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FRI0171

THE CHANGES OF IMMUNE FUNCTION AND CLINICAL INDEXES WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS AFTER IMMUNOREGULATORY COMBINATION THERAPIES

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Background: Recent studies have reported that some drugs such as low-dose interleukin-2, rapamycin, metformin, retinoic acid and coenzyme Q10 could promote the proliferation and functional recovery of regulatory T cells (Treg) in patients with autoimmune diseases. However, the effects on the balance of Treg cells and pro-inflammatory lymphocytes and long-term efficacy have rarely been reported.

Objectives: To evaluate the changes of peripheral lymphocyte subsets, conventional drugs and remission rate in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) after immunomodulatory combination therapies.

Methods: A total of 189 patients with SLE from the Second Affiliated Hospital of Shanxi Medical University from January 2016 to October 2019 were enrolled. We divided into well-controlled group and untargeted control group taking a full consideration of the patient's symptoms, signs and related laboratory findings. We measured the absolute counts of B, NK, CD8+T and helper T 1 (Th1), helper T 2 (Th2), helper T 17 (Th17) and Treg cells in peripheral blood of patients before immunomodulatory combination therapies and during the 3 months and 6 months of follow-up and 190 sex- and age- matched control individuals using flow cytometry. Moreover, the ratios of various cells to Treg cells were calculated.

Results: Compared with healthy controls, Treg cells in SLE patients were significantly lower before the treatment with immunomodulator, while the ratios of various pro-inflammatory lymphocytes to Treg cells (such as Th2/ Treg, Th17/Treg, CD8+/Treg, etc.) were higher. After 3 months and 6 months without immunomodulatory therapy, the absolute number of Treg cells in peripheral blood of SLE patients increased obviously reaching to normal level. Accordingly, the ratios of various pro-inflammatory lymphocytes to Treg cells recovered. At the same time, the dose of glucocorticoid and disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) decreased distinctly. Additionally, the well-controlled group was able to maintain a high remission rate, and the untargeted control group could achieve a higher response rate after immunomodulatory treatment.

Conclusion: The imbalance between pro-inflammatory lymphocytes and Treg cells caused by the significant decrease of Treg cells may be the main cause of SLE. And immunomodulatory combination therapies we came up with may reverse the imbalance of proinflammatory lymphocytes and Treg cells, which is an potential and effective treatment for SLE.

References:

Table 1. The changes of remission rate in the no-remission group during follow-up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Follow-up period</th>
<th>Total patients</th>
<th>Remission</th>
<th>No-remission</th>
<th>Remission rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Months</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>45.8*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Months</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>56.8*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a: Compared with baseline; b: Compared with 3 months.

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Disclosure of Interests: None declared

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THE INFLUENCE OF CALCINEURIN INHIBITORS ON DEVELOPMENT OF CANCER IN PATIENTS WITH SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS: A RETROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY IN THE LUNA REGISTRY

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Background: It has been reported that the incidence of cancer in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is higher than that in healthy individuals, but the findings are inconsistent1. In the transplantation field, a few studies indicated an association between the use of immunosuppressants and an increased risk of cancer2. Calcineurin inhibitors (CNIs), which include cyclosporine and tacrolimus, have been used for >30 years to treat renal and extrarenal manifestations of SLE, but the effects of exposure to CNIs among SLE patients have not been established.

Objectives: We investigated the incidence of various cancers (including cervical dysplasia) among SLE patients registered in the LUPus register of NATionwide institution (LUNA). We also investigate whether the registrants’ exposure to CNIs increased the risk of cancer.

Methods: We calculated the standardized incidence ratio (SIR) of cancer among SLE patients based on the age-standardized incidence rate of cancer reported by Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. A multivariate analysis of the risk of cancer was performed using the covariates of age, smoking history, CNI treatment history, maximum steroid dose in the past, and Systemic Lupus International Collaboration Clinics/American College of Rheumatology Damage Index (SDI) value (excluding the occurrence of cancer) at the time of the patient’s registration.

Results: We studied 714 patients (663 females; 88.9%). The median age at registry was 44 (interquartile range [IQR]: 35–56) years. The median disease duration was 10 (IQR 3–28) years. Smoking history was present in 248 patients (34.9%), and 53 patients (7.4%) experienced cancer complications. Gynecologic malignancies accounted for 71% of all cancers, including 12 cervical dysplasia cases. The standardized incidence rate of cancer in these SLE patients was 1.46 (95%CI: 1.07–1.85, p<0.001). The multivariate analysis showed that a CNI treatment history was not a risk factor for the development of cancer (OR 1.76, 95%CI: 0.63–4.88, p=0.30). After the covariates was adjusted for the propensity score, the risk of cancer in the CNIs group was not increased compared to the non-CNIs group (adjusted OR 2.46, 95%CI: 0.68–9.81, p=0.20).

Conclusion: The incidence of cancer in SLE was higher in the LUNA cohort than in the general population. Our results suggest that CNI treatment for individuals with SLE is not a risk factor for the development of cancer.

References:

Disclosure of Interests: None declared

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FRI0173

IDENTIFICATION OF RISK FACTORS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OSTEONECROSIS IN SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS

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Background: Patient with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), particularly those who received corticosteroids are at a high risk of osteonecrosis (ON).