PREGNANCY OUTCOME IN WOMEN WITH SYSTEMIC PROLONGED CLINICAL REMISSION AND LOW DISEASE ACTIVITY - MAY BE BENEFICIAL IN THE TREATMENT SETTING

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OBJECTIVES

To determine pregnancy outcomes in women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) who had antenatal follow up and delivery in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Kuala Lumpur Campus, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

METHODS

Pregnant women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus who had antenatal follow up and delivery were included in the study. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus-specific Quality of Life questionnaire (SLEQoL) was measured at the last visit. Disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. How- ever, previous studies revealed that both remission and low disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. Therefore, studies of HRQoL in these two groups are needed.

RESULTS

Thirty-five women with SLE were included in the study. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus-specific Quality of Life questionnaire (SLEQoL) was measured at the last visit. Disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. How- ever, previous studies revealed that both remission and low disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. Therefore, studies of HRQoL in these two groups are needed.

CONCLUSION

Rituximab may be beneficial in some patients with severe forms of systemic autoimmune diseases refractory to the standard immunosuppressive therapy. The treatment is generally well tolerated and the infections are the most common complications.

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REFERENCES


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Scientific Abstracts

ABO478

PREGNANCY OUTCOME IN WOMEN WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS TREATED WITH HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE: 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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BACKGROUND

Pregnancy in women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) is closely associated with the usage of hydroxychloroquine [1].

OBJECTIVES

To determine pregnancy outcomes in women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) who had antenatal follow up and delivery in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Kuala Lumpur Campus, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

METHODS

Pregnant women with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus who had antenatal follow up and delivery were included in the study. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus-specific Quality of Life questionnaire (SLEQoL) was measured at the last visit. Disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. However, previous studies revealed that both remission and low disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. Therefore, studies of HRQoL in these two groups are needed.

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CONCLUSION

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ABO479

RITUXIMAB MAY BE BENEFICIAL IN THE TREATMENT OF SEVERE FORMS OF SYSTEMIC AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES REFRACTORY TO STANDARD IMMUNOSUPPRESSIVE THERAPY: NINE-YEARS EXPERIENCE FROM SINGLE CLINICAL CENTRE

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BACKGROUND

Rituximab (RTX) is an anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody, registered for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA). It has been used in clinical practice "of label" in various other conditions including systemic autoimmune diseases - systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), systemic sclerosis (SSc), Sjögren’s syndrome (SjS), polymyositis (PM) and dermatomyositis (DM) and ANCA associated vasculitides, but the results of clinical studies are inconherent. Nevertheless, RTX is frequently used in patients with severe forms of systemic autoimmune diseases with organ involvement after failure of conventional immunosuppressive treatment.

In Czech Republic, RTX may be used "of label" upon a special request in these special cases.

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate indications, clinical characteristics, general efficacy, safety and the impact of RTX therapy in patients with systemic autoimmune diseases treated in the Institute of Rheumatology, Prague since 2009 (a retrospective study).

METHODS

The medical reports of all patients treated with RTX for other diagnosis than RA were analyzed and the clinical data (diagnosis, previous treatment with glucocorticosteroids and immunosuppressive drugs, number of RTX infusion, side effects and global evaluation of the efficacy by physician) were collected and analyzed.

RESULTS

In the years 2009 - 2018, 50 patients with various systemic autoimmune diseases were treated with RTX in our clinic (SLE: n=8, SjS: n=2, SSc: n=16; PM: n=6; DM: n=3; MCTD: 1, ANCA associated vasculitides: n=11, overlap syndromes: n=3). Mean age of the group was 48.12 ±12.9 years at the first RTX treatment and all of the patients experienced previous failure of treatment with 1-6 immunosuppressants. The total number of RTX infusions was 208 with mean ±5.32 applications per patient. We have followed the patients for 37.1 months (mean), ranging from 2-114 months. During the follow-up two patients died due to complications of the disease, two patients were lost from the follow-up.

The treatment was effective in majority of patients (n=27) and global efficacy was evaluated as “excellent” in 2, “very good” in 10 and “good” in 15 patients. In seven patients the treatment had no effect and in 4 patients the effect could not be evaluated due to short time follow-up. The treatment was well tolerated by patients and we have experienced 39 moderate or severe infections (requiring antibiotics or hospitalization) mostly in patients with ANCA associated vasculitides. In several patients, mild decrease of IgG levels following the RTX treatment was observed but only in one patient required a subsequent substitution with immunoglobulins. We have not observed any malignancy in the group. The detailed characteristics and results of the patients by diagnosis are presented.

CONCLUSION

Rituximab may be beneficial in some patients with severe forms of systemic autoimmune diseases refractory to the standard immunosuppressive therapy. The treatment is generally well tolerated and the infections are the most common complications.

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ABO480

PROLONGED CLINICAL REMISSION AND LOW DISEASE ACTIVITY STATUS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE IN SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

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BACKGROUND

Rituximab is frequently used in patients with severe forms of systemic autoimmune diseases with organ involvement after failure of conventional immunosuppressive treatment. In Czech Republic, RTX may be used "of label" upon a special request in these special cases.

OBJECTIVES

To determine the association between disease activity status (DAS) and HRQoL in SLE patients.

METHODS

SLE patients in out-patient clinic during the previous 12 months were included in the study. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus-specific Quality of Life questionnaire (SLEQoL) was measured at the last visit. DAS was determined retrospectively during the previous year. Previous studies revealed that both remission and low disease activity (LDA) had comparable damage accrual as well as mortality. However, studies of HRQoL in these two groups are few and there has been no comparative study between them.

RESULTS

No comparative study between them:

CONCLUSION

Rituximab may be beneficial in some patients with severe forms of systemic autoimmune diseases refractory to the standard immunosuppressive therapy. The treatment is generally well tolerated and the infections are the most common complications.

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