RESPONSE TO BARICITINIB IN PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS WITH FAILURE TO CONVENTIONAL SYNTHE TIC DMARD AND/OR BIOLOGICAL DMARD: DATA FROM A LOCAL REGISTRY

José Rosas1, José Miguel Senabre-Gallego1, Gregorio Santos Soler1, José Antonio Bernal-Vidal1, Esteban Salas-Heredia1, Ana Pons1, Catalina Cano1, Estibaliz Ivars1, José Alberto García-Gómez2, Xavier Barber3, AIRE-MB, 1Hospital Marina Baixa, Rheumatology, Villajoyosa, Spain, 2Hospital General Universitario, Infectious Diseases, Elche, Spain, 3Miguel Hernández University, Statistics, Elche, Spain

Objectives: To know the characteristics of patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), in treatment with baricitinib (BARI), who have failed to conventional synthetic DMARD (DMARDcs) and/or biological DMARDs (DMARD).

Methods: Prospective observational study, in real life, of patients with RA, under treatment with BARI. General data of the patients, (age, gender, comorbidity), RA and treatment were collected (time of evolution, presence of RF and ACPA, efficacy indexes at the beginning of BARI and the last visit: DAS28-VSG and CDAI), previous or concomitant treatment with DMARDcs and/or DMARDs, end of treatment and cause, time in BARI, serious adverse effects during treatment with BARI.

Results: Of 529 patients in follow-up, who have received at least one BARI, in F2 to 1 therapeutic target, in F3 to 2 targets and in F4 and F5 to 2 or 3 targets.

Mean global time in BARI is 9.6 ± 3.2 months, being for F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, of 7, 5.2, 7.7, 6.9 and 11.1 months, respectively. BARI patients, fourth (F4) in 6 patients (17%) and fifth (F5) in 3 (9%) patients.

Conformation: • 1. Baricitinib is effective and safe in real clinical practice.
• 2. It is competent of achieving clinical remission or low activity, in a high percentage of patients, even in those who have failed several biological drugs or several therapeutic targets previously.

Disclosure of Interests: None declared


GAYET WERNICKE’S ENCEPHALOPATHY SECONDARY TO METHOTREXATE INTOLERANCE: A SERIOUS COMPLICATION OF CHRONIC VOMITING

Houda Sahraoui1, Imane El Bouchni1, Mohamed VI University Hospital Center, Marrakech, Morocco, rheumatology, Marrakech, Morocco

Background: Gayet-Wernicke’s encephalopathy is a serious complication of thiamine deficiency. Chronic alcoholism is recognized as the most common cause of Gayet-Wernicke’s encephalopathy, but other causes including malnutrition, chronic vomiting, prolonged fasting, and exclusive artificial feeding have been documented.

Objectives: We report a case of Gayet-Wernicke’s encephalopathy complicating uncontrolable vomiting secondary to severe Methotrexate intolerance.

Methods: Case report

Results: A 47-year-old women with rheumatoid arthritis. She was put under methotrexate at the dose of 15 mg/week, 1 month prior to admission into our department for the management of an acute febrile polyarthritis associated to severe and uncontrollable gastrointestinal intolerance to Methotrexate. There was no abdominal pain or transit problem. One month later, she experienced temporal-spatial disorientation, somnolence, horizontal nystagmus, and vertigo attacks with visual hallucinations and memory problems. The muscular forces at the four limbs were decreased to 3/5 with abolished osteotendinous reflexes at the two lower limbs. MRI showed hyperintense signals on T2 and FLAIR image in thalamus, periaqueductal area and mamillary bodies. Electroneuromyography (ENMG) showed axonal motor neuropathy in all 4 limbs. The hemogram showed normochromic normocytic anemia. Laboratory testing for Vitamin B12, vitamin D, folate and minerals showed multiple deficiencies. A multivitamin supplementation was introduced with good evolution.

Conclusion: This is the first case of severe digestive intolerance to methotrexate leading to a serious neurological complication. Although digestive intolerance to methotrexate is considered benign, it can be daunting. Thorough knowledge of complications and close monitoring of patients must be imperative. Gayet Wernicke encephalopathy is a rare and serious pathology. We should keep it in mind and prevent it in risky situations.

REFERENCES

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RISK FACTORS OF JOINT SURGERY IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS TUNISIAN PATIENTS

Ofla Saidane1, Leila Gafsii2, Rim Barhoumi1, Aicha Ben Tekaya1, Rawda Tekaya1, Ines Mahmoud1, Leila Abdelmoula1, 1Centre Charles Nicole Hospital, Rheumatology Department, Tunis, Tunisia, 2Polyclinic El Omrane, Rheumatology Department, Tunis, Tunisia

Background: Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is a chronic inflammatory disease characterized by polyarticular synovial inflammation and progressive joint destruction. Orthopedic surgery is an integral part of the treatment of RA and it is mainly reserved for severe and advanced forms where there is a failure of medical treatment.

Objectives: To assess the rate of joint surgery in rheumatoid arthritis (RA) Tunisian patients and to determine the risk factors of surgical treatment

Methods: A retrospective cross sectional study over a period of 15 years including 500 Tunisian patients with RA was conducted. The prevalence of joint surgery indication has been evaluated. Clinical, paraclinical and therapeutic characteristics of RA were compared according to the need of surgical treatment.

Results: Mean age was 53.4 years. Female to male ratio was 5. The indication of joint surgery was noted in 59 patients (12%). Factors associated with joint surgery were delayed diagnosis (p = 0.037), long RA duration (p = 0.017), young onset of RA (p <0.001), presence of joint deformities (p = 0.034), presence of osteoporosis (p = 0.029), presence of