (A) Baseline characteristics and clinical response after 12 months for each induction therapy group, according to intention-to-treat. (B) Mean DAS over time per treatment arm. (C) Mean HAQ over time per treatment arm. *Not everyone filled out a (complete) questionnaire and therefore n is different for HAQ. MTX 25 mg/wk, SASP 2 g/day, HCQ 400 mg/day, GCs intramuscular or an oral tapering scheme starting with 15 mg/day for treatment A and only oral for treatment B-D. *P=0.011 for C versus D. Abbreviations: DAS, Disease Activity Score; GCs, glucocorticoids; HAQ, Health Assessment Questionnaire; HCQ, hydroxychloroquine; MTX, methotrexate; RA, rheumatoid arthritis; SASP, sulfasalazine.

Conclusions: This research supports current hypothesis that seronegative RA patients can be treated with less aggressive treatment with similar efficacy. Disclosure of Interest: None declared

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SAT0079

TREATMENT EXPECTATIONS INFLUENCE BOTH SUBJECTIVE AND OBJECTIVE OUTCOME PARAMETERS IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS- A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

J. Mucke1, R. Brinks1, A. Dimitrou2, J. Richter1, M. Schneider1. 1Policlinic for Rheumatology and HiIler-Research Centre for Rheumatology, Heinrich-Heine- University Duesseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany; 2Department of Rheumatology, Stadtsital Triemli, Zurch, Switzerland

Background: The prediction of individual response to treatment in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is challenging and often limited. Here we evaluate the influence of patients’ expectations and attitudes towards newly initiated disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs) on clinical outcome in RA.

Methods: 100 patients (74 female) with RA according to 2010 ACR/EULAR classification criteria with upcoming change in DMARD treatment were included. Patients’ treatment beliefs, health related quality of life, treatment expectations, and pain-related cognitions were measured using the beliefs about medicines questionnaire (BMQ), the SF-36, the questionnaire about patient expectation (PE), and the pain-related self-statement scale (PRSS), respectively before treatment initiation (T0) and their DAS28-CRP was calculated at T0 and after 4 months (T4). Associations between patients’ beliefs, expectations and their attitude according to the questionnaires and changes in DAS28-CRP between T0 and T4 were explored by regression analyses using the Akaike information criterion.

Results: Regression analyses revealed that 42.2% of all variability in treatment response measured as a decline in DAS28-CRP (ΔDAS28) could be explained by expectations, psychological factors and laboratory parameters assessed with the applied questionnaires. Among these we identified the expected improvement rate with 23.4% as well as the patients’ fear of side effects with 22.0% as the main predictors of ΔDAS28. The CRP-value at T0 accounted with 15% to the variability in ΔDAS28. Other highly influential factors were PRSS catastrophizing scale (10.7%), the BMQ concern scale (8.1%), other BMQ scales (7.9%) and medications’ route of administration (8.0%).

Conclusions: The present study indicates a high impact of patients’ expectations and their attitude towards new therapies on clinical response effecting both objective and subjective outcome parameters. Integration of individual patient’s preferences and their expectations in treatment decisions and management can significantly increase treatment response.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared


SAT0080

SECULAR TRENDS PRIOR TO-AND-AFTER DISSEMINATION OF BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS SHOWED EARLIER INTENSIFIED TREATMENT STRATEGIES AND IMPROVED OUTCOMES IN CANADIANS WITH EARLY INFLAMMATORY ARTHRITIS

O. Schier1, S.J. Bartlett2, M.-F. Valois3, J.E. Pope4, C. Thorne3, C. Hitchon2, B. Harauz1, G. Boire5, D. Tin6, E.C. Keystone7, V.P. Bykerk8, on behalf of of on behalf of the CATCH Investigators. 1U Toronto, Toronto; 2Epidemiology; 3McGill University, Montreal; 4U Western Ontario, London; 5Southlake Regional Health Center, Newmarket; 6U Winnipeg, Winnipeg; 7Institut de Rheumatologie, Montreal; 8U Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke; 9Rheumatology, U Toronto, Toronto, Canada; 10Rheumatology, Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, USA

Background: International and local best-practice recommendations released in 2010–11 aimed to improve outcomes in early RA via earlier diagnosis and a treat-to-target approach. These should be associated with improved outcomes.

Objectives: To examine secular trends in patient characteristics and treatment strategies at RA diagnosis and disease activity outcomes in the 1st year of follow-up comparing earlier (2007–2010) and later (2011–2016) time periods, prior to and following dissemination of 2011 guidelines in a large Canadian early inflammatory arthritis (EA) cohort of RA patients.

Methods: Data were drawn from patients with early classifiable (87%) or probable (13%) RA (<1 year of symptoms) enrolled each year in an ongoing prospective multi-centre cohort study between 2007–2016 with > 12 M follow-up undergoing 3-monthly visits including clinical assessments, questionnaires, and laboratory tests in the 1st year. Treatment was decided by their rheumatologist. These were cohort investigators who met annually to discuss means to improve outcomes. Descriptive statistics compared patient characteristics, early treatment strategies with conventional synthetic(s) and biologic(b) DMARDs and disease activity (DAS28) outcomes. Differences in DAS28 targets achieved per time period were compared using Chi-Squares and medication doses by Cochrane Hermitage trend tests.

