SEX- AND AGE-RELATED DIFFERENCES IN CLINICAL MANIFESTATIONS OF BEHÇET’S DISEASE IN A LARGE COHORT OF CHINA PATIENTS

L I Chaoran1, Xiuhu Wu2,3, Jing Shi1, Lu Li1, Jinjing Liu1, Xiaofeng Zeng1, Wenjie Zheng1, 1 Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Beijing, China; 2 General Hospital of Tianjin Medical University, Department of Rheumatology, Tianjin, China

Background: Behçet’s disease (BD) is a systemic vasculitis with multiple symptoms such as recurrent oral and/or genital ulceration, skin lesions, ocular lesions, and other systems affection. Studies have been conducted to reveal sex- and age-related differences in clinical characteristics of BD in several countries1,2, but up to now sex and age influence for Chinese BD patients is very limited.

Objectives: This study aimed to investigate the clinical phenotypes of BD concerning gender and age in China.

Methods: We retrospectively reviewed the medical records of BD patients followed up in the Departments of Rheumatology, Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH) between March 2014 and January 2019. Demographics, clinical features at onset and during follow-up were obtained from a review of medical records.

Results: A total of 489 BD patients were included in our database: 286 males (58.49%) and 203 females (41.51%) (Sex ratio MF was 1:4.1), with a median age of 34 years (interquartile range: 28-44 years). Recurrent oral ulceration was the most common manifestation (96.32%), followed by genital ulceration (71.17%), skin lesions (57.67%), vascular lesions (25.36%), and ocular involvement (24.13%). Gastrointestinal (GI) involvement (15.13%), positive pathergy test (14.11%), and neurological involvement (5.93%) were less frequently observed. The comparative study between males and females revealed that ocular lesions (28.67% vs 17.73%, P=0.005), vascular lesions (31.47% vs 16.75%, P< 0.001) and positive pathergy test (17.83% vs 8.37%, P=0.002) were more common in male, while genital ulceration was more common in female (64.34% vs 80.79%, P=0.001). Regarding age difference, ocular lesions (P=0.017) were more frequently observed in younger patients, while vascular lesions (P=0.026) and GI symptoms (P=0.010) were more common in older patients. Gender differences of these manifestations were more prominent in certain age groups among 20-50 years old than other groups.

Conclusion: These analyses support that the clinical features of Chinese BD were different depending on sex and age.

REFERENCES

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SAT0251

AN EVALUATION OF THREE DIFFERENT METHODS TO EVALUATE SKIN IMPAIRMENT IN SYSTEMIC SCLEROSIS PATIENTS

Barbara Ruaço1, Vanessa Smith1,2, Sabrina Paolino1, Carmen Pizzorni1, Stefano Soldano1, Andrea Casabell1, Massimo Patane1, Elisa Alessandri1, Alberto Sulli1, Maurizio Cutolo1, 1 Research Laboratory and Academic Division of Clinical Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Genova, IRCCS San Martino Polyclinic Hospital, Genoa, Italy; 2 Department of Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital, Gent, Belgium; 3 Department of Internal Medicine, Ghent University, Gent, Italy

Background: One of the characteristics of systemic sclerosis (SSc) is an increase in dermal thickness (DT) (1-3). Although the standard method to evaluate the extent of skin involvement is the modified Rodnan skin score (mRSS) (3,4), high frequency ultrasounds (US) and the plicometer skin test (Plicometry) (5-8) are now being used in SSc patients.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to determine any correlations between mRSS, US and Plicometry during the evaluation of skin impairment in SSc patients.

Methods: A total of 63 SSc patients (mean age 64±13SD years, mean SSc duration 7±5 years) and 63 healthy subjects (HS) (mean age 64±12SD years) were enrolled. The three methods (mRSS, US and Plicometry) were used to evaluate skin impairment in the seventeen areas of the skin usually evaluated by mRSS (face, fingers, dorsum of hands, forearms, arms, chest, abdomen, thighs, legs and feet) and the total score was calculated, as previously reported (1,3,4,8). Intra-rater reliability of the three techniques was assessed by having the same rater performing 2 consecutive measurements at each skin site. Statistical evaluation was performed by non-parametric tests.

Results: A significant positive correlation was observed between the three methods used to evaluate DT in the SSc patients (mRSS vs US r=0.64, p<0.0001; mRSS vs Plicometry r=0.97, p<0.0001; US vs Plicometry r=0.55, p<0.0001). Conversely, there was no correlation between these parameters in the CNT group (p>0.05). The intraclass correlation coefficients for mRSS was 0.95, 0.97 for US and 0.96 for Plicometry. Data collection for mRSS took almost 10 minutes, 15 minutes for Plicometry and 20 minutes for US.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates a significant relationship between mRSS, US and Plicometry in the DT evaluation of SSc patients. The SSc patients had statistically significantly higher values than HS when the 3 techniques were used to evaluate the seventeen skin areas.

REFERENCES:

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Scleroderma, myositis and related syndromes

SAT0252