Background: The ACR-1997, SLICC-2012 and EULAR/ACR-2019 classification criteria have high sensitivity and specificity for SLE, yet they classify non-overlapping groups of patients suggesting that they can be supplemented with additional features to improve their diagnostic performance.

Objectives: To identify criteria and non-criteria manifestations that are significantly associated with SLE in clinical practice and can be used to complement the existing sets of classification criteria.

Methods: Individual items from all three classification criteria (ACR-1997, SLICC-2012, EULAR/ACR-2019) and non-criteria features were analyzed in a randomly selected sample of 800 adults diagnosed with SLE or control rheumatologic diseases (1:1 ratio). The classification performance of each set of criteria was analyzed in combination with complementary features; multivariable logistic regression was performed for feature selection. We calculated the diagnostic odds ratio (DOR) of the criteria and the additional features retained in each model.

Results: The EULAR/ACR-2019 and SLICC-2012 criteria have increased accuracy for SLE classification as compared to the ACR-1997 criteria (univariate DOR: 243.2 and 1573 versus 78.8, respectively). In multivariable regression based on the ACR-1997 criteria, inclusion of additional features such as maculopapular rash, alopecia and hypocoomplementemia significantly enhanced the model predictive capacity (area under the curve [AUC]: 0.95 versus 0.87 of the ACR-1997 criteria alone). Similar analysis based on the SLICC-2012 and EULAR/ACR-2019 criteria identified photosensitivity as an additional criterion significantly associated with SLE (multivariable DOR: 5.4 and 9.4, respectively). Accordingly, models including photosensitivity had superior predictive capacity over the criteria-only models (AUC: 0.94 versus 0.91 for SLICC-2012, 0.96 versus 0.91 for EULAR/ACR-2019). Furthermore, non-criteria features including Raynaud’s/livedo reticularis, anti-RNP antibodies, splenomegaly and myocarditis were independently associated with SLE thus enhancing further the predictive capacity of criteria-based models.

Conclusion: We identified a number of criteria and non-criteria features which can be used in combination with the existing sets of criteria to increase classification of SLE patients in clinical practice. Photosensitivity could be considered as an additional feature to improve sensitivity of the recent classification criteria.

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THU0247 FREQUENCY AND PREDICTORS OF THE LUPUS LOW DISEASE ACTIVITY STATE IN CHINESE PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: AN OBSERVATIONAL COHORT STUDY

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Background: As a consensus-based definition of minimally acceptable disease activity in systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), Lupus Low Disease Activity State (LLDAS) has been well-validated and widely accepted. However, no data about the time to LLDAS in Asian ethnicity has been reported so far.

Objectives: To estimate the time to LLDAS and the predictors of time to LLDAS in our prospective observational cohort of Chinese patients with SLE.

Methods: Patients were from Peking University First Hospital SLE cohort and those having not fulfilled LLDAS at enrolment were included in this study. The time to LLDAS and annual cumulative probabilities of LLDAS achievement were estimated by the Kaplan-Meier approach. The predictors of time to LLDAS were identified by univariate and multivariable Cox proportional hazards.

Results: A total of 574 patients with SLE were included and 435 (75.8%) of them achieved LLDAS during a median 4.2 years of follow-up. The median time to LLDAS was 19.0 months and the cumulative probabilities at 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10 years were 19.8%, 57.6%, 72.0%, 85.1% and 98.0%, respectively. In multivariable Cox models, older age at diagnosis and baseline high disease activity, use of hydroxychloroquine prescription were found to be independent predictors of shorter time to LLDAS, after adjusted by daily prednisone dose, SLE Disease Activity Index 2000 and physician’s global assessment. Finally, we developed a matrix model based on the identified independent predictors to present the time to LLDAS in patients with respective characteristics.

Conclusion: Our study predicted that LLDAS is attainable as an early treatment target for SLE in Chinese patients. The older age at disease onset, treatment-naive and hydroxychloroquine prescription were independent predictors of shorter time to LLDAS.

Table 1 Cluster analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ involvement at diagnosis, n (%)</th>
<th>Clusters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall (n=1304)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(n=210)</td>
<td>(n=493)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musculoskeletal</td>
<td>1145 (87.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mucocutaneous</td>
<td>898 (68.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurologic</td>
<td>87 (6.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiorespiratory</td>
<td>176 (13.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastrointestinal</td>
<td>44 (3.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ophthalmic</td>
<td>45 (3.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renal</td>
<td>213 (16.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constitutional</td>
<td>425 (32.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematological</td>
<td>452 (34.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant between-cluster differences were observed when comparing outcomes; cluster 4 have been diagnosed longest (mean weeks diagnosed 354.6 v. 2:132.6, 2:227.3, 3:338.2, p<0.0001). Cluster 3 contributed more in the last 12 months (mean number of visits 79 vs 1: 5.7: 2.6: 4.3: 7.6). Significant differences were also observed between clusters in relation to current treatment proportions: corticosteroid (highest cluster 3: 73.4%), immunosuppressant (highest cluster 3: 75.3%), biologic DMARD (highest cluster 4: 178%), and antidepressant (highest cluster 4: 4.1%).