Results: Of 2227 patients enrolled in CATCH (Canadian Early Arthritis Cohort), symptom duration was 6 (3) months. There was a slight increase in number recruited, education and income and slight decrease in baseline symptom duration from early to later time periods. Baseline smoking, obesity rates, comorbidities, positive serology, inflammatory markers and joint counts did not differ significantly between time periods. Baseline erosions were less frequent (17% vs. 24%, p<0.0001) and mean symptom duration decreased slightly (5.6 vs. 5.9 months, p=0.018) in earlier vs later periods. Most (87%) entered in moderate or low activity (DAS <2.4), and thus needed a treatment intensification (P<0.003 for C versus D).

Disclosures of Interest: None declared

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Abstract SAT0080 – Figure 1. Earlier Use of High Doses of poMTX and scMTX in 2nd Time Period Resulted in More Reaching RA Treatment Targets

Conclusions: This 10 year Canadian prospective study of classifiable/probable RA patients, who were assessed for 1 year suggests that earlier, more intensified treatment promoted in practice recommendations were implemented and resulted in lower disease activity with a greater proportion of patients reaching targets of LDA and/or REM, although 25%–30% of patients still did not achieve LDA or REM by 12 M.


Disclosure of Interest: None declared
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SAT0081

CHANGES IN INCIDENCE OF SHOULDER, ELBOW, WRIST AND FINGER REPLACEMENT SURGERY AMONG RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS PATIENTS FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF BIOLOGICAL DMARDS: AN INTERRUPTED TIME SERIES ANALYSIS USING DANISH HEALTH CARE REGISTERS

R.L. Corduz1, S. Hawley2, D. Prieto-Alhambra3, P. Heijgraard1,2, K. Zobbe1, A. Odgaard1, S. Overgaard2, E. Kristensen3, L. Dreyer1,2,3,8 1Centre for Rheumatology and Spine Diseases, Rigshospitalet- Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark; 2Musculoskeletal Pharma- and Device Epidemiology, Centre for Statistics in Medicine, Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Sciences, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK; 3The Parker Institute, Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospital, Frederiksberg, 4Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Copenhagen University Hospital Herlev- Gentofte, Copenhagen; 5Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, University Hospital Odense, Odense; 6Department of Rheumatology, Aalborg University Hospital, Aalborg, Denmark

Background: We have previously shown that the incidence rate of total knee replacements started to decrease among rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients, whereas the incidence rate steadily increased from 1996–2015 among matched GPCs. The baseline incidence rate was 7-fold higher among RA patients than GPCs, but the absolute need for upper limb JR was low in both groups.

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SAT0082

OSTEOPONTINE AND OSTEOPROTEGERIN AS MARKERS OF ALTERED PRECLINICAL BONE METABOLISM IN RHEUMATOID FIRST DEGREE RELATIVES

E. Soliman1, M. Zehairy2, A. Aly2, K. Mattarawy2, A. alhadidy2 1Internal Medicine, Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology, 2Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria, Egypt

Background: First degree relatives (FDR) of RA are known to have increased risk of developing the disease. The detection of altered bone metabolism in FDR could be a predictor of the preclinical phase of the disease.

Objectives: To study osteopontine (OPN) and osteoprotegrine (OPG) in FDR of RA patients as markers of altered bone metabolism in relation to clinical manifestations, inflammatory and RA seromarkers.

Abstract SAT0081 – Table 1. Changes in 5-year incidence rate of upper limb joint replacements (JR) in incident rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients following introduction of biological DMARDS in 2002 compared with secular trends in a matched general population cohort (GPC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean age at start of follow-up</th>
<th>Females, n (%)</th>
<th>JR PYRS</th>
<th>Baseline incidence rate/1000 pyrs</th>
<th>△ per year* 1996–2001</th>
<th>△ in level 2003</th>
<th>△ per year* 2003–2015</th>
<th>Absolute/relative △ at midpoint in bDMARD era (mid-2006) compared with counterfactual value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RA</td>
<td>26458</td>
<td>58.9 years</td>
<td>18691 (71%)</td>
<td>123814</td>
<td>2.65 (2.27–3.04)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-0.10</td>
<td>-0.44 (-0.49 to –0.39)/-17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPC</td>
<td>257505</td>
<td>58.4 years</td>
<td>182192 (71%)</td>
<td>1152052</td>
<td>0.11 (0.04–0.17)</td>
<td>-0.03</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>No change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions: Following the introduction of bDMARDS, the incidence rate of upper limb JR started to decrease among RA patients, whereas the incidence rate steadily increased from 1996–2015 among matched GPCs. The baseline incidence rate was 7-fold higher among RA patients than GPCs, but the absolute need for upper limb JR was low in both groups.