INCIDENCE OF SERIOUS INFECTIONS AND PATTERNS OF COTRIMOXAZOLE PROPHYLAXIS IN PATIENTS WITH ANCA-ASSOCIATED VASCULITIDES

Konstantinos Thomas1, Aglaia Chalkia2, Dimitrios Dre kokias1, Christina Tsala pantaki1, Argyro Lazzarin1, Kal lio pli Kavalioranou1, Katerina Antonatou1, Anastasia Makris1, Christosioulis Hatzara1, Emilia Hadziyannis1, Pinelopi Kouki1, Dimitrios Petras2, Dimitrios Vassilopoulos1, Joint Rheumatology Program, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Medicine, Clinical Immunology-Rheumatology Unit, 2nd Department of Medicine, Athens, Greece, 1Nephrology Department, Hippokration General Hospital, Athens, Greece.

Background: Infections are among the most serious complications in patients with ANCA-associated vasculitides (AAV) and contribute significantly in overall mortality.

Objectives: To describe the incidence and risk factors for serious infections, as well as the patterns of cotrimoxazole prophylaxis in AAV patients (GPA and MPA).

Methods: Retrospective, descriptive study of AAV patients followed in a tertiary referral center (Clinical Immunology-Rheumatology Unit and Nephrology department). Patient and disease characteristics, treatments and serious infections were recorded.

Results: 56 AAV patients were included (women: 50%, mean age at diagnosis: 59.8 years, mean disease duration: 5.1 years, GPA: 68%, generalized disease: 82%). Most frequent organ involvement was renal (71%), lung (68%), nervous (20%), skin (18%) and mucous membranes/eyes (14%). 21 serious infections were recorded in 16 patients (incidence: 7.2 per 100 patient-years), with respiratory tract infections (43%), and herpes zoster (19%) being the most frequent. Incidence was 6.2 times higher in patients with severe combined lung-kidney involvement compared to those without (20 vs 3.2 per 100 patient-years, p<0.001). Plasma exchange and/or hemodialysis (44% vs 12%, p=0.01), age >60 years (62% vs 35%) and treatment with cyclophosphamide (CYC)/rituximab (RTX) combination (38% vs 3%, p=0.001) were more common among those who developed a serious infection. Lung-kidney involvement and combined CYC/RTX treatment remained statistically significant in multivariate logistic regression analysis. Cotrimoxazole prophylaxis was given in 70% of patients treated with CYC and/or RTX (n=46). Patients with combined lung-kidney involvement were more likely to receive prophylaxis (82% vs 58%, p=0.08). No case of pneumocystis pneumonia was diagnosed during follow-up.

Conclusion: In this real-life cohort, more than one out of four AAV patients experienced a serious infection during follow-up, with pneumonia and herpes zoster being the most frequent. Patients with combined lung and kidney involvement had a 6 times higher risk for developing a serious infection and were more likely to receive appropriate cotrimoxazole prophylaxis.

Disclosure of Interests: None declared


INTESTINAL BEHCET'S DISEASE: THE CLINICOPATHOLOGY ANALYSIS OF 38 CASES

Guosheng Wang1, Li Xiaomei1, Li Xiangpei1, Li Chunyong*, 1The First Affiliated Hospital, University of Science and Technology of China, Beijing, China; 2The First Affiliated Hospital, University of Science and Technology of China, Pathology, Hefei, China.

Background: Due to the rarity of GI involvement in BD, the diagnosis of intestinal BD relies on a combination of both vasculitis and IBD type characteristics. Histopathology play an important role in differentiation.

Objectives: To investigate the clinic features, findings of endoscopy and histopathology of intestinal Behcet's disease.

Methods: The clinical features, findings of endoscopy and histopathology of 38 intestinal Behcet's disease were analyzed retrospectively.

Results: The mean age of 38 cases were 44.1±15.6 years, the mean course were 64.8±9.0 months. Typical clinic manifestations and endoscopic finding existed in 24 (63.2%) and 22 (57.9%) patients with intestinal Behcet's disease respectively. The most common (33, 86.8%) symptoms were abdominal pain and diarrhea. The sites of intestinal ulcer were seen more often (22, 57.9%) at the ileum, ileocecal area, on the ileocecal valve. Most colonic appearance of ulcers were usually well demarcated, oval or round (28, 73.6%). The suggestive histopathological changes were massive neutrophilic infiltration (20, 52.6%), inflammatory granuloma (14, 36.8%) and vasculitis (8, 21%) especially phlebitis.

Conclusion: The diagnosis of intestinal Behcet's disease depends on the combination of clinic features, endoscopic appearance and histopathological findings. massive neutrophilic infiltration, inflammatory granuloma and vasculitis point to the possibility of intestinal Behcet's disease.

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ANALYSIS OF CLINICAL FEATURES OF 15 CASES OF IGG4-RELATED DISEASES

Ge Yang, Yazen Su, Gaijian Zhang, Liyun Zhang, Ke Xu. Shaxi Dayi Hospital, Tai Yuan, China

Background: IgG4-related disease is an autoimmune disease of unknown cause.

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