Conclusion: This study demonstrates the heterogeneity of SLE at diagnosis and highlights four distinct presentations of the disease at diagnosis. Significant proportions of patients present with advanced disease, these clusters go on to present the greatest burden demonstrating the need for better diagnostic tools and novel earlier intervention.

Study funded by Johnson and Johnson.

To investigate whether per-protocol repeat renal biopsies are predic-
tive of LN relapses and long-term impairment of renal function.

Methods: Forty-two patients with an incident biopsy proven active proliferative class III/IV + V LN from the LN database of the Université catholique de Louvain were included in the present retrospective study. Per-protocol repeat kidney biopsies were performed in all patients after a median time of 24.3 (IQR: 21.3–26.2) months. The NIH activity index (AI) and chronicity index (CI) scores were assessed in both baseline and repeat biopsies. We defined acute glomerular lesions as cellular proliferation, fibronectin necrosis or karyorrhexis, cellular crescents, hyaline thrombi or wire loops, and leucocyte infiltration, and chronic glomerular lesions as glomerular sclerosis and fibrous crescents, in align-
ment with the NIH activity and chronicity indices. Similarly, we defined acute tubulointerstitial lesions as mononuclear cell infiltration and chronic tubulointer-
stitial lesions as interstitial fibrosis and tubular atrophy.

Results: Despite a moderate correlation between urinary protein/creatinine (U-P/C) ratios and AI scores at repeat biopsy (r=0.48; P=0.001), ten patients (23.8%) with U-P/C ratios >1.0g/g still had a high degree of histological activity (AI score >3). High AI scores in repeat (but not baseline) kidney biopsies were associated with an increased probability and/or shorter time to renal relapse (N=11) following the repeat biopsy (HR: 1.2; 95% CI: 1.1–1.3; P=0.007), inde-
pendently of proteinuria levels. This association remained significant for the NIH activity index items within the glomerular but not the tubulointerstitial compart-
ment of the kidney biopsies. High NIH CI scores in repeat (but not baseline) kidney biopsies were associated with a sustained increase in serum creatinine levels corresponding to ≥120% of the baseline value (HR: 1.8; 95% CI: 1.1–2.9; P=0.016) through a median follow-up time of 131.5 (IQR: 73.8–178.2) months, being the case also for acute and chronic tubulointerstitial lesions in repeat but not baseline kidney biopsies.

Conclusion: Our results highlight the usefulness of per-protocol repeat biopsies as an integral part of the treatment evaluation, also in patients who have shown adequate clinical response. Glomerular lesions consistent with active renal disease portend LN relapses, while tubulointerstitial lesions consistent with active disease and chronic damage portend long-term renal function impairment.

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THU0249

GLOMERULAR AND TUBULOINTERSTITIAL LESIONS IN PER-PROTOCOL REPEAT BUT NOT BASELINE KIDNEY BIOPSY PORTEND RELAPSE AND LONG-TERM RENAL FUNCTION IMPAIRMENT, RESPECTIVELY, IN INCIDENT CASES OF PROLIFERATIVE LUPUS NEPHRITIS

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Background: In patients with lupus nephritis (LN), clinical response to treatment and renal histopathology have been shown to be discordant. No clinical or lab-
oratory markers have to date been shown to reliably portend renal prognosis, in particular renal function impairment.

Objectives: To evaluate the renal outcome of patients with LN undergoing a second RB.

Methods: We retrospectively analyzed prospectively collected data of patients with LN followed up in four Italian referral centres for systemic lupus erythrom-
osus. Serological and clinical information were retrieved according to a shared database. RB were classified according to ISN/RPS 2003 classification: chronicity (CI) and activity indexes (AI) were defined according to Austin et al. The primary renal outcome was renal failure, defined as serum creat-
inine (SCr)>1.5mg/dL or eGFR<60ml/min. Non-parametric tests were used for statistics. Patients repeating RB due to renal remission were excluded from the analysis.

Results: Four-hundred and thirty-eight patients were recruited. One-hundred and three patients repeated RB after 6.1±4.7 (means SD) years from the first due to: protocol biopsy due to renal remission (Group 1, n=8); proteinuric flare (Group 2, n=51); worsened renal function (Group 3, n=26); partial renal response (Group 4 n=18). Patients undergoing a second RB were younger (p<0.001), had lower serum C3 at LN diagnosis (p=0.001) and displayed more frequently class IV and higher AI at first RB (p=0.0038 and p=0.043, respectively). At the end of follow-up, patients who repeated RB had more frequently renal failure (p<0.003). At the second RB, the histological class was unchanged in 55% of patients. CI increased at second RB compared to the first (3.6±2.4 vs.1.7±1.7; p<0.001). Overall, 26 out of 103 patients (25%) developed renal failure: 0 from group 1, 10 from group 2, 14 from group 3, 2 from group 4 and 0 (p=0.001). Uncontrolled hyper-
tension at LN diagnosis, increased SCR and increased proteinuria in second RB predicted renal failure (Table 1).

Conclusion: Patients undergoing a repeated RB had more aggressive clinical and histological features already at first RB and developed renal failure more frequently. Among baseline features, uncontrolled hypertension had the strong-
est association with renal failure, thus suggesting that control of blood pressure since early stages is highly advisable.

References: