In the field of ophthalmology, the most frequent type of ophthalmological affection was pan-uveitis with retinal vasculitis in 40%, followed by uveitis in 36%. The median VA at the first visit (RE 0.85 LE 0.85), and at the last follow-up visit (RE 1 LE 1), observing an improvement in VA after follow-up. The most common extra ocular involvement was the presence of oral aphthae in 90%, followed by erythema nodosum and arthritis in 45%. Positivity for HLA B51/B57 was observed in 81% of the patients. The most frequent immunosuppressant used was CsA 59%, followed by ADA 40%. Among the main aftermath, the presence of cataract was observed in 40% and synchia in 27%. The mean follow-up of these patients was 85 months.

**Conclusion:** We observed an improvement in VA during the follow-up of these patients compared to VA at the beginning; 70% of patients continued with immunosuppressive treatment with good control of the disease at more than 85 months of follow-up.

**Disclosure of Interests:** Jesus Alejandro Valero Jairnes; None declared. Olga Maiz-Alonso Speakers bureau: Pfizer, Ana Carmen Blanco Esteban: None declared, Andrea De Diego Solà: None declared


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

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**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 (36% 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

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**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±15.6 years, the mean course was 64.8±9.0 years. Typical clinical 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 colonicoscopic appearance of ulcers were usually well demarcated, oval or round (28, 73.6%). The suggestive histopathological changes were massive neutrophil 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 neutrophil infiltration, inflammatory granuloma and vasculitis point to the possibility of intestinal Behcet’s disease.

**REFERENCES**


**Disclosure of Interests:** None declared


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

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**Background:** IgG4-related disease is an autoimmune disease of unknown cause.
CIRCULATING ENDOTHELIAL CELLS MAY BE A MARKER FOR VASCULAR INVOLVEMENT IN BEHCET DISEASE

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Background: Circulating endothelial cells (CEC) are defined in conditions which vascular damage is seen in course of disease such as systemic vasculitis, coronary artery disease and chronic renal failure. CEC is thought to be an indicator of vascular damage (1).

Behcet disease (BD) is a systemic vasculitis mostly known with recurrent oral and genital ulceration, uveitis and mucocutaneous lesions. On the other hand vascular involvement such as deep venous thrombosis, cerebrospinal thrombosis and pulmonary artery aneurysm, is an important clinical finding of disease which may cause mortality (2).

Objectives: Our aim in this study was to analyse CEC levels in patients with Behcet disease, to compare them between patients with vascular (Group 1) and mucocutaneous (Group 2) involvement. Also we have compared the results of Behcet patients with patients with thrombosis due to other causes (Group 3) and healthy controls (Group 4). Each group involved 20 participant.

Methods: Blood samples of the patients and healthy controls are drawn into tubes containing ethylene-diamine-tetra-acetic acid (EDTA). A panel of monoclonal antibodies, including anti-CD45 to exclude hematopoietic cells, anti-CD31, -CD34, -CD36, -CD105, -CD106, -CD133, and -CD146 and appropriate analysis gates were used to enumerate resting and activated CECs and circulating and endothelial progenitor cells (CEP).

A hundred microlitre complete blood was added and incubated for 20 minutes at room temperature in the dark. After incubation for 10 minutes with erythrocyte lysing solution at room temperature, centrifugation at 1,800 rpm for 5 minutes was performed. Supernatant was removed and resuspended with PBS and 300,000–400,000 cells were counted with FACS Calibur flow cytometry device.

Results: Mean age, sex distribution and duration of disease were similar in all groups (Table 1).

Conclusion: Increased levels of aCECs may be an indicator of active vascular involvement in BD. But in the current study aCECs levels did not show a difference between groups but none of the patients had active vascular involvement which may cause of this sameness. CEP and resting CEC levels were elevated in both groups of patients with thrombosis. So CEC may be a marker for vascular damage but it is not specific for BD.

REFERENCES


Disclosure of Interests: None declared

Clinical Characteristics Analysis and Literature Review of 55 Cases of Panniculitis

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Background: Panniculitis is a heterogeneous inflammatory disease involving subcutaneous fat. It can be divided into different subtypes according to the clinical characteristics and pathological changes of the disease. Because the cause of panniculitis is unclear, clinical manifestations are diverse, lack of specificity, early diagnosis is difficult, and misdiagnosis and missed diagnosis are prone to occur.

Objectives: To improve the clinical understanding of the disease by retrospective analysis of 55 cases of patients with panniculitis.

Methods: The hospitalized patients with panniculitis were collected from December 2011 to October 2018 in the Shanxi DaYi Hospital Affiliated to Shanxi Medical University. The demographics, clinical manifestations, auxiliary examinations and treatments were analyzed and summarized.

Results: The proportion of males and females in the 55 patients was 1:2.23, with an average of 53.3 years (18-82 years). A total of 52 cases showed a statistical significant difference between all groups. CEPs, activated CECs (aCEC) and resting CECs (rCEC) were also compared between groups. CEPs were higher in Behcet patients with thrombosis similar to patients with thrombosis due to other causes (p<0.042). Activated CECs levels did not show a difference between groups (p>0.05).

Resting CECs are higher in Groups 1 and 3 than Groups 2 and 4. The detailed analysis of CEC, CEP, aCEC, and resting CECs between groups is listed in Table 2.

Abstract AB0629 Table 2. Comparison of CEC, CEP, aCEC and rCECs between groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>CEC</th>
<th>CEP</th>
<th>aCEC</th>
<th>rCEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1</td>
<td>5.09 ± 4.7</td>
<td>13.49 ± 5.0</td>
<td>4.39 ± 5.7</td>
<td>6.44 ± 5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2</td>
<td>2.52 ± 4.9</td>
<td>7.62 ± 5.6</td>
<td>2.24 ± 4.8</td>
<td>5.43 ± 4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3</td>
<td>4.89 ± 3.8</td>
<td>13.71 ± 5.3</td>
<td>8.17 ± 4.9</td>
<td>9.03 ± 7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4</td>
<td>4.09 ± 4.9</td>
<td>10.01 ± 7.9</td>
<td>7.87 ± 4.5</td>
<td>3.52 ± 2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion: The organs involved in IgG4-related diseases are diverse, the clinical manifestations are not specific, and the hormone combined immunosuppressive therapy is effective.

REFERENCES


Disclosure of Interests: None declared