A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON CLINICAL AND SEROLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS BETWEEN PATIENTS WITH RHUPUS AND PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

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Background: Concomitant presence of two autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is known as “Rhupus”. Although poli autoimmune is not uncommon phenomenon, only a small series of patients have been described so far with Rhupus.

Objectives: Our purpose was to analyze the clinical and serological characteristics of patients with Rhupus and compare them with a cohort of patients with SLE.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, we included cases of Rhupus (ACR/EULAR 2010 plus ACR 1987 criteria) from 11 different Rheumatology Departments at Catalonia, Spain. We included patients with a diagnosis of SLE in a 2:1 ratio matched by sex, race and disease duration.

Results: A total of 120 patients were included, 40 cases with Rhupus and 80 cases with SLE. Most of patients were female (95%) and Caucasian (75%). Mean age was 51 ± 14.7 years with a mean disease duration of 12.9 ± 9.2 years. Main clinical characteristics were articular involvement (93.3%), cutaneous involvement (77.5%), haematological (72.5%), secondary Sjögren syndrome (38.7%) among others. Clinical and serological characteristics according different groups are shown in Table.

Disclosure of Interests: Rajesh Kumar: None declared, Ilaria Cavazzana: None declared, Micaela Fredi: None declared, Roberta Ottaviani: None declared, Angela Tincani: None declared, Franco Franceschini: None declared, Ilaria Cavazzana: None declared, Micaela Fredi: None declared, Roberta Ottaviani: None declared, Angela Tincani Consultant for: UCB, Pfizer, Abbvie, BMS, Sanofi, Roche.

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